



# Steeple Sounds

The monthly newsletter of Central Square Congregational Church, UCC  
October 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*

I can't remember exactly when I was first introduced to Psalm 46, but I've been finding hope and comfort in its words for decades.

Whenever I feel unsettled or I'm stressed or worried, or when I stand in the world not knowing what to do next, I gravitate to the opening verses that provide encouragement: "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change" (Psalm 46:1-2). There is comfort in these words; an acknowledgement that things can be wild and we can feel lost but there is truly nothing to fear. God is with us.

A verse that I've been thinking about as we've entered into the heart of Fall programming at the church is: "There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High" (v.4). It is a rich, intriguing verse, with a "river" serving as a metaphor for all that enables life to flourish in human community. As written in one commentary on Psalm 46, the river "alludes to the graces and consolations of the Holy Spirit, which flow through every part of the church... gladdening the heart of every believer". When I think about the life of our church, I very much imagine a river of spirit flowing throughout everything we do. I imagine the river of spirit working through the Food Pantry, through the Thrift Shop, through the communion bread, through the fellowship-time conversations. The spirit is very much present in our community.

I hope this month we will all ponder the wonders of Psalm 46 and think of the gifts and graces of God which bring us joy and enliven the community we share. We are poised to proclaim the broader expression of the Christian gospel to the greater Bridgewater community. Our world desperately needs to hear the "good news" of God's ever-present love. Your contributions, whether pledged as time, talent, or treasure, work to "make glad the city". Your contributions are an expression of God's love. Thank you.

In Christ,

*Rev. Beth*

BE STILL  
AND KNOW  
THAT I AM  
GOD  
PSALM 46:10



*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](http://www.cscucc.org) to access Sunday worship, or visit our Facebook page. Past worship services are also available in both places.



**Tues 11-3**  
**Wed, Thu, Fri 9am-1pm**  
**and by appointment**

## Next Cabinet meeting is Wednesday, Oct. 16, 7pm

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

## CSCC Team Leadership 2024-25

Spiritual/Congregational Engagement Team

Leaders:

Carol Chaffee, Linda Chipman,  
Deb Sorgman, Eric Stotts

Property & Finance Team Leaders:

Dave Hanson, John Sharland, [one open seat]

Community Engagement Team Leaders:

Heather Ciaramitaro, Diane Glass, Terry Reynolds



For those of us who remember when Ellen Atherton was the dedicated CSCC Office Manager... She and her husband Brian welcomed Tyler James Atherton into their lives on Sept. 13!



**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](http://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](mailto:csccpastor@hotmail.com)

### Deacons

Deb Sorgman

— [debsorgman@gmail.com](mailto:debsorgman@gmail.com)

Anne Malmquist

— [amalmquist@comcast.net](mailto:amalmquist@comcast.net)

Cristi Ciaramitaro

Savannah Wells, Jr. Deacon

### CSCC Care Team

Carol Chaffee

Bev Mitchell

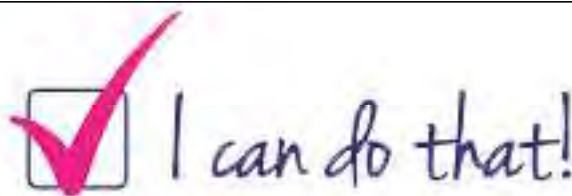
Rev. Beth Stotts

Nina Gabel-Jorgensen

## CSCC Junior Choir 2024-25!

**Rehearsals at 9:20am:  
Oct. 6 - Oct. 13 - Oct. 20**

**Performance at 10am:  
October 20**



**CSCC Opportunity Fair  
Sunday Oct. 20, 11am  
Find out all the ways your talents  
can be a blessing to CSCC!**



Calling all witches and wizards, an adventure awaits you! Bats and cats and all kinds of critters will be there. Grab your brooms and be ready to fly to Central Square Congregational Church— the doors open at 3:00 on Saturday, November 16<sup>th</sup>. Tell all your friends! There will be food, fun, crafts, a scavenger hunt, and of course... magic will be in the air!

Tickets will be available soon. This adventure is for children and adults, and everyone in between.

**Want to be a part of the magic?** Volunteers needed! Contact Terry Reynolds at [terryr0647@hotmail.com](mailto:terryr0647@hotmail.com), or the church office!



## Church Breakfast

For many years we have enjoyed church breakfasts on the first and third Sunday of every month; however, it has become increasingly difficult to sustain this. We have transitioned the third Sunday to a Potluck Lunch and kicked it off fabulously on 9/15. We are committed to keeping this going with our next lunch planned for 10/20.

At this time breakfasts will be paused awaiting someone/ a team to step up to support it. If you are feeling so called, please reach out to the Community Engagement Team or the church office. For now, we will miss the bacon and our breakfast fellowship. Big thanks to Kathleen Mosher and team for their past commitment to church breakfasts!

*The Community Engagement Team*





## Women's Guild & Fellowship, Oct. 2

WG&F will be gathering for our first meeting of the year Wednesday, October 2! It is our annual potluck supper, and you will hear about the great programs we have planned for the year. Bring a main dish, veggie, salad, or dessert. Drinks will be provided. All women are invited and think about bringing a friend!

## The Fall Rummage Sale is Saturday, October 12

All monies raised are used for local and worldwide charities. Donations may be made Oct. 8-11 during church office hours or when the building is open for meetings, so start cleaning out your closets, kitchens, and basement! The hours of the sale are 9am-1pm, with the bag sale beginning at noon. Homemade soups and sandwiches may be purchased as well.



Kids Church theme for September was "Kindness and Action!" Thank you Kids Church for teaching us that kindness IS action!



"Be polite" ... "Helpful hands"  
"Speak kind words" ... "Hold the door"  
"Clean up mess" ... "Be nice"...



## The Neighbors in Need offering will be received on Oct. 13.

The Neighbors in Need theme this year is "Mental Health Justice For All!" In 2015, the General Synod of the United Church of Christ passed a resolution to become WISE (Welcoming, Inclusive, Supportive, and Engaged) for mental health. This year CSCC is joining in the process of becoming a WISE congregation.

Neighbors in Need is a special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that supports ministries of justice and compassion in the United States. One-third of the offering supports Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM). Two-thirds are used by Justice and Witness Ministries to provide grants to UCC churches and organizations as well as supporting a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects.



## A Lentil We Will Go.....

Join Rev. Beth in making some Lentil Soup on October 26 from 10am-12pm. Rev. Beth says it is an AWESOME recipe and the soup is FANTASTIC! So why not join in and find out just how AWESOME and FANTASTIC it really is?

Please call or email the church office if you want to sign up. You will be able to have some soup and share some with a friend too!

Spiritual and Congregational Engagement Team Member,  
*Carol Chaffee*



World Communion Sunday is October 6. The Rev. Dr. Patty Kogut (our Associate Conference Minister) will be preaching. The gluten free communion bread will be made by Anne Malmquist, and the non-alcoholic grape juice will be made by Carol Chaffee. All are welcome at our table!

**CENTRAL CLOSET THRIFT SHOP**  
at Central Square  
Congregational Church,  
UCC  
71 Central Square,  
Bridgewater

**Wed & Sat, 10-1**      **[www.cscucc.org/thrift-shop](http://www.cscucc.org/thrift-shop)**

**Ask about our Gift Certificates!**

Fall has arrived! I thoroughly enjoy Fall weather, but it also means it's time to get the house ready for winter. So if you're like me and are going through all your cabinets, closets, drawers, and jewelry to downsize the number of no longer wanted items you might have, please consider setting them aside for the Central Closet Thrift Shop. Even if you might only have an item or two, they might be exactly what someone else is looking for. So anything from 1 to 20 items per visit is greatly appreciated.

At this time we are accepting new or gently used fall and winter clothing, seasonal decorations, footwear, pocketbooks, jewelry, household items, glassware, linens, books, and toys. Donations are accepted during shop hours, Wednesday 10-1 and Saturday 10-1.

Central Closet Thrift Shop will be closed October 9th and 12th as the Women's Guild will be setting up for their annual fall rummage sale. We will reopen on October 16th. We will also be closed November 2 for the annual church Fall Fair.

**Our \$1 sale continues through the month of October - the last day is October 30th.**

Thanks to all our customers, our donors, and our volunteers for supporting us in our mission to help the church.

*Lynn, together with Connie, Sandy, Jane, and Gail*



How many times have you been in conversation with another and said, "it really is a small world"?

How many times has this happened; once a week, once a month, once a year? It probably happens more often than not. My conversation with my fellow care team member, Bev Mitchell, after she celebrated her 80<sup>th</sup> birthday was about exchanging stories of the "SMALL" world that we live in.

... It's a world of laughter  
A world of tears  
It's a world of hopes  
**And a world of fears**  
There's so much that we share  
That it's time we're aware  
It's a small world after all  
... It's a small world after all  
It's a small world after all  
**It's a small, small world**  
... There is just one moon  
And one golden sun  
And a smile means  
**Friendship to ev'ryone**  
Though the mountains divide  
And the oceans are wide  
It's a small world after all  
... It's a small world after all  
It's a small world after all  
It's a small world after all  
**It's a small, small world**

The song was written by the Sherman Brothers for the 1964-1965 New York World's Fair attraction, which was overseen by Walt Disney. Disney never copyrighted the song so that it could belong to the children of the world. It's a song about unity, understanding, and being connected, like that "invisible string" that connects us all. It's a song about peace, and sharing that peace with each other.

*Carol Chaffee*  
*Care Team Corner*



## Friday, November 1: Pie Night!

Pie and Shopping  
6:30 – 8:30 PM

## Saturday, November 2

Shopping 9AM – 1PM  
Lunch served 11 AM – 1 PM

Turkey Supper 5:30 PM

We're very excited about this year's fair. Our community comes together: to work for the good of our church, to raise funds for our church, to share fellowship and food, TO BE THE CHURCH!

## Our fair will feature the following:

Holiday Crafts and Gifts  
Jewelry • Baked Goods  
Raffle Baskets • Harvest Table  
Attic Treasures

## Our traditional Turkey Supper is returning this year!

It will be held on November 2 at 5:30 PM in Fellowship Hall. David Moore has graciously accepted the challenge of "The Return of the Turkey Supper."

More details will follow in the coming weeks. Details will be available online and from the church office, and reservations can be made through the office as well.

**This is a major fundraiser for the church**, so it literally is "all hands on deck". There is a place for everyone and everyone has a place.

We need:

- ♥ Pie, cookie, and bread BAKERS
- ♥ A lunch crew to join Heather and Frank Ciaramitaro in prepping and serving lunch.

- ♥ A set-up and clean-up crew throughout the fair at various times and for the turkey supper, and in general volunteers to help around and about.

- ♥ Gift Basket Donations! Do you know a local business that would donate a gift basket in return for some publicity? Or maybe your family would put together a fun basket? Baskets and gift cards gratefully accepted.

- ♥ Community service-seeking students.

- ♥ Folks to distribute FLYERS at their favorite public places.

Contact a member of the fair committee or the church office if you are able to contribute to any of the above, or if you have another idea!

Our fair lunch menu is being re-energized and refreshed. The luncheon is held on the Saturday of the fair, November 2, from 11 AM – 1 PM. It is a light luncheon, with a to-go option.

Here is a list of table chairs should you want to reach out to them with a specific way to help:

Pie Night – Mary Barnsley  
Crafts – Jane O'Connell, Terry Reynolds  
Attic Treasures – Bev Mitchell and Debbie Golob  
Baked Goods – Darlene Brown  
Jewelry – Barbara Morey and Annie Blanchard  
Harvest – David Hanson and Carol Chaffee

We are looking for Gift Basket Raffle Chair(s). If you would like more details, please see Carol Chaffee, or contact the church office.

Thank you from the Fair Committee - Carol Chaffee, Connie Chandler, Gail Wright, Lynn Pietras, Sandy Kuipers, and Mary Barnsley.







## We Need Your Donations!

The Church Fair is coming up (Nov. 1 & 2) and we are looking for donations for the Attic Treasures tables. We need any **Christmas** items that you have. People are always looking for Christmas sweaters, ties, socks, Christmas books, and even P.J.s (for men, women, and children). The tables also have **many other things** on them, such as: dishes, small toys, linens, writing paper, candles, and small lamps. Please no broken or stained items.

Drop off will take place during office hours the week of October 28 (Tues, 11-3, and Wed-Thu-Fri, 9-1). We would also appreciate some helpers setting up and selling. It's really fun working at these tables!

If you have questions call Bev (508 697-2949).  
Thanks so much!

*Debbie Golob and Bev Mitchell*



## "My Perfect Peace"

Over the past year and as my 69th birthday rapidly approaches, I have been contemplating ways to carry forward the peace of mind and heart that envelopes me after Sunday service. My goal being to "feel" the same calm and rejuvenation during the week as I do each Sunday. A daunting task, at best, considering the current status of world affairs. I came upon the gospel of John 14:27:

"Peace I leave with you; My perfect peace I give to you; Not as the world gives do I give to you. Do not let your heart be troubled, nor let it be afraid. Let My perfect peace calm you in every circumstance and give you courage and strength for every challenge."

If we truly understand and process what Jesus desires for each of us, we can move towards a "perfect peace", a heart unafraid and courage to face any challenge with grace and strength. This will then afford us the opportunity to be free to do that which we are called to do.

If I, in some small way, am able to lighten the journey of another, my peace of days is my reward.

*Linda Chipman*

*Congregational & Spiritual Engagement Team*



## Coins for Kids Church

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.

We normally collect it on the first Sunday of the month, but feel free to bring it on any Sunday!



## It's Time to Be Kind to Yourself

by Sheri Turner

It's that time of year. The time of year where school is starting again. Parents make lunches for their children or give them lunch money. Backpacks and diaper bags are stuffed with necessities and some nonessentials, kisses are shared and children are dropped off and moms and dads head to work or back home until it's time for pickups, after school activities and errands to be run.

Not for me though. I know I'm not the only one to experience this, but this will be my first year in a quarter of a century that this will not reflect what happens during my day. This is the first year the dreaded school forms don't come home to be filled out in triplicate - why they can't put these forms online to be updated as necessary is beyond me - the first year I won't need to sign consent forms for anything.

At first I felt lost. I have been a full time mom for 27 years. I am definitely not a perfect parent, but I have done the best I can. So far it seems I've done an okay job too. My daughter has a successful career on the west coast. My middle child is going to graduate with a degree in Chemistry this year. My youngest just began his pursuit of an Environmental Engineering degree. All three children are intelligent, caring and kind people with friends and hobbies.

So why am I sad? I began thinking about this seriously while watching my son Daniel perform this summer for the last time with South Shore Children's Chorus in San Diego, CA at Balboa Park. I caught myself tearing up a little because it was probably the last extra curricular activity I would see from one of my children. I am so going to miss this.

Recently though, I've been trying to think about the positives of ending this season in my life. As anyone who raises children can tell you, kids are expensive. Never mind the costs of clothing, feeding, and housing them; making sure they are involved in things that help them to develop as individuals, keeping them out of trouble, and surrounding them with positive influences costs not only money, but time, thought and perseverance. That concentrated effort is coming to a close now. I will always be their mom and always be there for them of course, but now the intensity of their need is waning.

At first that was scary for me. Who was I if not their mom? It recently occurred to me that now I have time to find out. Instead of spending my time trying to find out what makes them tick, now I can direct my energy to finding out what else, besides being a mom, makes ME tick. I can cook meals that I want. I can do activities just because I enjoy them. My resources can be expended to do other things that I deem worthy of my energy and resources, without feeling I somehow shorted my kids.

I get to rediscover my husband too. We met in highschool. We dated throughout college. When we first got together we had no money. Our first bed as a couple was a twin mattress on the floor as we couldn't afford more. Our favorite date nights involved window shopping at the mall and the dollar movie at the theatre in Stoughton. Now we will have time to take walks together, to take classes together and perhaps do some day trips. Maybe we will discover new hobbies together that we had no idea we'd like. I mean, there WAS that salsa dancing class we tried in San Diego. We both stunk at dancing, but boy did we laugh a lot. It's time to rediscover what makes each other laugh, what activities we might have fun with and what we want to spend our time doing for the next quarter century or so. I can't wait.



Well folks, we've made the call — to Forni Oil - the low bidder for our needed new heating furnace. It has to be installed soon, as the existing one is hanging on by a thread. The low bid was \$21,000. We have a long relationship with Forni and we trust they will do the job right, and they quoted American-made equipment - Peerless and Beckett.

We can hardly afford this, but it must be done. Would you please prayerfully consider making a one time donation to help defray this cost? Please?

*John Sharland and Dave Hanson,  
Your Property and Finance Team*

***Donations gratefully accepted by check, Venmo, or via the link on the website.***

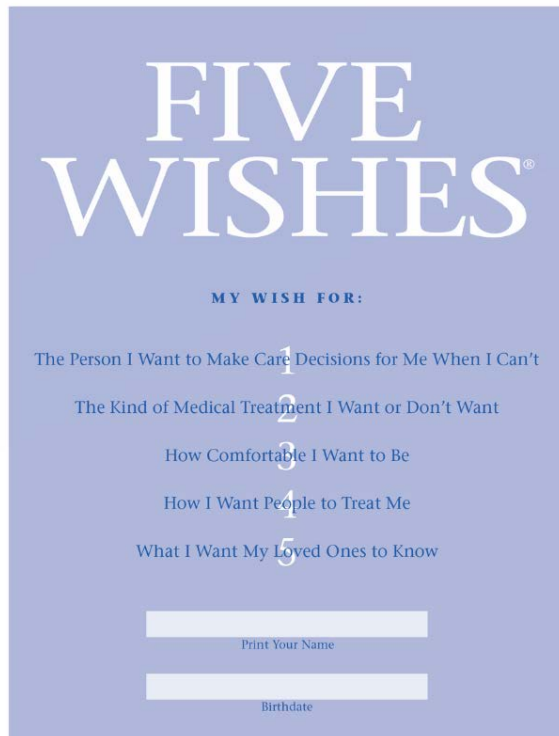


## Advanced Care Planning Drop-In

Led by Rev. Beth Stotts  
*Certified Five Wishes Facilitator*  
**Bridgewater Senior Center**  
**Oct. 22, Nov. 12, Dec. 10**  
**11am-noon**

Five Wishes is an end of life planning document combining a living will and health care power of attorney in addition to addressing matters of comfort care and spirituality.

Wishes 1 and 2 are both legal documents. Once signed, they meet the legal requirements for an advance directive. Wishes 3, 4, and 5 address matters of comfort care, spirituality, forgiveness, and final wishes.



**FIVE WISHES®**

**MY WISH FOR:**

- The Person I Want to Make Care Decisions for Me When I Can't
- The Kind of Medical Treatment I Want or Don't Want
- How Comfortable I Want to Be
- How I Want People to Treat Me
- What I Want My Loved Ones to Know

Print Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_



**Writer's Group**

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

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

### Next meeting is Friday, Oct. 18

Interested in hanging out with other writers while you create? All are welcome to the Writer's Group! If you're interested in attending, or need more info, text Sheri Turner at 508-472-4812 or email her at [ssturner@mindspring.com](mailto:ssturner@mindspring.com).



### Paint Nite Fundraiser, Friday, Oct. 18

Come join us for a fun-filled evening of painting for a cause at CSCC! Grab your friends and unleash your inner artist while supporting a great cause. No experience necessary—our talented instructor, Ms. Jenn Paints, will guide you every step of the way. All painting supplies will be provided, just bring your creativity and get ready to have a blast. Don't miss out on this opportunity to make a difference while having a great time!

Bring your own beer/wine/drinks. Snacks will be provided. Tickets must be purchased in advance.

Visit [www.cscucc.org/events](http://www.cscucc.org/events) for the ticket link, or contact the church office.



**Women's Yoga and Music Spirit Retreats**  
**Fall 2024**

**Weekend Retreat**  
Fri.-Sun. October 25-27

**\$235 per person**  
includes lodging, meals, and facilitation.

**One-Day Retreat**  
Saturday, November 9

**\$130 per person**  
includes instruction and lunch

Sign up online  
[www.SilverLakeCT.org](http://www.SilverLakeCT.org)

**SILVER LAKE**  
Camp & Retreat Center

To find this Lectionary online, visit [www.sneucc.org/Lectionary](http://www.sneucc.org/Lectionary)



**Southern New England Conference**  
 United Church of Christ  
*Living the Love & Justice of Jesus*

## Daily Lectionary Scripture References –October 2024 (Year B)

<b>Tues., Oct. 1</b> Psalm 140 Esther 5:1-14 1 John 2:18-25	<b>Sat., Oct. 12</b> Psalm 22:1-15 Job 20:1-29 Matthew 15:1-9	<b>Tues., Oct. 22</b> Psalm 75 Job 41:1-11 Hebrews 6:13-20
<b>Wed., Oct. 2</b> Psalm 140 Esther 8:1-17 Matthew 18:6-9	<b>Sun., Oct. 13</b> <i>Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost</i> Job 23:1-9, 16-17 Psalm 22:1-15 Hebrews 4:12-16 Mark 10:17-31	<b>Wed., Oct. 23</b> Psalm 75 Job 41:12-34 John 13:1-17
<b>Thurs., Oct. 3</b> Psalm 26 Job 2:11—3:26 Galatians 3:23-29	<b>Mon., Oct. 14</b> Psalm 39 Job 26:1-14 Revelation 7:9-17	<b>Thurs., Oct. 24</b> Psalm 34:1-8 [19-22] 2 Kings 20:12-19 Hebrews 7:1-10
<b>Fri., Oct. 4</b> Psalm 26 Job 4:1-21 Romans 8:1-11	<b>Tues., Oct. 15</b> Psalm 39 Job 28:12—29:10 Revelation 8:1-5	<b>Fri., Oct. 25</b> Psalm 34:1-8 [19-22] Nehemiah 1:1-11 Hebrews 7:11-22
<b>Sat., Oct. 5</b> Psalm 26 Job 7:1-21 Luke 16:14-18	<b>Wed., Oct. 16</b> Psalm 39 Job 32:1-22 Luke 16:19-31	<b>Sat., Oct. 26</b> Psalm 34:1-8 [19-22] Job 42:7-9 Mark 8:22-26
<b>Sun., Oct. 6</b> <i>Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost</i> Job 1:1; 2:1-10 Psalm 26 Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12 Mark 10:2-16	<b>Thurs., Oct. 17</b> Psalm 104:1-9, 24, 35b Job 36:1-16 Romans 15:7-13	<b>Sun., Oct. 27</b> <i>Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost</i> Job 42:1-6, 10-17 Psalm 34:1-8 [19-22] Hebrews 7:23-28 Mark 10:46-52
<b>Mon., Oct. 7</b> Psalm 55:1-15 Job 8:1-22 1 Corinthians 7:1-9	<b>Fri., Oct. 18</b> Psalm 104:1-9, 24, 35b Job 37:1-24 Revelation 17:1-18	<b>Mon., Oct. 28</b> Psalm 28 Isaiah 59:9-19 1 Peter 2:1-10
<b>Tues., Oct. 8</b> Psalm 55:1-15 Job 11:1-20 1 Corinthians 7:10-16	<b>Sat., Oct. 19</b> Psalm 104:1-9, 24, 35b Job 39:1-30 Luke 22:24-30	<b>Tues., Oct. 29</b> Psalm 28 Ezekiel 18:1-32 Acts 9:32-35
<b>Wed., Oct. 9</b> Psalm 55:1-15 Job 15:1-35 Matthew 5:27-36	<b>Sun., Oct. 20</b> <i>Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost</i> Job 38:1-7 [34-41] Psalm 104:1-9, 24, 35b Hebrews 5:1-10 Mark 10:35-45	<b>Wed., Oct. 30</b> Psalm 28 Ezekiel 14:12-23 Matthew 20:29-34
<b>Thurs., Oct. 10</b> Psalm 22:1-15 Job 17:1-16 Hebrews 3:7-19	<b>Mon., Oct. 21</b> Psalm 75 Job 40:1-24 Hebrews 6:1-12	<b>Thurs., Oct. 31</b> Psalm 146 Ruth 1:18-22 Hebrews 9:1-12
<b>Fri., Oct. 11</b> Psalm 22:1-15 Job 18:1-21 Hebrews 4:1-11		

# OCTOBER 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<i>*Unless otherwise noted, worship services are both online and in-person</i>  Please note: The full calendar of all building uses is available on <a href="http://cscucc.org">cscucc.org</a> or by contacting the church office.		<b>1</b> 11-3 Church office open 7pm Women's NA	<b>2</b> 9-1 Church office open 10-1 Thrift Shop open 6:30pm Women's Guild & Fellowship	<b>3</b> 9-1 Church office open 10-1 Food Pantry Open 2pm Church Crafters 7pm AI-Anon	<b>4</b> 9-1 Church office open 12pm National Taco Day w/Rev. Beth	<b>5</b> 10-1 Thrift Shop open
<b>6</b> World Communion Sunday 8:30am Sr. choir 9:20am Jr choir 10am Communion Worship*, Kids Church 7:30pm AA Meeting	<b>7</b> 6-7:30pm Food Pantry Open	<b>8</b> 9-11 Church office open 6:30pm Church crafters 7pm Women's NA	<b>9</b> 9-1 Church office open	<b>10</b> 9-1 Church office open 10-1 Food Pantry Open 7pm AI-Anon	<b>11</b> 9-1 Church office open	<b>12</b> 9-1 WG&F Rummage Sale
			RUMMAGE SALE SET UP & DROPOFF			
<b>13</b> Neighbors in Need Offering 8:30am Sr. choir 9:20am Jr choir 10am Worship* 7:30pm AA Meeting	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> * Steeple Sounds Submissions Due * 11-3 Church office open 7pm Women's NA	<b>16</b> 9-1 Church office open 10-1 Thrift Shop open 10am CSCC Staff Mtg 7pm Cabinet Meeting	<b>17</b> 9-1 Church office open 10-1 Food Pantry Open 2pm Church crafters 7pm AI-Anon	<b>18</b> 9-1 Church office open 6pm Paint Nite Fundraiser	<b>19</b> 10-1 Thrift Shop open
<b>20</b> 8:30am Sr. choir 9:20am Jr choir 10am Worship*, Kids Church, Jr. Choir Perf 11am Potluck Lunch 11am Opportunity Fair 11:30 C&S Eng Team Mtg 7:30pm AA Meeting	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> 11-3 Church office open 11am "Advanced Care Planning" w-Rev. Beth at Senior Ctr 7pm Women's NA	<b>23</b> 9-1 Church office open 10-1 Thrift Shop open 6:30pm Church crafters	<b>24</b> 9-1 Church office open 10-1 Food Pantry Open 7pm AI-Anon	<b>25</b> 9-1 Church office open	<b>26</b> 10-1 Thrift Shop open 10am - Soup Making with Rev. Beth
<b>27</b> 8:30am Sr. choir 10am Worship*, Kids Church 7:30pm AA Meeting	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 11-3 Church office open 2pm Church crafters 7pm Women's NA	<b>30</b> 9-1 Church office open 10-1 Thrift Shop open	<b>31</b> 9-1 Church office open 10-1 Food Pantry Open 7pm AI-Anon		



## **CSCC Cabinet Meeting – Minutes September 18, 2024 at 7pm**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 by Reverend Beth

### **Cabinet members in attendance :**

Reverend Beth, Pastor  
Nina Gabel-Jorgensen, Clerk  
John Sharland, Property and Finance Team  
Carol Chaffee, Congregational and Spiritual Engagement Team  
Heather Ciaramitaro, Community Engagement Team  
Treasurer absent  
Moderator absent

### **Others in Attendance:**

Nina Gabel-Jorgensen took attendance. Quorum was met.

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

### **August Minutes**

The August meeting minutes from the August meeting will be reviewed next month with the September minutes. Minutes were missing from email with handouts.

### **Pastor's Report – Rev. Beth Stotts**

1. Continued with W.I.S.E. Process is going well
2. Cleaned up Marathon park.
3. Lots of new visitors and faces. Shared the membership manual. Hoping to have a membership cohort for the Fall. Requested for Carol's assistance with new membership.

### **Treasurer's Report – Rev Beth reviewed Dave's report**

1. Not doing too well
2. Thrift shop strong contributor
3. Hoping to put together a painting event to raise funds
4. Investments continue to do well. The market is strong.

### **Community Engagement Team – Heather Ciaramitaro**

1. Kathleen Mosher is not available to manage Sunday Breakfast anymore nor is Owen. The Sunday Breakfast proved challenging for those in charge. However, there are lots of other eating opportunities. Discussion about the purpose of the Sunday Breakfast - primarily for drawing in new membership.
2. The Luncheon and Potluck were successes. Discussion regarding coordination of clean up crews to support the members who put in the work providing the food.
3. Witches and Wizards - in progress. The Fireplace room will be decorated. Magical Passports will be passed out with a stamp at each station. \$15 per person, \$50 cap per family of 4. Pop up tents. There will be Magic wand making.
4. Autumn fest is on the 28th.

*continued...*

## CSCC Cabinet Meeting – Minutes

*continued...*

### **Congregational and Spiritual Engagement Team – Carol Chaffee**

1. After-church picnic was a success. Everything fell into place. Folks enjoyed it.
2. Soup making next month.
3. Fair committee (6 people). Met on the 10th. Turkey supper is coming back on the night of Fair. Dave Moore has agreed to facilitate the kitchen. Pie night is on Saturday night. Fair is going to be called the Harvest fair. We will be using Hebrew scripture as the theme.
4. Discussion regarding an Opportunity fair. It was suggested that it be incorporated in the Lunch and potlucks.
5. We are passing around sign-up boards for ushers, liturgists and greeters.
6. We are a small Church. Everyone should have a role of some kind to support the Church's mission and existence.
7. New kids at kid's church. 5 or 6 new kids.
8. Retreat? Maybe pair up with a church? Discussion about service opportunities for our youth such as Cradles to Crayons, raking leaves, etc.

### **Food Pantry - John Sharland**

1. Dave S got an email from Jack M. There was concern expressed about the reimbursement system not meeting their needs. They use their own credit cards. They get reimbursed. They wanted a dedicated account for food pantry expenses set up. Dave S. was ok with that. Dave would be a co-signer. They are going to open an account and move about \$2,000 at the credit union. That account will be used for reimbursing expenses. Concern that might be more work for Dave. This was confirmed at the property and finance committee meeting.
2. 150 households served. They had so many people they had to reuse numbers. Very busy. The town of Bridgewater gave 5.9k to the food pantry.

### **Property & Finance Team – John Sharland**

1. Dave Hanson agreed to call Forni to replace the furnace. Blurb asking for donations in the newsletter. The final price is \$21,000. John will coordinate with Forni to let them in to do the work. Nina will look into Gofundme and IG and FB for fundraising. Diane Shiebley added a separate QR code for furnace fund to the church website. Discussion about getting grant funding.
2. NRC is doing well. There are 3 students now. September check received. So far so good.
3. Dave Hanson - set back on 2 items
  - a. flat roof repair delayed. Last week they agreed to pay someone to fix the roof. Dave will call Chris Todd (does work at farm) to fix it. Will pay him.
  - b. Sidewalk needs repair. Dave Hanson agreed to call Dave Ferrari who does form work, to get leftover concrete and use that to fix the sidewalk.
4. Rich Sullivan said he will be around the next 6 to 8 months while his house is being built.

John Sharland move we adjourn Nina Gabel-Jorgensen and Reverend Beth seconded.

All were in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm

Next meeting October 16th, 2024

Treasurer's Report  
August 31, 2024  
Fiscal Year July 2024 - June 2025

	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Difference	Annual Budget
Income				
Regular Pledges	15,711	21,175	(5,464)	125,000
Unpledged Offerings	990	2,033	(1,043)	12,000
Plate Offering	10	169	(159)	1,000
Kid's Church	13	85	(72)	500
Total · Pledges / Offerings	16,724	23,462	(6,738)	138,500
Special Collections				
MACUCC Fellowship Dues	20	339	(319)	2,000
Total · Special Collections	20	339	(319)	2,000
Fundraisers/Events Revenue				
Church Fair	0	1,355	(1,355)	8,000
Central Closet Thrift Shop	3,761	2,541	1,220	15,000
Concert/Special Event	0	0	0	0
Misc Fundraisers	92	508	(416)	3,000
Total · Fundraisers/Events Revenue	3,853	4,404	(551)	26,000
Facility Usage Income				
Non Profit Bldg Use	565	678	(113)	4,000
North River Collaborative	0	2,541	(2,541)	15,000
Private Bldg Use	0	85	(85)	500
Food Pantry support	200	203	(3)	1,200
Total · Facility Usage Income	765	3,507	(2,742)	20,700
Miscellaneous Income	136	169	(33)	1,000
Total Income	21,498	31,881	(10,383)	188,200
Expenses				
Total · Senior Minister Expenses	19,278	20,277	999	119,698
Total · Support Staff Expenses	5,713	8,555	2,842	50,503
Total · Office Expenses	837	1,508	671	8,900
Total · Church Building Costs	1,975	5,522	3,547	32,600
Teams				
Spiritual Engagement	0	254	254	1,500
Kid's Church	0	0	0	
Congregational Engagement	0	152	152	900
Community Engagement	160	169	9	1,000
Breakfasts	0	0	0	0
Property and Finance	0	51	51	300
Community Engagement Reserve	236	318	82	1,875
Total · Teams	396	944	549	5,575
MACUCC Fellowship Dues	0	339	339	2,000
Pilgrim Assn Fellowship Dues	0	34	34	200
Miscellaneous Expenses	0	0	0	0
Total Expenses	28,199	37,179	8,980	219,476
Net income (loss)	(6,700)	(5,298)	(1,402)	(31,276)
Transfer from Investments	10,000		(10,000)	31,276
	3,300	(5,298)		0



Treasurer's Report  
August 31, 2024  
Fiscal Year July 2024 - June 2025

Cash balances	
Operating account	10,064
Money Market	22,784
Minister's Discretionary account	481
Community Engagement Reserve	2,341
Capital Campaign account	1,304
PayPal account	450
Venmo account	200
Total cash balances	<u>37,625</u>

Vanguard investment funds	
Protected principal	135,513
Unrestricted funds, beginning	87,090
Deposits (withdrawals)	
Gain (loss) for month	<u>4,845</u>
Unrestricted funds, ending	<u>91,934</u>
Total investments 8/31/2024	<u>227,447</u>

Food Pantry account balance July 31, 2024	17,622
Donations	1,498
Expenses	<u>(2,870)</u>
Food Pantry account balance August 31, 2024	<u>16,250</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	18,534.50	56,232.52	66,645.79	68,934.16
June	11,304.13	8,696.40	9,079.51	67,536.65	75,342.19	78,013.67
July	16,505.70	15,290.21	8,518.30	84,042.35	90,632.40	86,531.97
Aug.	9,586.37	8,061.22	7,908.21	93,628.72	98,693.62	94,440.18
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

71 Central Square  
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## Church Administration

**Pastor:** Rev. Elizabeth Stotts, [csccpastor@hotmail.com](mailto:csccpastor@hotmail.com)

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[facebook.com/groups/801550253194149](https://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](http://www.cscucc.org/giving) for the link to our Amazon wish list.

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