



Steeple Sounds

The monthly newsletter of Central Square Congregational Church, UCC
June 2026

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

Beloved in Christ,

Someone once told me that gas fills the shape of the container and I feel like the same can be said for calendars. Every spring it's the same: graduations, cookouts, vacations, family gatherings, meetings, events—June can feel like a race from one commitment to the next. Somewhere along the way, many of us begin to believe that a full schedule is the same thing as a full life. But the gospel often points us in another direction.

Again and again, Jesus steps away from the crowds. He leaves room for quiet. He notices birds, lilies, children, fishermen, and strangers by the roadside. He pauses long enough to ask questions, to listen, to wonder. The holy moments in scripture rarely happen when people are rushing. More often, they happen when someone has stopped long enough to pay attention.

There is a kind of spiritual wisdom in saying “no.”

...no to every invitation that drains us.

...no to the pressure to always be productive.

...no to the fear that we might miss out if we are not constantly busy. (I'm guilty of this one! My husband calls it FOMO—fear of missing out.)

If we think about it, every “no” can become a different kind of “yes.”

...yes to an unhurried morning on the porch or in the back yard listening to birds.

...yes to noticing the changing colors at dusk.

...yes to conversations that are not squeezed between appointments.

...yes to sitting quietly with God without needing to accomplish anything at all.

This June, perhaps faithfulness does not mean doing more. Perhaps it means leaving enough room in our lives to be surprised by grace again.

May you find courage to decline what does not give life.

May you rediscover the gift of rest.

And may you make enough space for wonder to find you.

In Christ,

Rev. Beth

Please note: Rev. Beth will be on sabbatical leave June 23 - August 2

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 17, 7pm

Please note: this is the annual program year calendaring meeting.

If you have event or meeting dates that you want to put on the church/building calendar, please attend this meeting or submit them to the church office by June 15.

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

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



June 1-20:

Tue, Thu, Fri, & Sun: 9am-1pm

Please note the office will be closed on June 12 & 16

June 21 - August 22:

Tue, Thu, Sun: 9am-1pm

Please note the office will be closed on June 28

CSCC Junior Choir 2025-26!

**Final rehearsals at 9:40am:
June 7 - June 14**

**Final performances at 10am:
June 7 - June 14**

Venmo!

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

An illustration of a brown paper grocery bag filled with various food items like cereal boxes, a bottle of oil, and a jar of jam.

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

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



Another Kids Church year comes to a close! Please note there is **no Kids Church on June 7**, and June 14 is our last time together before the summer. Which means it's party time! **End of year party** will be held during Kids Church time on **June 14**.

It's been such a great year. We've loved having your kids learn and worship together each week with us. Thank you to all the great kids, and all of our adult leaders and helpers. We hope everyone has a relaxing and joyous summer, and we'll meet up again in the Fall.

Eric Stotts
Kids Church Director



Thank you to those who helped out with after-worship coffee hour from September through May. Your willingness to sign up for a Sunday or just pitch in at the last minute has been greatly appreciated. Fellowship time for June, July, and August will happen if anyone wants to sign up and provide cold beverages. Light refreshments are optional. There will be signup sheets posted on the bulletin board nearest the kitchen in Fellowship Hall.

Best wishes to one or two of you who may step up and coordinate coffee hour starting in September. I can help you get started and you will have my support.

Connie Chandler



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!

We need your help.
 Periodically, we are called upon to help members of the community that are in dire financial need.

Please consider a donation to the CSCC Emergency Aid Fund.

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 (be sure to specify the emergency fund).

Thank you. And God bless you.

Central Square Congregational Church, UCC
www.cscucc.org



The Women's Guild enjoyed a wonderful banquet May 6th at Loon Pond Lodge in Lakeville. We celebrated that our hardwork and fellowship this year fundraised \$5,125 which was donated to our church, and local, national and international charities we chose. At the annual meeting there, a new slate of officers was elected for 2 years! Please congratulate the new board when you see them!

Women's Guild Executive Board for 2026-27

- Co-President - Carol Chaffee
- Co-President - Deb Golob
- Secretary - Bette DeKoning (1 yr)
- Treasurer - Jane O'Connell
- Auditor - Donna O'Neil
- Historian - Barbara Morey

Committee Chairs:

- Banquet - Sandy Alley, Bev Mitchell, Mauree Bundock, Terry Reynolds
- Devotions - Annie Blanchard
- Good Cheer - Donna Albro
- Hospitality - Chris Ventura
- Material Aids - Beth Basler, Mauree Bundock, Mary Barnsley

Submitted by,
Donna O'Neil, Past President



As we have done before, our church building will be open during the Bridgewater parade for use of our restrooms and to get out of the sun if needed.

Want to hang out at the church to help direct folks that need it? A few friends to help would be great! Contact Diane Sheibley or the church office to volunteer.



"This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."
Matthew 3:17

YOU are my beloved affirms the profound words spoken by God at Jesus' baptism. It speaks of deep love, approval and identity.

The graphic above is relative to so many of us today as we balance caring for our children and caring for our parents. Though this time for me has passed, I do recall the struggle, the push and pull, the tight rope that we walk each and every day.

If you review the Mustard Seed Prayer List on a weekly basis, you note that many in our faith community express the need for prayer for those diagnosed with some form of dementia and generally speaking it is the aging parent of a young mom or dad. The Sandwich Generation pertains specifically to those between 30-50 years of age.

I just finished a book The Summer of Great Grandmother by Madeliene L'Engle, an American author. To summarize, the memoir reflects on the final summer of the author's mother as she succumbs to cognitive decline. It speaks of decline, diminishment and finality all the while celebrating life.

I recall with Philip's mom, Anne, decline during the final 2 years of her long well-lived life and saying to each other over that timeframe that "this is not the real Anne", "this is not who she is". Two Easters ago, she had a moment of clarity with Philip that afternoon and he has that memory to cherish when she was real Anne.

You Are My Beloved, Central Square Congregational Church.

Carol Chaffee
Care Team

Welcome Rev. Andrew!

Rev. Andrew Heintz will once again be filling in as worship leader while Rev. Beth is on sabbatical this summer, as he did last year. Rev. Andrew is an ordained UCC minister and serves as a full time hospice chaplain and as associate pastor at St. Mary's Episcopal Church in Newton Lower Falls. Andrew is passionate about helping people meet God in prayer and worship, entering the stories of our faith with creativity and imagination. Andrew received his Master of Divinity degree from the Episcopal Divinity School in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and his Master of Sacred Theology at Chicago Theological Seminary. Originally from Oxford, North Carolina, Andrew loves living in Providence, and he enjoys spending time in nature and playing music.



**Rev. Beth will be on sabbatical
June 23-August 2.**



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

- Welcome to our newest church members, who joined during worship on May 24: Richard Malmquist and Patrice Foronjy.
- The Stotts Family has lots of good news to share! Jae made the Dean's List AND the Chancellor's List at West Carolina University this year. Eric has started a new job and is really enjoying it. Josephine passed her swim test!
- David R. Moore, our own turkey supper guru, was wonderfully honored on April 30 by The Rotary Club of the Bridgewater. David was named Bridgewater Citizen of the Year.
- Jamie Wells won Judges' Choice award at the New England Dance to Inspire dance competition for her contemporary duo. Congrats Jamie!
- Cameron Shave, graduating from Manhattan School of Music this spring, received the school's Outstanding Performance/Jazz Soloist award in the undergraduate division. Way to go, Cam!
- Denise Molinari is retiring from her teaching career this month! Congrats Denise!
- Congrats to our Office Manager Jenne, who made Dean's List this semester!

And of course there's congratulations all around for our recent graduates! See page 7.

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?



On June 14, please join us for a pot luck lunch as we celebrate the church activities of the past year at our annual meeting, and make decisions for the coming fiscal year.

Volunteers are needed to help supply the luncheon fare. Please visit the signup genius at cscucc.org/events to let us know what you can contribute.

Also at the annual meeting we will vote on:

- the slate of officers and team members for the 2026-27 church year (see list at right);
- the 2025-26 fiscal year budget (see pages 8-9)

Online voting will be available from Friday, 6/12 at 5pm until Monday, 6/15 at 9am. The links to voting and streaming will be distributed on Friday, 6/12 via email, and will be available on the website.

Church Office Professionals



Serving the Faithful, faithfully

Donations Requested

This month our office manager, Jenne Foronjy, will be attending the conference for the Church Office Professionals. As part of the conference, they hold an outreach collection for a local Cape Cod non-profit group. This year they contacted the Cape Cod Foster Closet. Their mission is to support foster and caregiver families by providing clothing, basic necessities, helping hands and emotional support and they envision a vibrant community of compassionate, like-minded individuals who desire to encourage, serve and nurture foster and caregiver families.

The Cape Cod Foster Closet is asking for:

Boys and Girls short and short sleeve shirts in sizes 10, 12, 14/16, and in Adult XS, S, M and L.

If you'd like to contribute one or more of these items, please drop them off to Jenne in the office no later than June 11. If you have any questions, contact the church office. Thank you!

SLATE OF LEADERSHIP NOMINEES FOR THE 2026-27 CHURCH YEAR:

- Moderator - Anne Malmquist
- Clerk - Nina Gabel-Jorgensen
- Treasurer - Dave Shieibley
- Asst. Treasurer -
- Financial Secretary - Karissa Marquis

Community Engagement Team

- Heather Ciaramitaro
- Stephanie Holmgren
- [open position]

Property and Finance Team

- John Sharland
- Dave Hanson
- Patrick Donahue

Congregational Engagement Team

- Natalie Muurisep
- Logan Muurisep
- Jean Roscoe

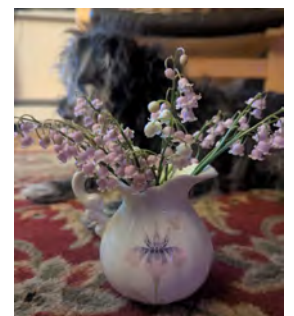
Spiritual Engagement Team

- Eric Stotts
- Deb Sorgman
- [open position]



It's just past Memorial Day and the long Summer days will be upon us any day now. The Thrift shop will be closed on Saturdays starting in July and continue through August. Also, at this time the Thrift Shop is accepting donations of Summer merchandise only.

Currently in our shop we have treasures such as shoe collectibles, ruby red cut glass vases, Trivial Pursuit games and many puzzles! Come and browse, you might just find that item that you need at a fraction of the cost. Reuse, Recycle! Save money in today's challenging economy. Support the church and its missions. It's a win win win.





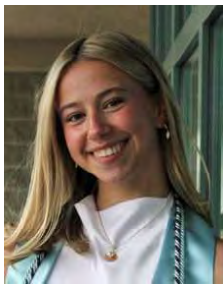
Congratulations to our 2026 Graduates!



Franco Ciaramitaro is graduating from Bristol Plymouth High School and is headed to UMass Lowell with an Engineering major.



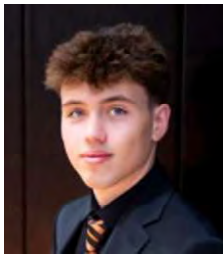
Cameron Shave has received his Bachelors of Music in Jazz Arts Performance on trumpet from the Manhattan School of Music under the trumpet tutelage of Jon Faddis and Ingrid Jensen. Cam is one of four students selected by the Manhattan School of Music to pursue a Master of Music in Jazz Composition next fall.



Grace Jackson graduated from Roger Williams University with a BA in psychology. She's taking a gap year, and pursuing equine therapy.



Alex Sikora is graduating from Hanover [NH] High School, and will be pursuing a degree in Exercise Science at the University of Vermont in the Fall.



Spenser Masiello is graduating from Middleborough High School, and will be pursuing a degree in Exercise Science / Pre-PT at Bridgewater State University.



Madeline Struzik is graduating from Bridgewater-Raynham Regional High School, and will be attending Coastal Carolina University, majoring in psychology and on a pre-law track.



Emily Scott graduated from Bridgewater State University with a BA in childhood studies.



Katie Wallace graduated from Emmanuel College with a bachelors in nursing and will be working on a cardiac step down unit at Beth Israel in Boston starting in August. Between now and then she'll be taking the NCLEX to get her RN.



PROPOSED BUDGET 2026-2027
TO BE VOTED ON AT THE ANNUAL MEETING, SUNDAY, JUNE 14

Central Square Congregational Church, UCC
 Proposed Budget 2026-2027

	FY 2026 Budget	Actual thru 4/30	FY 2027 Proposed	
Income				
Pledges / Offerings				
Regular Pledges	130,000	111,665	106,000	
Unpledged Offerings	12,000	7,518	43,000	
Kid's Church	500	327	500	
Plate Offering	1,000	818	1,000	
Total Pledges / Offerings	143,500	120,328	150,500	
Fundraisers/Events Revenue				
Church Fair or other	8,000	7,613	7,000	
Central Closet Thrift Shop	15,000	14,254	15,000	
Misc Fundraisers	8,000	3,497	5,000	
Total Fundraisers/Events Revenue	31,000	25,364	27,000	
Facility Usage Income				
Non Profit Rentals	4,000	3,550	4,500	
North River Collaborative Rental	18,000	15,000	18,000	
Food Pantry Support	1,800	1,500	1,800	
Private Rentals	500	460	500	
Total Facility Usage Income	24,300	20,510	24,800	
Misc Income				
SNEUCC Fellowship Dues	2,000	268	2,000	
Misc Income	1,000	2,186	2,500	
	3,000	2,454	4,500	
Total Income	201,800	168,656	206,800	
Expense				
Senior Minister Expenses				
Payroll	25,051	22,253	26,763	
FICA Stipend	4,364	3,742	4,495	
Pension Fund	7,987	6,902	8,227	
Housing Allowance	32,000	26,667	32,000	
Sabbatical Budget	1,080	900	1,080	
Professional Expenses	2,000	1,269	2,000	
Health & Dental Ins	28,574	24,295	30,003	5% increase
Life & Disability Ins	856	740	881	
Total Senior Minister Expenses	101,912	86,768	105,449	Includes 3% increase in pay
Support Staff Expenses				
Pulpit Supply	500	0	500	
Office Coordinator	15,760	13,164	16,315	Includes 3% increase
Minister of Music	17,389	14,694	17,911	Includes 3% increase
Sexton/Custodian	13,650	11,272	14,430	Includes 6% increase in Sept 2025
Video Evangelism	1,000	0	1,000	
Sup. Staff FICA	3,580	2,994	3,722	
Workers' Comp Ins	1,294	1,100	1,345	
Total Support Staff Expenses	53,173	43,224	55,223	

CONTINUED...

PROPOSED BUDGET, CONTINUED...

	FY 2026 Budget	Actual thru 4/30	FY 2027 Proposed	
Office Expenses				
Total Bank Service Charges	600	748	800	
Internet & Computer Related Exp	2,100	1,775	2,000	
Office Supplies	400	1,060	800	
Payroll & Treasurer Supplies	950	355	850	
Postage & eDelivery	900	715	900	
Printing & Reproduction	2,150	1,830	2,150	
Telephone	1,000	1,048	1,100	
Total Office Expenses	8,100	7,531	8,600	
Church Building Costs				
Building Supplies	2,000	1,308	2,000	
Fire Alarm Monitoring Service	600	1,008	1,008	
Property & Liability Insurance	13,500	11,550	13,500	
Repairs & Maintenance	5,000	5,887	5,000	
Utilities				
Gas & Electric	7,000	7,630	8,000	
Fuel Oil	8,000	10,666	9,000	
Water & Sewer	1,400	997	1,000	
Total Church Building Costs	37,500	39,046	39,508	
Operating Committees				
Spiritual Engagement Team	1,500	2,013	2,000	
Property and Finance Team	300	0	0	
Congregational Engagement Team	800	80	400	
Community Engagement Team	1,000	315	800	
Teams Total	3,600	2,408	3,200	
Community Engagement Team Reserve	1,950	1,682	1,590	1.5% of pledge income
Total Operating Committees	5,550	4,090	4,790	
SNEUCC Fellowship Dues	2,000	0	2,000	
Pilgrim Assn Fellowship Dues	200	215	200	
Misc Expenses	0	0	0	
Total Expense	208,436	180,874	215,770	
Net Income (Loss)	(6,636)	(12,218)	(8,970)	

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 2026 (Year A)

Mon., June 1

Psalm 69:1-3, 13-16, 30-36
 Genesis 4:1-16
 Romans 2:1-11

Tues., June 2

Psalm 69:1-3, 13-16, 30-36
 Genesis 4:17—5:5
 Romans 3:9-22a

Wed., June 3

Psalm 69:1-3, 13-16, 30-36
 Genesis 11:1-9
 Matthew 7:13-20

Thurs., June 4

Psalm 33:1-12
 Genesis 13:1-18
 2 Peter 2:17-22

Fri., June 5

Psalm 33:1-12
 Genesis 14:17-24
 Acts 28:1-10

Sat., June 6

Psalm 33:1-12
 Genesis 15:1-20
 Matthew 9:27-34

Sun., June 7

Second Sunday after Pentecost
 Genesis 12:1-9
 Psalm 33:1-12
 Romans 4:13-25
 Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26

Mon., June 8

Psalm 119:41-48
 Genesis 16:1-15
 2 Corinthians 6:14—7:2

Tues., June 9

Psalm 119:41-48
 Genesis 17:1-27
 Hebrews 13:1-16

Wed., June 10

Psalm 119:41-48
 Genesis 18:16-33
 Matthew 12:1-8

Thurs., June 11

Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19
 Genesis 21:1-7
 Hebrews 3:1-6

Fri., June 12

Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19
 Genesis 24:1-9
 Acts 7:35-43

Sat., June 13

Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19
 Genesis 24:10-52
 Mark 7:1-13

Sun., June 14

Third Sunday after Pentecost
 Genesis 18:1-15 [21:1-7]
 Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19
 Romans 5:1-8
 Matthew 9:35—10:8 [9-23]

Mon., June 15

Psalm 126
 Genesis 23:1-19
 1 Thessalonians 3:1-5

Tues., June 16

Psalm 126
 Genesis 25:7-11
 2 Thessalonians 2:13—3:5

Wed., June 17

Psalm 126
 Nehemiah 9:1-8
 Luke 6:12-19

Thurs., June 18

Psalm 86:1-10
 Exodus 12:43-49
 Hebrews 2:5-9

Fri., June 19

Psalm 86:1-10
 Genesis 35:1-4
 Acts 5:17-26

Sat., June 20

Psalm 86:1-10
 Ezekiel 29:3-7
 Luke 11:53—12:3

Sun., June 21

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost
 Genesis 21:8-21
 Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17
 Romans 6:1b-11
 Matthew 10:24-39

Mon., June 22

Psalm 86:11-17
 Genesis 16:1-15
 Revelation 2:1-7

Tues., June 23

Psalm 86:11-17
 Genesis 25:12-18
 Revelation 2:8-11

Wed., June 24

Psalm 86:11-17
 Jeremiah 42:18-22
 Matthew 10:5-23

Thurs., June 25

Psalm 13
 Micah 7:18-20
 Galatians 5:2-6

Fri., June 26

Psalm 13
 2 Chronicles 20:5-12
 Galatians 5:7-12

Sat., June 27

Psalm 13
 Genesis 26:23-25
 Luke 17:1-4

Sun., June 28

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost
 Genesis 22:1-14
 Psalm 13
 Romans 6:12-23
 Matthew 10:40-42

Mon., June 29

Psalm 47
 Genesis 22:15-18
 1 Thessalonians 4:9-12

Tues., June 30

Psalm 47
 1 Kings 18:36-39
 1 John 4:1-6

JUNE 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p><i>*Unless otherwise noted, worship services are both online and in-person</i></p>	<p>1 6-7:30pm Food Pantry Open</p>	<p>2 9-1 Church office open 7pm Women's NA</p>	<p>3 10-2 Thrift Shop open</p>	<p>4 9-1 Church office open 10-1 Food Pantry Open 7pm AI-Anon</p>	<p>5 9-1 Church office open</p>	<p>6 10-2 Thrift Shop open</p>
<p>7 Music Sunday 8:30am Sr. choir 9-1 Church office open 9:40am Jr choir 10am Jr choir performance 10am Worship* 7:30pm AA Meeting</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9 9-1 Church office open 7pm Women's NA</p>	<p>10 10-2 Thrift Shop open 7pm Prop & Fin Team</p>	<p>11 9-1 Church office open 10-1 Food Pantry Open 7pm AI-Anon</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13 10-2 Thrift Shop open</p>
<p>14 8:30am Sr. choir 9-1 Church office open 9:40am Jr choir 10am Jr choir performance 10am Communion Worship* 10:15am Kids Church & End of year party 11am Annual Meeting 7:30pm AA Meeting</p>	<p>15 Steeple Sounds submissions due</p>	<p>16 7pm Women's NA</p>	<p>17 10-2 Thrift Shop open 7pm Cabinet meeting</p>	<p>18 9-1 Church office open 10-1 Food Pantry Open 7pm AI-Anon</p>	<p>19 9-1 Church office open</p>	<p>20 10-2 Thrift Shop open</p>
<p>21 9-1 Church office open 10am Worship* 7:30pm AA Meeting</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23 9-1 Church office open 7pm Women's NA <i>Rev. Beth sabbatical begins.</i></p>	<p>24 10-2 Thrift Shop open</p>	<p>25 9-1 Church office open 10-1 Food Pantry Open 7pm AI-Anon</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27 10-2 Thrift Shop open</p>
<p>28 10am Worship* 7:30pm AA Meeting</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30 9-1 Church office open 7pm Women's NA</p>	<p>Please note: The full calendar of all building uses is available on cscucc.org or by contacting the church office.</p>			

CSCC Cabinet Meeting – Minutes March 18, 2026 at 7pm

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 by Anne Malmquist, Moderator.

Cabinet members in attendance:

Anne Malmquist, Moderator; Nina Gabel-Jorgensen, Clerk; Natalie Muurisepp, Congregational Engagement; Carol Chaffee, Congregational Engagement; Heather Ciaramitaro, Community Engagement; Eric Stott, Spiritual Engagement; Dave Hanson, Property and Finance; John Sharland, Property and Finance; David Sheibley, Treasurer; Pastor Beth Stotts

Guests

Bill O’Neil, Connie Chandler, Jack Melcher, Steven Powers

Pastor devotional and prayer

January minutes

Minutes approved.

Steeple sounds combining May and April. Need to get May info by March 23rd to Diane

Food Pantry Discussion

Jack Melcher gave the history of the Food Pantry. States that there was never a relationship between the town and the Food Pantry. The Food Pantry is a separate entity from the Town and the Church.

Question:

Who does the Food Pantry answer to?

According to Jack Melcher the Food Pantry doesn’t answer to anyone. They are dependent on the Church for a lot of things including the non-profit status.

5013c (Non Profit Status)

It is noted that the non-profit status needs a board to oversee operations and that the Food Pantry is operating within laws of the IRS. If the Food Pantry uses the Church’s non profit status it is requested that there be a formal relationship between the Church and the Food Pantry. The Church requests more input in the operations of the Food Pantry.

Discussion of Church’s requests of Food Pantry

Cabinet members request that there be a formal structure for the Food Pantry with input from the Church regarding how it presents to the public. For example a request that the Food Pantry incorporate more outreach with regards to volunteers and hospitality.

One of the more pressing needs is a system for back-ups for Bill O’Neil and Jack Melcher in the event that they are unavailable. Currently there isn’t a formal process. This was framed as “future proofing the Food Pantry”.

Jack stated that he will share the processes with the church. Discussion about having a “Greeter” to chat and drink coffee with Food Pantry attendees. Discussion about training and identifying someone to coordinate the Food Pantry Volunteers. New food pantry teams will need to be added to the Church bylaws. Discussion about the operational challenges the Food Pantry faces - can be chaotic and very busy. Sometimes Food Pantry clients can be challenging.

continued...

CSCC Cabinet Meeting – Minutes

continued...

Next Steps

Need to set up a Food Pantry team. The team members don't necessarily have to be church members. Jack Melcher states he doesn't want a Board of Directors. It is requested that the Food Pantry representative attend the Cabinet meets.

Discussion about where the Food Pantry would fall in the Church organizational structure. Suggested that they have their own team. If so, should go into the Bylaws in time for the June Meeting. There will need to be three people to represent the Food Pantry. Food Pantry may also need a fundraiser in addition to the volunteer coordinator. One of the tasks to recruit for these new roles is to create "job descriptions" for distribution through various mediums.

Transition team needed to facilitate the creation of the Food Pantry team, job descriptions which will entail collecting the necessary tasks and processes from Bill O'Neil and Jack Melcher.

The following members were suggested for the Transition team:

- Jack Melcher
- Eric Stott
- Bill O'Neil
- Connie Chandler

A Meeting on April 1st - 1130a.m. was suggested. Will put it out to the town council et al to see if they want to participate.

Anne Malmquist will "reply all" to the town email to include that info.

The next meeting date is Wednesday April 15th.

Closing prayer.

CSCC Cabinet Meeting – Minutes April 15, 2026 at 7pm

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 by Anne Malmquist, Moderator.

Cabinet members in attendance:

Anne Malmquist, Moderator; Nina Gabel-Jorgensen, Clerk; Natalie Muurisepp, Congregational Engagement; Carol Chaffee, Congregational Engagement; Terry Reynolds, Community Engagement; John Sharland, Property and Finance; David Sheibley, Treasurer; Pastor Beth Stotts

Guests

Bill O'Neil, Jack Melcher

Pastor devotional and prayer

March

Minutes approved.

January Minutes update

Bill O'Neil objected to being portrayed as combative regarding the quote that was included in the January minutes that was attributed to him.

Pastor Report

- Reverend Beth was very appreciative of her support from the Stewardship team. She was very pleased that Liam did the sermon at Sunrise service. Liam is a Junior Deacon from our church.
- Update regarding the July substitute, Andrew (same as last July) will sub.
- Reverend Beth not in the pulpit on April 4/26. Requests Nina Gabel-Jorgensen lead a meditation.

Treasurer's Report

- Good month for income. Investments came through from donors. No unusual expenses. Winter is over.
- The last tank of oil was \$5.56 a gallon.
- The Church Fair revenue exceeded the budget.
- The Thrift shop is also over budget with regards to revenue.
- Paint night did well as did Julia's concert. Need to request pledges from members who haven't pledged officially.
- Request from Carol Chaffee and Reverend Beth to receive a list of members who haven't handed in their pledge forms.

Community Engagement:

- Pancake supper coming up Friday. There is going to be a great menu - pancakes, bacon and sausage with yummy toppings. Carol has some things she is planning for that evening.
- There were concerns about Julia's concert. A request was made for feedback as to why it wasn't better attended. Reverend Beth suggested using Julia's picture in the advertising. The message would be clearer using an image.
- Moonlight paint night was very successful.
- The Pentecost offering is coming up next month.

Congregational Engagement:

- Great time on Stewardship Sunday.
- Flowers for Easter were successful. The flower Vendor is great to work with. It was great to have so many flower options.
- The Baked Potato night is coming up on May 2nd.

continued...

CSCC Cabinet Meeting – Minutes

continued...

Property and Finance

- Question regarding whether Jamie Wells accepted the position of Assistant Treasurer?

There hasn't been confirmation yet. This needs to happen before May 20th when we put out the slate for the Church cabinet.

- Bathrooms - asked Rich to change one of his days to later in the week to keep the bathroom clean during the weekend. His days will change to Monday, Wednesday and Friday. He did indeed show up on Friday. During special events we may need to keep cleaning the bathrooms in mind as part of the event. There were also some issues with AA attendees knocking over wastebaskets. AA created signage to address this.
- Dave Hanson's painter is painting the stairway walls.
- Arthur Sharpe may do the kitchen floor. This is still in progress. When redoing the floors, there is an opportunity to clean behind and under the stove, etc. Will need a plumber to disconnect the gas line when redoing the floor. Do any of our kids do a plumbing trade? Concannon Plumbing was suggested. Good price.
- The sidewalk should be done sometime this Spring. Will have to wait for the pieces to fall into place - Dave having time, extra concrete available from the Ferrari brothers.

Spiritual Engagement:

- Reverend Beth went to Kids Church on Sunday. It was really good. It's awesome. The curriculum is great and theologically on par with where we are. She is very pleased with Kids Church. Very gifted, creative and intelligent children in our congregation.

Food Pantry

There was a meeting on April 1st. Jack walked in and was glad to see it wasn't contentious. Erick has been working on the Standard Operating Procedures of the Food Pantry. He agreed to do the bulk of the work and identify who is responsible for what.

The goal is to create a workflow document about how the Food Pantry works. Jack is very happy with Eric. Developed a volunteer enrollment form and spreadsheet. Jack is already using it. Jack put out for volunteers and they got 6! A new volunteer will help the patrons walk through the pantry and choose food. They are looking for three people: 1. community engagement volunteer 2. volunteer coordinator and 3. fundraising coordinator. Jack is thinking about succession planning. They still have 26k in their fund. This will last them a little over a year if no more comes in. However, they will get money usually around Fall.

Nominations

- Question about a need for a Food Pantry committee.
- Community needs 1, Congregational needs 2 so far. Anne will make announcements for volunteers.
- Reverend Beth asked what is your favorite and least favorite thing about being on a team. Responses: It's hard to get to know the people when it's a well established team. It's a good way to learn how the church is run. In the beginning when it was thought that they had to come up with something every month and it was overwhelming. Once it calmed down it was fine. Some liked the opportunities of being on a team. Volunteering gives purpose. Some don't like two meetings a month. It can be challenging when there is not enough staff or one is working extra hard. Coffee hour needs to be covered.

The next meeting is May 20th. The treasurer will need to present a budget at the annual meeting. Annual meeting is on 6/14.

Adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Treasurer's Report
April 30, 2026
Fiscal Year July 2025 - June 2026

	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Difference	Annual Budget
Income				
Regular Pledges	111,665	108,274	3,391	130,000
Unpledged Offerings	7,518	9,995	(2,477)	12,000
Plate Offering	818	833	(15)	1,000
Kid's Church	327	416	(90)	500
Total · Pledges / Offerings	<u>120,327</u>	<u>119,518</u>	<u>809</u>	<u>143,500</u>
Special Collections				
SNEUCC Fellowship Dues	268	1,666	(1,398)	2,000
Total · Special Collections	<u>268</u>	<u>1,666</u>	<u>(1,398)</u>	<u>2,000</u>
Fundraisers/Events Revenue				
Church Fair	7,613	6,663	950	8,000
Central Closet Thrift Shop	14,254	12,493	1,761	15,000
Concerts/Special events	2,204			
Pancake supper	300			
Other misc. fundraisers	993			
Total misc fundraisers	<u>1,293</u>	<u>6,663</u>	<u>(5,670)</u>	<u>8,000</u>
Total · Fundraisers/Events Revenue	<u>25,364</u>	<u>25,819</u>	<u>(2,959)</u>	<u>31,000</u>
Facility Usage Income				
Non Profit Bldg Use	3,550	3,332	218	4,000
North River Collaborative	15,000	14,992	8	18,000
Private Bldg Use	460	416	44	500
Food Pantry support	1,500	1,499	1	1,800
Total · Facility Usage Income	<u>20,510</u>	<u>20,239</u>	<u>271</u>	<u>24,300</u>
Miscellaneous Income	<u>2,186</u>	<u>833</u>	<u>1,353</u>	<u>1,000</u>
Total Income	<u>168,654</u>	<u>168,075</u>	<u>580</u>	<u>201,800</u>
Expenses				
Total · Senior Minister Expenses	85,868	83,981	(1,888)	100,832
Total · Support Staff Expenses	44,124	45,186	1,062	54,253
Total · Office Expenses	7,530	6,746	(784)	8,100
Total · Church Building Costs	39,044	31,233	(7,811)	37,500
Teams				
Spiritual Engagement	703	1,249	547	1,500
Kid's Church	760	0	(760)	
Music (Materials/Substitutes)	550			
Congregational Engagement	80	666	586	800
Community Engagement	314	833	519	1,000
Property and Finance	0	250	250	300
Community Engagement Reserve	1,682	1,624	(58)	1,950
Total · Teams	<u>4,089</u>	<u>4,622</u>	<u>533</u>	<u>5,550</u>
SNEUCC Fellowship Dues	0	1,666	1,666	2,000
Pilgrim Assn Fellowship Dues	215	167	(48)	200
Miscellaneous Expenses	0	0	0	0
Total Expenses	<u>180,870</u>	<u>173,601</u>	<u>(7,270)</u>	<u>208,435</u>
Net income (loss)	<u>(12,216)</u>	<u>(5,526)</u>	<u>(6,690)</u>	<u>(6,635)</u>
Transfer from Investments	<u>10,000</u>			<u>6,635</u>
	<u>(2,216)</u>	<u>(5,526)</u>		<u>0</u>

Treasurer's Report
 April 30, 2026
 Fiscal Year July 2025 - June 2026

Cash balances	
Operating account	13,317
Money Market	28,103
Minister's Discretionary account	142
Community Engagement Reserve	3,927
Building fund/Capital Improvements account	7,121
PayPal account	289
Venmo account	412
Total cash balances	<u><u>53,310</u></u>

Vanguard investment funds	
Protected principal	135,513
Unrestricted funds, beginning	96,026
Deposits (withdrawals)	
Gain (loss) for month	<u>10,158</u>
Unrestricted funds, ending	<u>106,184</u>
Total investments 4/30/2026	<u><u>241,697</u></u>

Food Pantry account balance 3/31/2026	28,194
Donations	591
Expenses	<u>(1,908)</u>
Food Pantry account balance 4/30/2026	<u><u>26,877</u></u>

Giving Comparison

	<u>FY 2024</u>	<u>FY 2025</u>	<u>FY 2026</u>	<u>FY 2024 YTD</u>	<u>FY 2025 YTD</u>	<u>FY 2026 YTD</u>
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	10,784.47	54,828.08	51,000.81	57,145.60
Dec.	13,625.20	14,193.23	13,019.00	68,453.28	65,194.04	70,164.60
Jan.	10,226.11	9,936.61	9,177.42	78,679.39	75,130.65	79,342.02
Feb.	7,168.42	14,385.21	12,530.61	85,847.81	89,515.86	91,872.63
March	11,414.05	10,867.26	17,401.95	97,261.86	100,383.12	109,274.58
April	21,591.08	16,246.75	11,527.59	118,852.94	116,629.87	120,802.17
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

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Church Administration

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

Director of Video Evangelism: Paul Holmes

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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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