



Steeple Sounds

The monthly newsletter of Central Square Congregational Church, UCC
December 2025

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

***"The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it."
— John 1:5***

As we enter the season of Advent, our hearts turn toward anticipation—waiting, hoping, preparing. In the chaos of the holiday seasons, Advent invites us to pause and to listen more deeply: to Scripture, to one another, and to the quiet stirrings of God's presence within and among us.

This season is, at its core, a story—a story of promise and fulfillment, a story of hope, and a story of darkness giving way to light. Each candle we light on our Advent wreath adds a chapter to that story, drawing us closer to the joy of Christmas. Through readings, carols, and traditions, we remember those who waited long ago for the coming of the Messiah, even as we continue to wait for Christ to be born anew in our own lives.

And at the heart of this sacred waiting lies the importance of storytelling. Stories have always been the way we make sense of the world around us. They connect generations, reminding us that our lives are not a set of facts to memorize, but a journey we share. During Advent, storytelling helps us to:

- Remember the faith of those who came before us—Mary's courage, Joseph's obedience, the shepherds' wonder.
- Reflect on our own stories—where we have encountered God's light breaking into our darkness.
- Renew our sense of hope—by hearing again that love, not fear, has the final word.

Whether it's reading Scripture together, sharing family memories, or telling the Christmas story to a child, each act of storytelling keeps the flame of faith alive. It reminds us that we are part of something larger than ourselves—a divine story still unfolding.

This Advent, may we be storytellers of hope. May our words and actions tell of a God who comes close, who brings light into shadow, and who invites us all to be part of the story of redemption and joy.

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, January 21, 7pm

Monthly meetings of the church leadership are held in the Fellowship Hall. All church members are also welcome to attend. Please note there is no December meeting.

Venmo!

All types of donations and payments to CSCC are welcome via Venmo. Aim your phone camera at the QR code, or use the Venmo app to send your money to @cscucc-ucc. Be sure to note what the payment is for.



As Reverend Beth noted in her sermon, December is a busy time for everyone. After worship coffee/fellowship time will take place as long as there are volunteers to host a simple coffee hour. There will be just two Sundays for coffee hour as December 7th is Christmas on the Common and December 21st is potluck lunch Sunday. Please consider

signing up for December 14th or the 28th. The sign up sheet is posted on the Fellowship Hall bulletin board near the kitchen and I can answer any questions that you may have. Thank you.

Connie Chandler



**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

PLEASE NOTE: The Food Pantry will be closed on Thursday, December 25 and Thursday, January 1.

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.



Tue, Wed, & Sun: 9am-1pm

Thu, 11am-3pm

and by appointment

*Please note: The office will be closed
December 25 - January 3*

CSCC Team Leadership 2025-26

Spiritual Engagement Team Leaders:

Deb Sorgman, Eric Stotts

Congregational Team Leaders:

Carol Chaffee, Natalie Muurisepp

Property & Finance Team Leaders:

Patrick Donahue, David Hanson, John Sharland

Community Engagement Team Leaders:

Heather Ciaramitaro, Stephanie Holmgren,
Terry Reynolds



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

CSCC Care Team

Carol Chaffee • Bev Mitchell • Deb Moore
 Rev. Beth Stotts • Nina Gabel-Jorgensen

Deacons

Deb Sorgman
debsorgman@gmail.com
 Anne Malmquist
amalmquist@comcast.net
 Stephanie Holmgren, Altar
 Deacon

Cristi Ciaramitaro
 Savannah Wells, Jr. Deacon
 Liam O'Connell, Jr. Deacon
 Tallinn Muurisepp, Jr. Deacon



**Poinsettias for Sale
 Through Dec. 7**

The Congregational Engagement Team, Natalie Muurisepp and Carol Chaffee, is taking orders for Memorial Poinsettias to decorate our sanctuary from December 14 and through the Christmas season. In the past, we have asked you leave your Poinsettia(s) through our Christmas Eve service, but many of you would like to use them to decorate your home on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, so if you would like to take your plant(s) after worship on December 21, you are welcome to. Our congregation will enjoy them and the memorials will be included in the bulletins throughout Christmas. Poinsettias are delicate plants and are tropical plants, to care for them in our sanctuary is a challenge, therefore we are offering this adaptation this year.

We have Red, White and Pink Poinsettias to choose from and they are \$10 each. Choose color and quantity of each color.

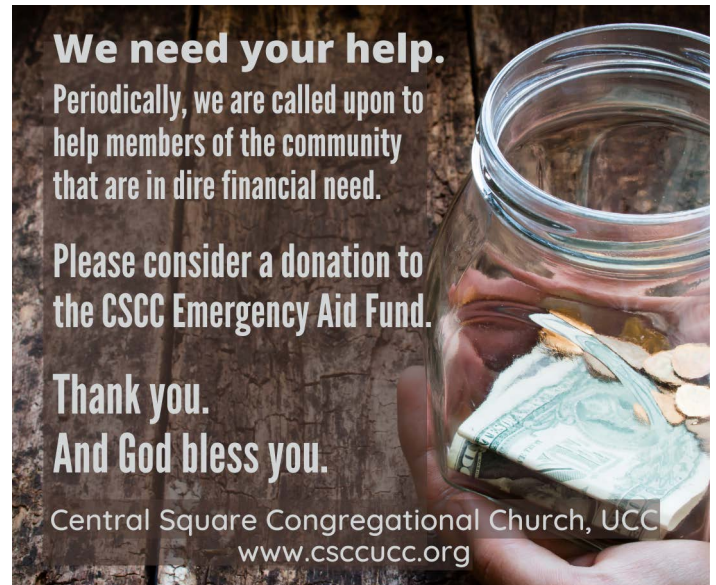
Please include your memorial message, your name, email and phone number on the order form. You may place your order by filling out the form in the worship bulletin insert; you may email the office; or you can sign up online (use the link on the home page of www.cscucc.org).

Orders will be taken through December 7.

**CSCC Junior Choir
 2025-26!**

**Rehearsals at 9:40am:
 Dec. 7 ~ Dec. 14 ~ Dec. 21**

**Performance at 10am:
 December 21**



Online payments can be made on our website by clicking on the "giving" option on the home page, then on the "emergency aid fund" button. Or checks can be made out to CSCC, 71 Central Square, Bridgewater, MA 02324 (write "emergency fund" in the memo). Donations may also be sent via Venmo to @cscucc-ucc (be sure to specify the emergency fund).



Our next Women's Guild and Fellowship meeting is Wednesday, December 3 for our Christmas service with Rev. Beth. We will be supporting Josie's Village for Christmas Cheer via Material Aids this month, so bring your offerings to the meeting. Come find the peace of the season to start your December off right!

Advent & Christmas

CENTRAL SQUARE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC
71 Central Sq. Bridgewater, MA www.cscucc.org

Sunday, Nov. 30	First Sunday of Advent 10am Communion Worship (<i>online at cscucc.org and in person</i>), Kids Church
Sunday, Dec. 5	Cookies & Community, Cocoa & Carols, 5:30pm
Sunday, Dec. 7	Second Sunday of Advent 10am Worship (<i>online at cscucc.org and in person</i>), Kids Church
Friday, Dec. 12	Holiday Open Mic Night, 6pm
Saturday, Dec. 13	Movie Night with Rev. Beth: "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" (a drop-off event) 6pm
Sunday, Dec. 14	Third Sunday of Advent 10am Worship (<i>online at cscucc.org and in person</i>), Kids Church
Saturday, Dec. 14	BSU Alumni Chamber Choir Holiday Concert, 3pm
Sunday, Dec. 21	Fourth Sunday of Advent - Pageant Sunday 10am Worship (<i>online at cscucc.org and in person</i>), Kids Church
Wednesday, Dec. 24	5pm Christmas Eve Family Service 10pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service



The Best Christmas Pageant Ever By Barbara Robinson

\$4.49 paperback on [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com)

The six Herdman children are "absolutely the worst kids in the history of the world". They lie and steal and smoke cigars. They even burned down Fred Shoemaker's old toolhouse. Now they're taking over the Christmas pageant.

The Herdmans have never heard the Christmas story before, and they don't know anything about shepherds or

wise men. When Imogene hears about the swaddling clothes, she demands to know why anyone would tie up a baby and put him in a feedbox. Leroy, Claude, and Ollie are planning on a gift that means much more than gold, frankincense, and myrrh - the ham from their Christmas basket.

The Best Christmas Pageant Ever has been a favorite of children and their parents since 1972. Readers of all ages will delight in this unusual and refreshing interpretation of Christmas

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Holiday Open Mic
December 12
6-8pm
71 Central Square, Bridgewater

Perform your favorite holiday song, or just come and watch! Enjoy a festive evening, surrounded by family and friends from the Bridgewater community.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO PERFORM:
Please email musicloftbridgewater@gmail.com with your song selection and instrument. Sign-ups will close Dec 11. On the night of the show, please arrive 20 minutes early with your instrument (if applicable). Sound equipment is provided.

ALL AGES WELCOME!!!
Join us afterward for cookies, hot cocoa, and photos with the Grinch!!



Movie Night!
SATURDAY, DEC. 13
6:00 PM
DROP-OFF EVENT!
\$20 PER FAMILY

Movie Night! December 13, 6pm

Rev. Beth is hosting a movie night on Saturday, Dec. 13, from 6pm-9pm. The movie is "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever," and it's a drop-off event for kids. Pizza, drinks, and popcorn will be provided. We're asking for a donation of \$20 per family. A great time for parents to make a dinner reservation and have a date in the midst of the hustle and bustle of the season!

RSVP to the church office by phone or email by December 12.

BRIDGEWATER STATE UNIVERSITY ALUMNI CHAMBER CHOIR



Sunday, December 14, 3:00pm BSU Alumni Chamber Choir Winter Concert

Central Square Church
Charles A. Dillingham, Director
Alice Fu, Accompanist
Tickets at the door
alumnichamberchoirbsu@gmail.com



Cookies & Community
Cocoa and Carols

Friday, December 5, 5:30pm

Children and adults from the church and the community are invited to come and enjoy an evening of cookies, cocoa, and carols. It all begins at 5:30 and ends at 7:30. We ask everyone to bring 3 dozen cookies to exchange with each other. At the end of the exchange everyone will have a variety of cookies to take home!

The children and any adult who would like to join them will see a Christmas movie while enjoying cookies and cocoa. The evening will end with us all traveling out to the Common to sing two Christmas carols. Invite your neighbors and friends! It should be a fun night.

The Community Engagement Team.



"Community is the heartbeat of humanity, pulsing with love and support."

- Congratulations to...
 - ...Ian Jackson on his engagement to Amber Vargas.
 - ...Nathan McDermott on his engagement to Allison Delmonte.
 - ...Drew McDermott on his marriage to Kylie, and the birth of their daughter, Ella Rose.
 - ...Jade, Terry Reynolds' granddaughter, who is expecting twins.
 - ...Anne Malmquist on her new home.
 - ...Terry & Bill Reynolds on their new home at Oak Point.
- Welcome to new CSCC members Jeanne Roscoe and Diana Francis.
- Congratulations to Lukas Hanson, who has successfully defended his doctoral dissertation on exoplanet atmosphere retention. He has accepted a position as an Algorithms Engineer at Morse Corp in Cambridge, starting in January. Well done, Dr. Hanson!

Do you have an important milestone in your family you'd like to share with the CSCC community? Perhaps a retirement (yay!), a birth, a new job or house, a passing? Let us share in these important moments in the life of our community together.

Send your brief, one-line message (not more than a few words, please) to the church office at office@cscucc.com. If it's received by the 20th of the month, it'll be in the next Steeple Sounds. If it comes after, we'll save it for the next one.

What's new with you?



To be a Christian without prayer is no more possible than to be alive without breathing. ~ Martin Luther

Our Mustard Seed Prayer List is at the very center of our church, the heart of our church home. Our prayer list flourishes with ups, downs, highs, lows, concerns and celebrations. We ask for mercy, we offer gratitude, we share our love, with God and in community. WE PRAY TOGETHER for and with each other.

Here are some guidelines for the Mustard Seeds Prayer List:

- ♥ A prayer can be added at any time; during worship (if you write your request on the mustard-colored slips of paper in the pews and place it in the offering plate), or an email, phone call or verbal request through the church office. When your prayer is added to the list it will include the date of the request. Some prayers need to be ongoing and some do not.
- ♥ If you have a prayer request on the list and you update, or mention additional information at a later time, (by following the first guideline above) the prayer will continue and the date of the request will be updated.
- ♥ After approximately 6 months, if no updates have been given, your prayer request will be removed. But it can always be added back on, should the request be given. This is a challenge for the keepers of the list and there will always be exceptions to these guidelines. We would prefer for you to manage your prayer requests, rather than the keepers of the list.
- ♥ Should you have questions about our prayer list, please speak with a Care Team Member.



End of Year Giving

If you find that you need to do some catching up with your pledge giving, or you are able to give a bit more this holiday season, note that the Treasurers need to receive all gifts no later than noon on Monday, December 29 in order for it to be counted toward your 2025 giving.

Payments are accepted by check, cash, bill-pay through your bank, Paypal, and Venmo. Contact the office if you have questions.

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A Church Fair Success Story!

Your CSCC Fair Committee has nothing but an overflowing cup of gratitude for the tireless hours given, the congregational spirit and the community engagement that we witnessed during our fair weekend. All the TEAMS and their job descriptions intertwined. OUR STAFF supported on the scene and behind the scene. Our congregation supported in giving and receiving. And most importantly, the community responded. We engaged in conversation and fellowship with many new faces during fair time. We renewed relationships with friends that come to our fair every year. We shared our bounty and delivered meals to the fire station and to members of our church. And we came together in spirit and prayer for a dear friend.

With the generosity of many in mind, our fair netted approximately \$7000 in profit for our beloved church.

Thank you,

Your Fair Committee

~ ~ ~

Thank you to all who contributed pies, breads, cookies, cakes and candy for the recent church fair. You did an amazing job even with the high cost of food these days. Pie night alone made over \$1100! I truly appreciate your helping making our fair a wonderful success.

Darlene Brown

~ ~ ~

Just want to give a big shout out and thank you to the Hanson Farm! They have been donating all the vegetables for 50 + years to the church turkey supper. We appreciate all you do and give to our church!



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!

CLOSED 12/22 - 1/2

CENTRAL CLOSET THRIFT SHOP
at Central Square Congregational Church

Wed & Sat, 10-2 * www.cscucc.org/thrift-shop

Christmas has arrived at Central Closet Thrift Shop! Come in and check out all the Christmas decorations and giftable items. Plenty of slightly used or some even new items perfect for giving. We also have gift certificates available for that hard to shop for person on your list.

We welcome new or gently used clothing and accessories for adults and children, household items, books and toys. Please no electronics, broken items, torn or stained clothing. We do limit donations up to 20 items per visit. Donations are only accepted during shop hours: Wednesday and Saturday, 10-2.

Please note, as of December 1st, we can no longer accept any Christmas items. We appreciate all of your donations and understanding. Our limited space only holds so much.

Christmas on the Common is being held on Sunday, December 7th, and the shop will be open. In addition to our regular thrift shop merchandise, the crafters of Central Square Congregational Church will have their crafts available for sale.

Special dates

December 7: open during Christmas on the Common, 12-4

December 21 - January 1: closed for the holidays

January 3: We will reopen

Merry Christmas from all of us -

Connie, Sandy, Jane, Lynn and Gail



Christmas on the Common is always a special event in Bridgewater with vendors, food, and kid activities all up and down the Common. It occurs on the first Sunday in December, so this year it's on Dec. 7, 12noon until 4pm.

Keep in mind these details:

- The streets along the common, including Church St., will have some limitations on access beginning before worship, and more restrictions between the hours of 10am and 4:30pm. (Be aware for worship that morning.) We ask that if you don't have any mobility concerns, please park in the library lot and leave the limited Church St. parking to those who need to have close access to the church.
- When you leave worship, whether you're parked on Church St. or in the library lot, you'll likely need to exit via the far end of Church St, at Union St.
- Our church building will be open all afternoon for guests to use our bathrooms as needed, or to warm up.
- The church fair crafters and jewelry table will set up during Christmas on the Common as well. And the Thrift Shop will also be open!



Warmth in Cold Places

Wow! You have already filled the bin in the back hall with warm clothes for the homeless in Taunton. Keep those jackets, hooded sweatshirts, sweaters, and hats and gloves coming! Don't forget the socks and long underwear. Anything gently used or new will be greatly appreciated.

The final day that donations will be accepted is **Sunday Dec. 14**. If you would like to help us sort out the warm collection of clothing please join us after church on the 14th. We will be delivering all donations on Monday, Dec. 15. If anyone would like to join us in delivering the clothing please see a member of the Community Engagement Team or call the church office and leave your name.

The Community Engagement Team - Heather Ciaramitaro, Stephanie Holmgren, and Terry Reynolds



It's That Time of Year Again: Inclement Weather Policy

The Senior Deacon 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(s).
2. The Pastor will notify the Sexton and other staff, including the Office Manager and the Communications Coordinator.
3. The Office Manager will update the office answering machine with the cancellation announcement and notify the appropriate television media.
4. The Communications Coordinator will send a general church email and a text notification, and will update the website and Facebook page.
5. The Senior Deacon will notify the other members of the Spiritual Engagement Team.

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. Links to both are on www.cscucc.org. Contact the office with questions.





Our famous “Magical Event” is now called **A Magical Adventure!**. With a change in name there comes a change in activities. Oh, some of your favorites are still there, don’t worry, but we have some new adventures for you to experience.

You will notice a difference right away when you come to the church walkway. Keep on going for there are more changes inside. Two of our tents have been replaced with 2 new activities. The hallway has become a magical forest. Do you dare to walk through it? We even have a special guest for you to enjoy at the end of the hallway!

We have new additions to our food menu as well. If you are looking for a fun afternoon on a cold winter’s day in January, join us for A Magical Adventure.

It all takes place on Saturday, January 10th from 1:00 to 4:00. You can make your reservations through the link on the website or the Facebook event, beginning December 10. The cost is \$15 per person or \$50 for a family of 4. Children 4 or under are free. The price includes participating in all the activities as well as all of our food and snack offerings. Hope to see you there!

PS - you are welcome to come in costume! Bats, witches, wizards, owls... what will you be?



December 21 and 24

The Christmas fund offering - one of the Five-for-Five offerings of the UCC that CSCC participates in - is often received on the fourth Sunday of Advent, which falls on December 21 this year, as well as Christmas Eve. Donations may also be made on our website (click on “donate to CSCC” and choose “Christmas Fund”), via Venmo (specify “Christmas fund”), or by mailing a check to the church.

Sponsored by The Pension Boards of the UCC, the Christmas Fund has been caring for active and retired clergy and lay employees of the United Church of Christ for over 100 years, providing emergency grants, supplementation of small annuities and health premiums, and Christmas “Thank You” gift checks each December to our lower-income retirees.

United Church of Christ congregations and members have blessed the Christmas Fund with their generosity for many years. This year, your care and compassion will be especially appreciated by those servants of the church who are facing a time of need.

- The Community Engagement Team



As we begin December, we are already in Advent! As we did last year we will have our own Advent wreath and candles on the Kids Church altar, a Christmas tree, and we will be exploring weekly the aspects of hope, joy, peace, and love, that the season represents.

The kids are excited about presenting the Christmas pageant in worship (December 21), so we will talk about the story of Jesus and explore what it must have been like to be the people in the story of Christ's birth. And, while we would encourage parents/guardians to have their kids there every week to be ready for the pageant, it is not required, and every child that wants to participate will be included. Drop a note to me or the church office if you have questions.

As always, there's a lot more going on than I can fit in a short newsletter article, so if you have any questions about Kids Church, please don't hesitate to reach out to me directly.

Please note there is no Kids Church on Sunday, December 28.

From all of us at Kids Church, Merry Christmas!

Eric Stotts

Director of Kids Church, eastotts@gmail.com

PS - Heifer Project work starts in January!

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 – December 2025 (Year C)

Mon., Dec. 1

Psalm 124
Genesis 8:1-19
Romans 6:1-11

Tues., Dec. 2

Psalm 124; Genesis 9:1-17
Hebrews 11:32-40

Wed., Dec. 3

Psalm 124; Isaiah 54:1-10
Matthew 24:23-35

Thurs., Dec. 4

Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19
Isaiah 4:2-6
Acts 1:12-17, 21-26

Fri., Dec. 5

Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19
Isaiah 30:19-26
Acts 13:16-25

Sat., Dec. 6

Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19
Isaiah 40:1-11
John 1:19-28

Sun., Dec. 7

Second Sunday of Advent
Isaiah 11:1-10
Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19
Romans 15:4-13
Matthew 3:1-12

Mon., Dec. 8

Psalm 21; Isaiah 24:1-16a
1 Thessalonians 4:1-12

Tues., Dec. 9

Psalm 21
Isaiah 41:14-20
Romans 15:14-21

Wed., Dec. 10

Psalm 21
Genesis 15:1-18
Matthew 12:33-37

Thurs., Dec. 11

Psalm 146:5-10
Ruth 1:6-18
2 Peter 3:1-10

Fri., Dec. 12

Psalm 146:5-10; Ruth 4:13-17
2 Peter 3:11-18

Sat., Dec. 13

Psalm 146:5-10
1 Samuel 2:1-8; Luke 3:1-18

Sun., Dec. 14

Third Sunday of Advent
Isaiah 35:1-10
Psalm 146:5-10 or
Luke 1:46b-55
James 5:7-10
Matthew 11:2-11

Mon., Dec. 15

Psalm 42; Isaiah 29:17-24
Acts 5:12-16

Tues., Dec. 16

Psalm 42; Ezekiel 47:1-12
Jude 17-25

Wed., Dec. 17

Psalm 42
Zechariah 8:1-17
Matthew 8:14-17, 28-34

Thurs., Dec. 18

Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19
2 Samuel 7:1-17
Galatians 3:23-29

Fri., Dec. 19

Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19
2 Samuel 7:18-22
Galatians 4:1-7

Sat., Dec. 20

Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19
2 Samuel 7:23-29
John 3:31-36

Sun., Dec. 21

Fourth Sunday of Advent
Isaiah 7:10-16
Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19
Romans 1:1-7
Matthew 1:18-25

Mon., Dec. 22

Luke 1:46b-55; Isaiah 33:17-22
Revelation 22:6-7, 18-20

Tues., Dec. 23

J Luke 1:46b-55
2 Samuel 7:18, 23-29
Galatians 3:6-14

Wed., Dec. 24

Nativity of the Lord I
Proper I
Isaiah 9:2-7
Psalm 96; Titus 2:11-14
Luke 2:1-14 [15-20]

Thurs., Dec. 25

Nativity of the Lord II
Proper II
Isaiah 62:6-12
Psalm 97; Titus 3:4-7
Luke 2:[1-7] 8-20

Thurs., Dec. 25

Nativity of the Lord III
Proper III
Isaiah 52:7-10; Psalm 98
Hebrews 1:1-4 [5-12]
John 1:1-14

Fri., Dec. 26

Psalm 148; Wisdom 4:7-15
Acts 7:59—8:8

Sat., Dec. 27

Psalm 148; Proverbs 8:22-31
1 John 5:1-12

Sun., Dec. 28

First Sunday after Christmas
Isaiah 63:7-9; Psalm 148
Hebrews 2:10-18
Matthew 2:13-23

Mon., Dec. 29

Psalm 20; Jeremiah 31:15-22
Luke 19:41-44

Tues., Dec. 30

Psalm 20; Isaiah 26:1-9
2 Corinthians 4:16-18

Wed., Dec. 31

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

DECEMBER 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<i>*Unless otherwise noted, worship services are both online and in-person</i>	1 6-7:30pm Food Pantry Open	2 9-1 Church office open 7pm Women's NA	3 9-1 Church office open 10-2 Thrift Shop open 6:30pm Women's Guild & Fellowship	4 10-1 Food Pantry Open 11-3 Church office open 7pm Al-Anon	5 5:30pm Cookies & Community	6 10-2 Thrift Shop open
7 2nd Sunday of Advent 8:30am Sr. choir 9-1 Church office open 9:40am Jr choir 10am Communion Worship*, Kids Church 12-4 Christmas on the Common & Thrift Shop open 7:30pm AA Meeting	8 6:30pm Magical Event meeting	9 9-1 Church office open 7pm Women's NA	10 9-1 Church office open 10-2 Thrift Shop open	11 10-1 Food Pantry Open 11-3 Church office open 7pm Al-Anon 7pm Property & Finance Meeting	12 6pm Open Mic Night	13 10-2 Thrift Shop open 6pm Movie Night with Rev. Beth
14 3rd Sunday of Advent 8:30am Sr. choir 9-1 Church office open 9:40am Jr choir 10am Worship*, Kids Church 3pm BSU Alumni Choir Concert 7:30pm AA Meeting	15 Steeple Sounds submissions due	16 9-1 Church office open 7pm Women's NA	17 9-1 Church office open 10-2 Thrift Shop open 10am CSCC staff mtg	18 10-1 Food Pantry Open 11-3 Church office open 7pm Al-Anon	19	20 10-2 Thrift Shop open
21 Pageant Sunday 4th Sunday of Advent 8:30am Sr. choir 9-1 Church office open 9:40am Jr choir 10am Worship*, Jr choir perform, Kids Church 11am Monthly potluck 7:30pm AA Meeting	22	23 9-1 Church office open 7pm Women's NA	24 9-1 Church office open 5pm Christmas Eve Family Worship 10pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship	25 7pm Al-Anon	26 10-1 Food Pantry Open	27
28 Hymn Sing Sunday 10am Worship* 7:30pm AA Meeting	29	30 7pm Women's NA	31	Please note: The full calendar of all building uses is available on cscucc.org or by contacting the church office.		

Treasurer's Report
October 31, 2025
Fiscal Year July 2025 - June 2026

	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Difference	Annual Budget
Income				
Regular Pledges	42,797	43,808	(1,012)	130,000
Unpledged Offerings	3,146	4,044	(898)	12,000
Plate Offering	257	337	(80)	1,000
Kid's Church	162	168	(7)	500
Total · Pledges / Offerings	46,361	48,358	(1,996)	143,500
Special Collections				
SNEUCC Fellowship Dues	248	674	(426)	2,000
Total · Special Collections	248	674	(426)	2,000
Fundraisers/Events Revenue				
Church Fair	0	2,696	(2,696)	8,000
Central Closet Thrift Shop	5,753	5,055	699	15,000
Misc Fundraisers	647	2,696	(2,049)	8,000
Total · Fundraisers/Events Revenue	6,400	10,447	(4,047)	31,000
Facility Usage Income				
Non Profit Bldg Use	1,570	1,348	222	4,000
North River Collaborative	7,500	6,066	1,434	18,000
Private Bldg Use	0	168	(168)	500
Food Pantry support	600	607	(7)	1,800
Total · Facility Usage Income	9,670	8,189	1,481	24,300
Miscellaneous Income	319	337	(18)	1,000
Total Income	62,998	68,004	(5,006)	201,800
Expenses				
Total · Senior Minister Expenses	37,459	33,979	(3,480)	100,832
Total · Support Staff Expenses	17,647	18,283	635	54,253
Total · Office Expenses	2,707	2,730	22	8,100
Total · Church Building Costs	11,401	12,637	1,236	37,500
Teams				
Spiritual Engagement	768	505	(262)	1,500
Kid's Church	247	0	(247)	
Congregational Engagement	(74)	270	343	800
Coffee Hour Donations	0	0		
Community Engagement	236	337	101	1,000
Breakfasts/Lunches	(112)	0	112	0
Property and Finance	0	101	101	300
Community Engagement Reserve	642	657	15	1,950
Total · Teams	1,707	1,870	163	5,550
SNEUCC Fellowship Dues	0	674	674	2,000
Pilgrim Assn Fellowship Dues	215	67	(148)	200
Miscellaneous Expenses	0	0	0	0
Total Expenses	71,137	70,240	(897)	208,435
Net income (loss)	(8,139)	(2,236)	(5,903)	(6,635)
Transfer from Investments				6,635
	(8,139)	(2,236)		0

Treasurer's Report
October 31, 2025
Fiscal Year July 2025 - June 2026

Cash balances

Operating account	9,804
Money Market	27,044
Minister's Discretionary account	97
Community Engagement Reserve	2,887
Building fund/Capital Improvements account	3,580
PayPal account	887
Venmo account	57
Total cash balances	<u>44,354</u>

Vanguard investment funds

Protected principal	135,513
Unrestricted funds, beginning	104,388
Deposits (withdrawals)	
Gain (loss) for month	<u>2,640</u>
Unrestricted funds, ending	<u>107,028</u>
Total investments 10/31/2025	<u>242,541</u>

Food Pantry account balance 9/30/2025	15,314
Donations	3,266
Expenses	<u>(1,708)</u>
Food Pantry account balance 10/31/2025	<u>16,871</u>

Giving Comparison

	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2024 YTD	FY 2025 YTD	FY 2026 YTD
July	15,290.21	8,815.30	10,755.61	15,290.21	8,815.30	10,755.61
Aug.	8,061.22	7,908.21	10,774.61	23,351.43	16,723.51	21,530.22
Sept.	10,587.06	13,892.94	9,193.84	33,938.49	30,616.45	30,724.06
Oct.	12,608.01	9,569.39	15,637.07	46,546.50	40,185.84	46,361.13
Nov.	8,281.58	10,814.97		54,828.08	51,000.81	
Dec.	13,625.20	14,193.23		68,453.28	65,194.04	
Jan.	10,226.11	9,936.61		78,679.39	75,130.65	
Feb.	7,168.42	14,385.21		85,847.81	89,515.86	
March	11,414.05	10,867.26		97,261.86	100,383.12	
April	21,591.08	16,246.75		118,852.94	116,629.87	
May	18,534.50	24,662.86		137,387.44	141,292.73	
June	9,079.51	13,336.04		146,466.95	154,628.77	



1821-2021

Central Square Congregational Church, UCC

71 Central Square
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Church Administration

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

Office Manager: Jennifer Foronjy, office@cscucc.com

Sexton: Rich Sullivan

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

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

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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