



Steeple Sounds

The monthly newsletter of Central Square Congregational Church, UCC
June 2024

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

Beloveds,

We are in the midst of a mental health crisis in our nation. Current research shows us that 1 in 5 adults are struggling with mental health issues. That means that when we have 50 members in worship on Sunday, 10 of us are dealing with some sort of mental health challenge. But we don't really talk about it. And maybe we don't really know how to support those of us with these challenges. Over the past few months we began forming a team to explore this more. We have discerned that God is calling our congregation to do some work to educate ourselves and our community about mental health.

The United Church of Christ Mental Health Network has a process for congregations to engage in education and discussions about Mental Health. It's called WISE. A WISE Congregation for Mental Health focuses on how to be welcoming, inclusive, supportive, and engaged with those who are affected by mental health challenges.

The United Church of Christ Mental Health Network works to reduce stigma and promote the inclusion of people with mental illnesses/brain disorders and their families in the life, leadership and work of congregations, synagogues, and organizations.

Through the process of becoming WISE, we will be offering discussion groups, book studies, guest speakers, workshops and trainings. This fall we will be hosting the Mental Health First Aid training to our members and to the greater Bridgewater community. Much like the Red Cross First Aid training, the Mental Health First Aid training is a day-long course that gives you a strong foundation in mental health, so you get a good understanding of the most common mental health issues such as anxiety, depression, and psychosis, and know how to recognize if someone you know may be experiencing them. But most importantly, it shows you what to say and do, to assist the person to get further help.

It's important to keep in mind that no congregation can accomplish all that is needed to be welcoming, inclusive, supportive and engaged with and for those who are affected by mental health challenges. It will be an ongoing process of building on what we learn and then continue with the process as the new frontiers emerge. But when we feel ready, we will create a WISE statement and then vote on it as a congregation. The vote itself is our intention to continue to do what is needed in our congregation to become WISE about mental health.

As of now our WISE Team includes myself, the Deacons, Steph Holmgren, and Heather Ciaramitaro but we would welcome other teammates! Reach out to any of us if you'd like to get involved.

Yours 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.

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, June 19, 7pm

This is the annual scheduling meeting. Anyone wanting to put anything on the church calendar for the program year 2024-25 should contact the church office prior to the meeting.

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



*** Summer Hours ***

Week of June 2:

Mon, Thu, Fri 9am-1pm

Beginning June 9:

Tue, Wed, Thu 9am-1pm

and by appointment

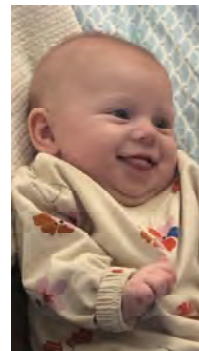
***In addition, please note the office will
be closed this month on
TUESDAY, JUNE 11.***



Coins for Kids Church: June 2

Don't forget to bring your spare change for the Coins for Kids Church collection! This helps to

pay for Kids Church supplies and teaching materials.



Baby Maggie lives in Indiana and her parents are faithful members of our online church community. Maggie will make the trip out to Bridgewater next summer with her parents Jessica and Andrew for her baptism!



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

Anne Malmquist

— amalmquist@comcast.net

Savannah Wells, Jr. Deacon

CSCC Care Team

Carol Chaffee

Bev Mitchell

Rev. Beth Stotts

Nina Gabel-Jorgensen

CSCC Team Leadership 2023-24

Spiritual Engagement Team Leaders:

Denise Molinari, Deb Sorgman, Eric Stotts

Congregational Engagement Team Leaders:

Carol Chaffee [2 open positions]

Property & Finance Team Leaders:

Dave Hanson, John Sharland, Mark Sorgman

Community Engagement Team Leaders:

Krissy Cannizzo, Diane Glass, Terry Reynolds

CSCC Junior Choir 2023-24!

Rehearsals at 9:20am:

June 2 - June 9 - June 16

Performance at 10am:

June 16



When a flashlight grows dim or quits working, you don't throw it away. You change the batteries.

When a person messes up and finds themselves in a dark place, do you cast them aside? Of course not, you help them change their batteries!

Some need AA – Attention and Affection.

Some need AAA – Attention, Affection and Acceptance

Some need C – Compassion

Some need D – Direction

And if they still don't seem to shine, simply sit with them quietly and share YOUR light.

Author Unknown



It all begins in worship at 10am - welcome/ announcements, opening hymn, opening prayer, service of communion, and then ... we move from communion in the sanctuary to the church picnic!

The event will be a potluck brunch. All are invited to bring a dish to share (sign up with the office or Carol Chaffee). The Congregational Engagement Team will provide beverages. We will have some cornhole, ring toss, ladder ball, and more! All are invited to share in this kickoff to summer with food and fellowship!

Contact the church office or Carol Chaffee for more info, or to sign up to bring something.



Let's Go To The Movies! June 23

The W.I.S.E. Team at CSCC would like to gather a group to attend a showing of the movie "Inside Out 2" on Sunday, June 23 at 1pm at the Regal Independence Mall Theater in Kingston.

Disney and Pixar's "Inside Out 2" returns to the mind of newly minted teenager Riley just as headquarters is undergoing a sudden demolition to make room for something entirely unexpected: new Emotions!

Joy, Sadness, Anger, Fear and Disgust, who've long been running a successful operation by all accounts, aren't sure how to feel when Anxiety shows up. And it looks like she's not alone.

This is an event for all ages! We'll have a multi-generational discussion about anxiety following the movie in the food court, too.



Sign up for TEXT ALERTS for special event reminders, weather cancellations, kids church info, and more!

You pick which alert lists you wish to be on. You may stop receiving text alerts at any time. We recommend you add 833-829-1668 to your contact list as "CSCC Texts" - that will be the number the texts come from.

Visit www.cscucc.org and click on the text alert link on the left side of the home page.



Open Wednesdays and Saturdays, 10-1

We need your help - the thrift shop is getting busy. It's that time of year, when people are going to yard sales, estate sales, and thrift shops. Lots have found Central Closet Thrift Shop and are heading back for summer merchandise. A lot are bringing in donations with them. So whether you like to organize, display, or clean new items, or maybe just talk to people, YOU could be a huge asset to our shop.

Summer hours of the shop may change. **We will be closed the first two weeks of July.** After our vacation if we are able to reopen we will post our hours in the July issue of Steeple Sounds and online.

If you haven't signed up for our text message or email notifications, please do so we may keep you up to date. A link is on the home page of the website, www.cscucc.org.

There are always new items and sales going on in the thrift shop. Stop in often to take advantage!

Thanks to all for you support!

Connie, Sandy, Jane, Lynn, and Gail



Congratulations to our graduates!

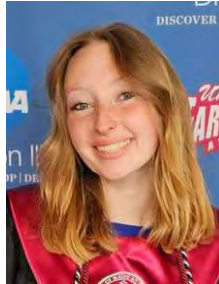
Kevin Compton is graduating with a BS in Physics from Providence College and a BS in Environmental Engineering from Columbia University. And he is currently looking for a job in Environmental Engineering.



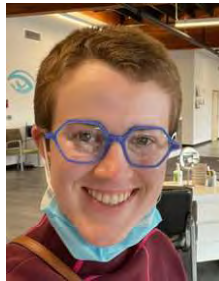
Ian Doherty is graduating from Connections Academy (Tecca) and plans on going to nursing school in the Fall.



Ilana Lybarger, niece of Beth and Eric Stotts, and granddaughter of Kay Wheeler, graduated from the University of Maine at Farmington with a BA in Special Education and a minor in Coaching. She is spending the summer at home in Belgium and then returning to Maine in the fall to do a year of student teaching.



Natalie Mosher is graduating from the University of Oregon with a Master's of Education. She will be teaching math at Everett (MA) High School in the Fall.



Jon Rucker graduated in May from Bridgewater State University with a Master's Degree in Accounting, and is looking forward to putting his education into practice.



Katie Rucker graduated from Massasoit Community College with honors, and will be attending Bridgewater State University in the Fall.



Maggie Terpeny is graduating from Bridgewater-Raynham HS, and will be attending Trinity College in Hartford in the Fall as a neuroscience major.



Cass Foronjy Travers is graduating from Quincy High School, and will be attending Bridgewater State University in the Fall, studying Environmental Science and Marine Biology.



Daniel Alexander Turner is graduating from Bridgewater-Raynham HS, and will be attending UMass Lowell, majoring in Environmental Engineering.



Jae Walden-Stotts will be graduating from Old Colony Regional Vocational Technical High School, from the Graphic Design and Communication program. Jae will be attending Western Carolina University in Cullowhee, NC, in the College of Fine and Performing Arts, with a major in Studio Art and a minor in Biology.



Abigail Wielhouwer is graduating from Bridgewater-Raynham HS, and will be attending the University of Rhode Island, studying music.



Rebecca Wielhouwer is graduating from Bridgewater-Raynham HS, and will be attending Ithaca College to study music education. She plans on becoming a high school music teacher.





Please plan on attending the CSCC annual meeting on June 9, which now encompasses the annual ministry reports, the budget meeting, and officer and team leader elections, as well as a constitutional amendment vote.

Lunch

We will start with some food and fellowship. Please click the link on www.cscucc.org or contact the church office and let us know what you would like to bring for the lunch buffet. We also need some volunteers to help clean up afterward. Here's what's needed:

- deli meat
- sliced cheese for sandwiches
- Rolls and/or sliced bread for sandwiches
- cut up fruit for fruit platter
- cut up or bite-sized raw veggies
- containers of lemonade or fruit punch
- cookies & brownies
- help with setup
- help with cleanup

Ministry Celebrations

The CSCC annual report draft will be available on the website beginning Friday, June 7. Please review the reports, and we will have time to celebrate the past year and share accomplishments and plans for the upcoming year. To find the report, click on the annual meeting link on the home page of the site. A link to it will also be distributed via email on that same date.

Constitution Amendment

As we navigated the business of the church under the new governance structure this past year, the Congregational Engagement Team and the Spiritual Engagement Team noticed that there were many overlapping duties and responsibilities, so they have proposed, and the cabinet has approved, a merger of these two teams. We will have time for discussion and then vote on approving the proposal.

Elections

Next, we will vote on the slate of officers and team members. We still have several opportunities for members to serve these one-year terms. The following positions are open:

- Church Clerk
- Assistant Treasurer
- 1 Property and Finance Team member
- 1 Community Engagement Team member

Please prayerfully consider serving the church in one of these positions. The full slate of nominees will be available on the website prior to the meeting, and will be distributed via email on June 7.

Budget Vote

Lastly, we will vote to approve the proposed budget for the upcoming fiscal year. The budget proposal from the Property & Finance Committee is printed on the following two pages. Feel free to reach out to Dave Sheibley at treasurer@cscucc.com with any questions that you wish to ask prior to the meeting.

Voting

Voting for the constitution amendment, the budget, and the elected officials will be available electronically and those votes will be added to the in-person voting that will take place at the meeting. Online voting will be available Friday, June 7, 9am, through Sunday, June 9, at 10am.

Participation in the annual meeting is an important role that we, as CSCC members, play in the life of our church. Thank you for the guidance, the inspiration, and the leadership that each one of you offers.

A link to all of the annual meeting information, the lunch signup, and online voting (as of June 7) is available at www.cscucc.org.

Central Square Congregational Church, UCC

Proposed Budget 2024-2025

	FY 2024 Budget	Actual thru 5/21	FY 2025 Proposed	
Income				
Pledges / Offerings				
Regular Pledges	125,000	111,648	125,000	
Unpledged Offerings	10,000	19,673	12,000	
Kid's Church	300	501	500	
Plate Offering	2,500	463	1,000	
Total Pledges / Offerings	137,800	132,284	138,500	
Fundraisers/Events Revenue				
Church Fair or other	8,000	8,116	8,000	
Central Closet Thrift Shop	13,000	14,678	15,000	
Misc Fundraisers	5,000	1,006	3,000	
Total Fundraisers/Events Revenue	26,000	23,799	26,000	
Facility Usage Income				
Non Profit Rentals	3,000	4,052	4,000	
North River Collaborative Rental	0	0	15,000	
Food Pantry Support	1,200	1,000	1,200	
Wedding Rentals	5,000	0	0	
Private Rentals	500	470	500	
Total Facility Usage Income	9,700	5,522	20,700	
Misc Income				
SNEUCC Fellowship Dues	2,000	766	2,000	
Misc Income	1,000	1,419	1,000	
	3,000	2,186	3,000	
Total Income	176,500	163,792	188,200	
Expense				
Senior Minister Expenses				
Payroll	39,702	36,563	41,853	
FICA Stipend	5,485	4,641	5,650	
Pension Fund	10,038	7,885	10,339	
Housing Allowance	32,000	27,077	32,000	
Professional Expenses	2,000	3,100	2,000	
Health & Dental Ins	25,951	21,889	26,748	
Life & Disability Ins	1,076	845	1,108	
Total Senior Minister Expenses	116,252	102,000	119,698	Includes 3% increase
Support Staff Expenses				
Pulpit Supply	500	500	500	
Sabbatical Budget	1,080	900	1,080	
Office Coordinator	13,260	12,087	13,260	\$17/hr x 15 hrs/wk
Minister of Music	16,391	14,500	16,883	Includes 3% increase
Sexton/Custodian	13,260	9,027	13,260	\$17/hr x 15 hrs/wk
Video Evangelism	1,000	1,000	1,000	
Sup. Staff FICA	3,283	2,676	3,320	
Workers' Comp Ins	1,200	1,123	1,200	
Total Support Staff Expenses	49,974	41,812	50,503	

continued...

Central Square Congregational Church, UCC

Proposed Budget 2024-2025 (continued)

	FY 2024 Budget	Actual thru 5/21	FY 2025 Proposed	
Office Expenses				
Total Bank Service Charges	600	721	600	
Internet & Computer Related Exp	2,100	2,621	2,100	
Office Supplies	400	880	400	
Payroll & Treasurer Supplies	950	691	950	
Postage & eDelivery	900	781	900	
Printing & Reproduction	2,150	1,800	2,150	
Telephone	1,800	1,971	1,800	
Total Office Expenses	8,900	9,465	8,900	
Church Building Costs				
Building Supplies	2,000	813	2,000	
Fire Alarm Monitoring Service	600	552	600	
Property & Liability Insurance	12,500	10,126	11,000	
Repairs & Maintenance	5,000	7,537	5,000	
Utilities				
Gas & Electric	5,500	5,934	5,500	
Fuel Oil	8,000	8,192	8,000	
Water & Sewer	500	469	500	
Total Church Building Costs	34,100	33,623	32,600	
Operating Committees				
Spiritual Engagement Team		1,632	1,500	
Property and Finance Team		242	300	
Congregational Engagement Team		34	900	
Community Engagement Team		1,244	1,000	
Teams Total	3,700	3,152	3,700	
Community Engagement Team Reserve	1,875	1,516	1,875	1.5% of pledge income
Total Operating Committees	5,575	4,668	5,575	
SNEUCC Fellowship Dues	2,000		2,000	
Pilgrim Assn Fellowship Dues	200	0	200	
Misc Expenses	0		0	
Total Expense	217,001	191,567	219,476	
Net Income (Loss)	(40,501)	(27,776)	(31,276)	
Transfer from investments	40,501	39,797	31,276	
Surplus (Deficit)	0	12,021	0	

You're Invited! 2 Flag Raisings



Pride Flag Raising
June 3rd at 3:30pm, at the
Academy Building

Ceremony includes: raising of the Pride Flag; reading of the Pride Flag Resolution; student & adult speakers from the LGBTQ+ community; musical performance; educational resources from local LGBTQ+ groups.

The Town of Bridgewater has a diverse LGBTQ+ community who should be able to live without fear of prejudice, discrimination, violence, or hatred based on gender identity or sexual orientation.



The JUNETEENTH flag raising is
on June 17 at 3:30pm, at the
Academy Building.

Ceremony includes: raising of the Juneteenth flag; reading of the Flag Resolution; student & adult speakers from the African American community; musical performance; educational resources from local groups.

The Town of Bridgewater denounces any form of racism, discrimination, or intolerance as a threat to the safety and well-being of the public and has designated June 19th as a town holiday.

In the event of inclement weather, BOTH events will be moved to the library.

Events are sponsored by the Bridgewater Communities for Civil Rights (BCCR). Learn more about BCCR by visiting www.bccrcivilrights.org.

Writer's Group

**Craft Your Story,
Ignite Your Creativity**
All are welcome

Third Friday of the month
 7:00PM-9:00PM
 Central Square Church

Friday, June 21

Contact Sheri Turner or the church office with questions.



Looking ahead to JULY:

- Rev. Beth is on sabbatical July 4 - August 7.
- We are excited to welcome Anine de Grood to our pulpit while Rev. Beth is on sabbatical. A full bio for Pastor de Grood will be published in the July Steeple Sounds and on the website.
- The church office will tentatively be closed the first two weeks of July while our office manager is out on medical leave.
- The church will once again have her doors open during the 4th of July parade for access to restrooms for all who need them.
- The church will once again be participating in the 4th of July parade! (see below)



Come one, come all to bring our extraordinary church community to the 4th of July Parade and Celebration in Bridgewater. Please consider joining Jane O'Connell, David Hanson, and myself on our church float. Comfortable seating is still available so reserve your space now and let's show Bridgewater who we are!! More details will follow in our weekly email blasts.

So to prepare:

- start waving at everyone you see so that your arm strength is above par
- practice saying in a loud voice "Happy 4th of July."
- find your red, white, and blue apparel to wear so you honor the day, not only in mind and spirit but also in appearance.

Other than that, let's get enthusiastic about our church's presence in the community.

Your Congregational Engagement Team
Carol Chaffee

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 – June 2024 (Year B)

Sat., June 1

Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18
 1 Samuel 2:1-10
 John 7:19-24

Sun., June 2

Second Sunday after Pentecost
 1 Samuel 3:1-10 [11-20]
 Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18
 2 Corinthians 4:5-12
 Mark 2:23-3:6

Mon., June 3

Psalm 99
 1 Samuel 2:11-17
 Romans 9:19-29

Tues., June 4

Psalm 99
 1 Samuel 2:18-21
 Acts 15:1-5, 22-35

Wed., June 5

Psalm 99
 1 Samuel 2:22-36
 John 5:1-18

Thurs., June 6

Psalm 138
 1 Samuel 4:1-22
 1 Peter 4:7-19

Fri., June 7

Psalm 138
 1 Samuel 5:1-12
 2 Corinthians 5:1-5

Sat., June 8

Psalm 138
 1 Samuel 6:1-18
 Luke 8:4-15

Sun., June 9

Third Sunday after Pentecost
 1 Samuel 8:4-11 [12-15]
 16-20 [11:14-15]
 Psalm 138
 2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1
 Mark 3:20-35

Mon., June 10

Psalm 108
 1 Samuel 7:3-15
 Revelation 20:1-6

Tues., June 11

Psalm 108
 1 Samuel 8:1-22
 Revelation 20:7-15

Wed., June 12

Psalm 108
 1 Samuel 9:1-14
 Luke 11:14-28

Thurs., June 13

Psalm 20
 1 Samuel 9:15-27
 Hebrews 2:5-9

Fri., June 14

Psalm 20
 1 Samuel 10:1-8
 Hebrews 11:4-7

Sat., June 15

Psalm 20
 1 Samuel 13:1-15a
 Mark 4:1-20

Sun., June 16

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost
 1 Samuel 15:34-16:13
 Psalm 20
 2 Corinthians 5:6-10
 [11-13] 14-17
 Mark 4:26-34

Mon., June 17

Psalm 53
 1 Samuel 13:23-14:23
 Galatians 6:11-18

Tues., June 18

Psalm 53
 1 Samuel 15:10-23
 Revelation 21:22-22:5

Wed., June 19

Psalm 53
 1 Samuel 15:24-31
 Luke 6:43-45

Thurs., June 20

Psalm 9:9-20
 1 Samuel 16:14-23
 Acts 20:1-16

Fri., June 21

Psalm 9:9-20
 1 Samuel 17:55-18:5
 Acts 21:1-16

Sat., June 22

Psalm 9:9-20
 1 Samuel 18:1-4
 Luke 21:25-28

Sun., June 23

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost
 1 Samuel 17:[1a, 4-11, 19-23] 32-49
 or 1 Samuel 17:57-18:5, 10-16
 Psalm 9:9-20 or Psalm 133
 2 Corinthians 6:1-13
 Mark 4:35-41

Mon., June 24

Psalm 119:113-128
 1 Samuel 18:6-30
 Acts 27:13-38

Tues., June 25

Psalm 119:113-128
 1 Samuel 19:1-7
 Acts 27:39-44

Wed., June 26

Psalm 119:113-128
 1 Samuel 19:8-17
 Mark 6:45-52

Thurs., June 27

Psalm 130
 1 Samuel 19:18-24
 2 Corinthians 7:2-16

Fri., June 28

Psalm 130
 1 Samuel 20:1-25
 2 Corinthians 8:1-7

Sat., June 29

Psalm 130
 1 Samuel 20:27-42
 Luke 4:31-37

Sun., June 30

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
 2 Samuel 1:1, 17-27
 Psalm 130
 2 Corinthians 8:7-15
 Mark 5:21-43

JUNE 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<i>*Unless otherwise noted, worship services are both online and in-person</i> 2 9am Sr. choir 9:20am Jr choir 10am Communion Worship* 10:30am All Church Picnic! 7:30pm AA Meeting	Please note: The full calendar of all building uses is available on cscucc.org or by contacting the church office. 3 9-1 Church office open 6-7:30pm Food Pantry Open	4 <i>Church office closed</i> 7pm Women's NA	5 <i>Church office closed</i> 10-1 Thrift Shop open	6 9-1 Church office open 10-1 Food Pantry Open 7pm Al-Anon	7 9-1 Church office open	1 10-1 Thrift Shop open
9 9am Sr. choir 9:20am Jr choir 10am Worship*, Kids Church 11am CSCC Annual Meeting 7:30pm AA Meeting	10	11 <i>Church office closed</i> 7pm Women's NA	12 9-1 Church office open 10-1 Thrift Shop open 7pm Property & Finance Meeting	13 9-1 Church office open 10-1 Food Pantry Open 7pm Al-Anon	14	15 <i>* Steeple Sounds submissions due*</i> 10-1 Thrift Shop open
16 9am Sr. choir 9:20am Jr choir 10am Worship*, Jr. Choir Performance 7:30pm AA Meeting	17	18 9-1 Church office open 7pm Women's NA	19 9-1 Church office open 10-1 Thrift Shop open 7pm Cabinet Meeting	20 9-1 Church office open 10-1 Food Pantry Open 7pm Al-Anon	21 7pm Writer's Group	22 10-1 Thrift Shop open
23 9am Sr. choir 10am Worship* 1pm To the movies with Rev. Beth! 7:30pm AA Meeting	24	25 9-1 Church office open 7pm Women's NA	26 9-1 Church office open 10-1 Thrift Shop open	27 9-1 Church office open 10-1 Food Pantry Open 7pm Al-Anon	28	29 10-1 Thrift Shop open
30 OPEN & AFFIRMING SUNDAY 10am Worship* 7:30pm AA Meeting						

CSCC Cabinet Meeting – Minutes May 15, 2024 at 7pm

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 by Anne Malmquist, Moderator.

Cabinet members in attendance: Anne Malmquist, Moderator; Rev. Beth Stotts, Pastor; David Sheibley, Treasurer; Diane Sheibley, Clerk; David Hanson and Mark Sorgman, Property and Finance Team; Diane Glass, Community Engagement Team; Eric Stotts, Spiritual Engagement Team; Carol Chaffee, Congregational Engagement Team.

Diane Sheibley took attendance. Quorum was met.

Rev. Beth opened the meeting with a devotion and a prayer.

April Minutes

The meeting minutes from the April meeting were presented and reviewed. Dave Sheibley motioned to accept the minutes as written; Eric Stotts seconded. The minutes were approved as written.

Pastor's Report – Rev. Beth Stotts

Confirmation Sunday and Pentecost is this Sunday. 6 youth are being confirmed. Trinity Sunday is 5/26. The church picnic is 6/2. The annual meeting is after worship on 6/9. Rev. Beth conducted Mike Bundock's celebration of life. She also continues the process of becoming W.I.S.E. certified (welcoming, inclusive, supportive, and engaged). She video chatted with former member Elaine Henriksen. There is a field trip to the movie "Inside Out 2" on 6/23 with Rev. Beth and the WISE team.

Treasurer's Report – Dave Sheibley

The last month or so we received some good donation amounts, some pledges, one big unpledged donation. We should be able to make it to the end of the fiscal year without withdrawing any more from the investments. We do need to look at paying for a new oil burner soon.

Community Engagement Team – Diane Glass

Had a meeting last Sunday; talked about opening the building on the 4th of July for people to use the bathrooms during the parade. Maybe will have a poster and/or QR code with information on what our church does. The food pantry report was submitted and included with Cabinet materials.

Congregational Engagement Team – Carol Chaffee

The "Tortellini with Frank" event was a success; Frank really enjoyed doing it. There was plenty of soup to share beyond the group of participants. They hope to host another similar event in the fall. The church picnic on 6/2 is being coordinated by Carol, Kathleen Mosher, and Rev. Beth. Worship will begin with prayers and communion, and then the congregation will proceed outside (weather permitting) for a potluck brunch, games, and fellowship. A shoutout was given to Carol for all her work on behalf of the Team this year.

Property & Finance Team – Mark Sorgman

Mark reported that the Team is moving forward with the school who is contracting with CSCC to use space in our building during school days. The contract is likely to bring in about \$15,000 of revenue per year. The director of the school will be coming to the next cabinet meeting. Our thanks to John Sharland for all the work he has done on this contract.

The 2024-25 proposed budget was presented. The budget proposal includes cost of living raises. The boiler is not in the operating budget, but needs to be replaced. Cost estimates are currently being procured. There currently is about \$1,000 in the capital campaign fund that can be used. There is also about \$20,000 in the parsonage sale fund. The music endowment will help pay the music salary this year. There is no fundraising plan to make up for the budget deficit. We

continued...

CSCC Cabinet Meeting – Minutes

continued...

should remind people that if they have to take money out of their retirement funds, it can be directly donated to the church tax-free. Maybe in the Fall we could have a “fundraiser fair”, with a “booth” for each type of fundraising activity/event, allowing people to sign up to help. There is currently no formal stewardship campaign. David Hanson is anticipating the work to fix the front walkway will happen in May.

Mark Sorgman made a motion for Cabinet to accept the 2024-25 proposed budget, with the addition of the school rental revenue line item, for presentation to the congregation. Eric Stotts seconded. The motion passed by majority vote.

Spiritual Engagement Team – Eric Stotts

Eric reported that we are almost done with the Kids Church year. There will be an ice cream party this Sunday. The Team met with the Congregational Engagement Team and discussed combining their two teams, as many responsibilities overlap. They proposed the combining of the teams, with 3-5 team leaders, and 2 voting members at Cabinet. There are three leaders interested, and they would be in search of two more.

Eric Stotts made a motion for Cabinet to approve a constitutional change that combines the Congregational Engagement Team with the Spiritual Engagement Team, for presentation to the congregation. Mark Sorgman seconded. The motion was approved.

Annual Meeting

The annual meeting is June 9, following worship. It will be a lunch, the celebration of ministries, the election meeting, and the budget meeting. There will be a signup genius for people to sign up for what they want to bring for the lunch at the annual meeting. Since the meeting is prior to the close of the fiscal year, the final treasurer’s report for the fiscal year will be added to the annual report in July for the final document. It will also be published in the August Steeple Sounds.

Nominations – Anne Malmquist

Anne has been working on the nominations slate. The positions still in need of being filled: clerk, assistant treasurer, and someone to learn the financial secretary job, even if they don’t actually do it this year. Judy is ready to retire from it, but will continue for one more year.

Pickleball Tournament – Anne Malmquist

Inquiries and research continues. Terry is putting Anne in touch with someone who is involved in similar events.

June Cabinet Meeting

Newly elected as well as existing team members are encouraged to come to the meeting. It is the annual calendaring meeting. Diane requested that all known dates for the 2024-25 program year be submitted to the office by June 13 so that they can be prefilled on the calendar prior to the meeting.

Other business

- Summer office hours will begin June 1. They are Tue-Wed-Thu, 9-1.
- There will be a couple of weeks in July that the office will be closed while Jenne has shoulder surgery and Rev. Beth is on sabbatical.
- David Hanson offered to supply ice cream for the Kids Church ice cream party this Sunday.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20pm.

Treasurer's Report
April 30, 2024
Fiscal Year July 2023 - June 2024

	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Difference	Annual Budget
Income				
Regular Pledges	102,187	104,452	(2,265)	125,000
Unpledged Offerings	15,743	8,356	7,386	10,000
Plate Offering	423	2,089	(1,666)	2,500
Kid's Church	501	251	250	300
Total · Pledges / Offerings	118,853	115,148	3,705	137,800
Special Collections				
MACUCC Fellowship Dues	306	1,671	(1,365)	2,000
Total · Special Collections	306	1,671	(1,365)	2,000
Fundraisers/Events Revenue				
Church Fair	8,116	6,685	1,431	8,000
Central Closet Thrift Shop	13,858	10,863	2,995	13,000
Concert/Special Event	810	0	810	0
Misc Fundraisers	138	4,178	(4,040)	5,000
Total · Fundraisers/Events Revenue	22,922	21,726	1,196	26,000
Facility Usage Income				
Non Profit Bldg Use	3,972	2,507	1,465	3,000
Private Bldg Use	470	418	52	500
Wedding Rentals	0	4,178	(4,178)	5,000
Food Pantry support	1,000	1,003	(3)	1,200
Total · Facility Usage Income	5,442	8,105	(2,663)	9,700
Miscellaneous Income	519	836	(316)	1,000
Total Income	148,043	147,486	557	176,500
Expenses				
Total · Senior Minister Expenses	96,319	97,142	823	116,252
Total · Support Staff Expenses	36,533	41,759	5,226	49,974
Total · Office Expenses	9,069	7,437	(1,632)	8,900
Total · Church Building Costs	30,473	28,495	(1,978)	34,100
Teams				
Spiritual Engagement	1,171	773	(398)	925
Kid's Church	461	0	(461)	
Congregational Engagement	34	773	738	925
Community Engagement	926	773	(153)	925
Breakfasts	422	0	(422)	0
Property and Finance	242	773	531	925
Community Engagement Reserve	1,516	1,567	51	1,875
Total · Teams	4,772	4,659	(114)	5,575
MACUCC Fellowship Dues	0	1,671	1,671	2,000
Pilgrim Assn Fellowship Dues	0	167	167	200
Miscellaneous Expenses		0	0	0
Total Expenses	177,167	181,330	4,163	217,001
Net income (loss)	(29,124)	(33,843)	4,720	(40,501)
Transfer from Investments	39,797	33,843	(5,953)	40,501
	10,673	0		0

Treasurer's Report
April 30, 2024
Fiscal Year July 2023 - June 2024

Cash balances	
Operating account	10,368
Money Market	28,565
Minister's Discretionary account	202
Community Engagement Reserve	2,010
Capital Campaign account	1,069
PayPal account	626
Venmo account	111
Total cash balances	<u>42,951</u>

Endowments investment fund	
Protected principal	135,513
Unrestricted funds, beginning	67,762
Deposits (withdrawals)	
Gain (loss) for month	<u>(6,771)</u>
Unrestricted funds, ending	60,991
Total value 4/30/2024	196,504
Parsonage investment fund	
Beginning balance	25,296
Deposits (withdrawals)	(5,000)
Gain (loss) for month	<u>(849)</u>
Total value 4/30/2024	19,447
Total investments 4/30/2024	<u>215,951</u>

Food Pantry account balance March 31, 2024	11,996
Donations	1,355
Expenses	<u>(2,480)</u>
Food Pantry account balance April 30, 2024	<u>10,870</u>

	Giving Comparison					
	2022 Month	2023 Month	2024 Month	2022 YTD	2023 YTD	2024 YTD
Jan.	10,029.82	10,307.95	10,226.11	10,029.82	10,307.95	10,226.11
Feb.	6,562.91	9,713.95	7,168.42	16,592.73	20,021.90	17,394.53
March	13,355.24	9,535.31	11,414.05	29,947.97	29,557.21	28,808.58
April	11,808.31	15,149.70	21,591.08	41,756.28	44,706.91	50,399.66
May	14,476.24	21,938.88		56,232.52	66,645.79	
June	11,304.13	8,696.40		67,536.65	75,342.19	
July	16,505.70	15,290.21		84,042.35	90,632.40	
Aug.	9,586.37	8,061.22		93,628.72	98,693.62	
Sept.	9,379.22	10,587.06		103,007.94	109,280.68	
Oct.	15,615.55	12,608.01		118,623.49	121,888.69	
Nov.	9,164.75	8,281.58		127,788.24	130,170.27	
Dec.	15,622.72	13,625.20		143,410.96	143,795.47	



1821-2021

Central Square Congregational Church, UCC

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Church Administration

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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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