

# THE BEACON

## THE BEACON

a worshipping praying learning caring outreaching community

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### CENTRAL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

United Church of Christ  
One Worthen Street, Chelmsford, MA 01824

VOLUME 63 NUMBER 5

MAY 2018

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## May Highlights



MAKE A  
DIFFERENCE DAY

### “Make a Difference Day!”

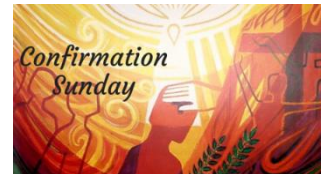
Sunday, April 29<sup>th</sup>

Brunch & Service Projects following Worship

### Confirmation

Sunday, May 6<sup>th</sup>

*Come celebrate the faith & commitment  
of our Confirmands!*



### Men's Breakfast

Saturday, May 19<sup>th</sup>

### Annual Meeting and Potluck Lunch

Sunday, May 20<sup>th</sup>



### The Open Pantry Needs Your Donations!

Please bring in canned or boxed goods every Sunday in May so that the Open Pantry shelves can be stocked for summer!



## **Knight Lines**

*“Choose this day whom you will serve . . .  
but as for me and my house we will serve the Lord.  
Joshua 24:15*

Serving God as a family is a challenging thing to do today. With crazy schedules and competing interests, it can often seem like we're being pulled in too many directions to serve God together as a family. Yet, that remains the goal, and the church provides great opportunities to do just that. Worshiping together. Learning together. Serving together. I love seeing parents & kids serving together at St. Paul's Soup Kitchen as well as on our mission trips. As a parent, there's nothing I enjoy more than serving God side by side with my kids.

Another natural way to experience and express faith as a family is to pray together at mealtimes and bedtimes. Many families have regular prayers that they pray every night. Some families take turns rotating around the table who chooses and leads the prayer. And in some cases, such as in the case of the Knight family, we say the same 2 prayers almost every night. That's where you come in!

*Do you have favorite mealtime and bedtime prayers?* If so, may I include them in a collection of CCC Family Prayers? Maybe it's a prayer your parents taught you years ago, or one you presently say today. Either way, I'm excited to tap into the wellspring of faith within our congregation.

I'd like to publish a collection of prayers in June, so that families have them for the summer. If you have a prayer to share, please send them either to myself or the church office. If we get a lot of prayers, we may not be able to publish every one, but your help would be greatly appreciated!

***Praying with You,  
Pastor Rich***

## **Warrant for the Annual Meeting of Central Congregational Church in Chelmsford, UCC on Sunday, May 20, 2018**

To the Members and Friends of Central Congregational Church in Chelmsford:

The Annual Meeting of the Central Congregational Church in Chelmsford, United Church of Christ will be held on Sunday, May 20, 2018 at 11:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall to act upon the following articles:

- Article 1 To elect a moderator.
- Article 2 To celebrate and give thanks for the past year.
- Article 3 To act upon the recommendations of the Nominating Committee to elect the officers of the church.
- Article 4 To receive the reports of all committees.
- Article 5 Approve the budget for the fiscal year 2018 - 2019.
- Article 6 To transact any other business that may lawfully come before the meeting.

(signed)  
Val King  
Clerk

## ONA Task Force – Join the Conversation

The Open and Affirming Process is a time of intentional thought, learning, and conversation. As a congregation, we are seeking to understand what it means to become an ONA church. As part of this exploratory process, Pastor Rich has invited Dr. Judy Haley to preach on **Sunday, May 20**. Dr. Haley earned her Master of Divinity and Master of Sacred Theology degrees from Andover Newton Theological School, and her Doctorate of Theology degree from Harvard Divinity School. She teaches Ancient Languages and New Testament courses at Lowell Catholic High School and Harvard Divinity School, and is the former director of adult education and pastoral ministry at First Parish Church, UCC, in Manchester-by-the-Sea. Dr. Haley is an ideal source of information and understanding on what the Bible says about how we can be Christians **and** ONA. Please be sure to attend the worship service May 20<sup>th</sup> to hear Dr. Haley's sermon. This is also Pentecost Sunday, so you may wish to **wear red clothing!** The color red symbolizes joy and the fire of the Holy Spirit.

You may be interested to read this piece, which was shared with us by a CCC member who is not on the Task Force. <https://rmnetwork.org/can-person-gay-christian/>

After the worship service, there will be a celebration of our church year with a potluck lunch, and the CCC Annual Meeting. It will be a good day!

If you are interested in speaking one-on-one to a member of the ONA Task Force, or Pastor Rich, we encourage you to let us know! We are eager to meet with you!

*In grace and peace, Lynn Horton, Monique Billingsley, Marcia Cassidy, Joe Chapman, Ginnie Hall, Elizabeth Hartigan, Hayley Horton, Beth Jarok, Val King, Deb Lyons, Emily Lyons, Sue Mirisola, Judy Musgrove, Karen Papenfuss, and Pastor Rich Knight*

# Sunday, April 29

is our next

## "Make a Difference Day!"

10:00 am Worship

11:00 am Brunch

11:45 am Service Projects

Community Garden

Freeman Trail Clean-Up

Cookie-Making and Delivery

Choir Concert / Hymn Sing

(You may join the choir for this event!)

Come on Sunday, April 29<sup>th</sup> prepared to lend a hand.

*Lynn Horton, Jen Stuart, and Pastor Rich*



*"You are the light of the world. Let your light shine!"*

## *What's Happening at CCC!*

### ***St. Paul's Soup Kitchen***

On **Monday, April 30<sup>th</sup>**, members of the Holy Cows youth group will be hosting the St. Paul's Soup Kitchen at the Eliot Church. They are looking for help with kitchen prep and servicers and for donations of Shepherd's Pies and brownies. Please sign-up during coffee hour on Sunday, April 29<sup>th</sup>.

### ***Women's Retreat***

All women of CCC, including those in high school, are invited to join us on **Saturday, May 5<sup>th</sup>** from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Radisson in Chelmsford. Have a friend that could benefit from a retreat? Invite her! Take a day to nourish your spirit in fellowship and retreat. Led by Rev. Linda Hirst, we will talk about "wells", those places where women gather to receive nourishment; from the well itself and especially from other women. The cost is \$50, which includes lunch and morning and afternoon tea/coffee. Sign-ups will be in fellowship hall after church, at which time a \$25 deposit would be appreciated. Not going to make it to church and don't want to forget? Email Karen Papenfuss ([dickandkarenp@verizon.net](mailto:dickandkarenp@verizon.net)), Margie Dissinger ([margie228@gmail.com](mailto:margie228@gmail.com)), or Sue Mirisola ([Mirisola@comcast.net](mailto:Mirisola@comcast.net))

### ***Lunch with the Pastor***

Bring your own lunch and join Pastor Rich and a group of friends every Tuesday at noon in room 202.

### ***Confirmation Sunday is May 6***

Our Confirmation program began in November. It's included two classes a month with Pastor Rich, numerous service projects, interviews and church visits with mentors, the Advent devotional guide, and a final Confirmation Paper. We've acted out the entire Old Testament as well as the Last Supper, taken more review quizzes than ever imagined, had great Bibles studies with Pastor Rich and Bonnie McGrath, and ended every class with various forms of prayer. On **Sunday, May 6<sup>th</sup>** we will join Central Congregational Church as we're confirmed. Please come to celebrate our faith commitments with us. This year's class:

Nick Bottomley  
Josh Timmins

Jeremey Hargett  
Brendan Viarella

Quintin Stuart  
Josh Walsh

### ***GIANT Yard Sale***

The Friends of Boy Scout Troop 74 will host their Annual Giant Yard Sale on **Saturday, May 12<sup>th</sup>**. The yard sale will run from 8 a.m. – 2 p.m. in the church parking lot. Come early for the best selection.

### ***Men's Breakfast***

We've had two wonderful Men's Breakfasts this year. Our next get-together will be **Saturday, May 19<sup>th</sup>** at 8:30 a.m. Join us for a delicious meal and great fellowship! Please sign up by contacting the church office, [office.admin@cccchelmsford.org](mailto:office.admin@cccchelmsford.org).

## **Annual Meeting and Potluck**

The annual church meeting will be held on **Sunday, May 20<sup>th</sup>**. As in the past few years it will begin at 11:30 a.m. after church and include a family potluck. Nursery care will be provided and there will be an activity table for the older children.

We encourage everyone to attend, but only members are allowed to vote on the articles presented. The stewardship presentation and budget discussion will be important as we will have to make sure we have increased our income enough to cover the higher expenses for this coming year.

Copies of the Annual Report will be available on Sunday, May 6<sup>th</sup>. If you would like an electronic copy, please contact the office.

*Dick Papenfuss  
Council President*

## **KiSeLo – Kindness, Service, LOve – Ladies Come One, Come All!**

Our annual end-of-the-year luncheon is **Wednesday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>**. We will be meeting at Princeton Station in North Chelmsford at Noon. If you haven't yet made your reservation and paid your \$20.00, please contact Ginnie Hall 978-256-9159, Mary Harrison 978-256-2634, or Judy Musgrove 978-799-4372. If you think you would like to become a member of KiSeLo in the Fall, we encourage you to join us for lunch on May 23<sup>rd</sup>. Hope to see YOU there! If you have any questions about what we do at our monthly meetings, be sure to read our page of the Annual Report or contact Karen Papenfuss at 978-256-6801.

## **Benevolent Beaders**

The Benevolent Beaders met in April and had a very productive meeting. Our membership is smaller now and we keep hoping for new members to join us and not only enjoy the fellowship, but also to have fun being creative making jewelry.

We decided to make donations from the profits we have made to two of our groups within the church – West Virginia WorkCamp and the DownEast Maine Mission – both such worthy causes.

Our next meeting will be on **Wednesday, May 16<sup>th</sup>** from 1-3 p.m. in room 308. If you have any questions about our Beaders group, please contact Nancy Clark at 978-256-5763 or Dee Freeman at 978-256-2944.

## **Calling All Graduates!**

Are you or your son or daughter graduating from high school, college, or a graduate program? Graduation Sunday is **Sunday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>**. All high school seniors are invited to the service for a celebration of their achievement. Graduates from college and graduate school programs are also invited to join the celebration. Please let us know the names of all graduates, from where they are graduating, and, if possible, their plans post-graduation, to put in the June *Beacon* (deadline May 21<sup>st</sup>) and the June 3<sup>rd</sup> bulletin. **Please let the office know the details by email or phone.**



## **New Member Classes**

New Members Classes will be held **Sundays, June 3 and 10**, immediately following worship. The classes are a great way to learn more about Central Congregational Church and meet members in leadership positions as well as other folks who are new to CCC. Please contact the church office to sign up. Speak with Pastor Rich or one of our Deacons for more information.



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## *Ministries in Our Church*

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### *Summer is for Mission Trips!*

Once again this summer, CCC will participate in two mission trips, helping to make homes “warm, safe, and dry.” On each trip, we’ll do 5 days of home repair for those who can’t afford it. You don’t have to have construction or house-painting skills to go. This is the best learning-on-the-job experience you’ll ever have! Students should have finished the 8<sup>th</sup> grade in order to go. Here are the dates and who to contact for more information:

- West Virginia Mission Trip – June 16-23 – Contact Bryan Norman, [brnorman@comcast.net](mailto:brnorman@comcast.net)
- Down East Maine Mission – Aug. 5- 11 – Contact Peter White, [peter.c.white@comcast.net](mailto:peter.c.white@comcast.net)

**West Virginia Workcamp is ON!** This year our trip will take place **June 16-23**. The trip is open to adults and teens 16 years and older. Youth younger than 16 can go if a parent goes as well. Meetings will be held **Sundays, May 6 and June 3** at 7 p.m. at 9 Worthen. If you are interested in going please try to attend the meetings to get more details. We need to know who is going by May 1<sup>st</sup> as we will send a deposit to the workcamp.

**West Virginia Workshares!** If you’d like to help with the mission trip, but can’t go yourself, you can buy shares directly from me at coffee hour, or use the form at the end of the newsletter, or donate online at [www.youcaring.com/wva\\_workcamp2018](http://www.youcaring.com/wva_workcamp2018). Please share this link with everyone you know and everyone else! Your help means so much to us and all the people we serve in West Virginia. If you have questions, please don’t hesitate to contact me. Bryan Norman, [brnorman@comcast.net](mailto:brnorman@comcast.net), 508-397-1497.

### **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

Happy May from your Christian Education Committee. The CE Committee has been busy planning away for Spring events. Our Pre-K to 3rd Graders sang “Give me Oil in my Lamp” during the Children’s Message. In a few weeks, they will begin preparing another song to perform at Youth Sunday in June. The youth have also been creating “Hope in a Box” which they filled with food. The boxes will be donated along with a gift card to those who ask the church for additional food support. They will also be making a donation to help local children who do not have the means to have a birthday party.

*Your CE Committee,  
Elmer Lyons and Mary-Ann Hussey, Co-Chairs  
Kristin Strobel, correspondent*

### **COMMUNITY GARDEN**

The planting has begun, and the garden opening will be **Sunday, April 29<sup>th</sup>** following the potluck lunch at church. Cold season planting will be done on that day. Warm season plants will go in on Saturday, June 2. I always get so excited when I see the little plants germinating and watch them grow bigger, finally reaching a suitable size to go into the ground.

Changes have been made at Sunny Meadow Farm to make it easier for other gardeners to donate their excess produce to us.

We’re going to need waterers and weeders soon. Steady watering is important for seedlings and small plants.

We are going to try another method of weed control this summer by placing salt marsh hay around all the plants after they’re in the ground. It won’t eliminate weeds, but hopefully it will reduce them. We’ll still need volunteers to adopt a bed and make sure the weeds are under control. If you can help us, please email me at [marywh54@gmail.com](mailto:marywh54@gmail.com) or call at (978) 729-5632.

No job is too small; even if you just want to volunteer as a substitute waterer, we will gladly accept your help.

*Mary Horne*

## HOUSE COMMITTEE

The House Committee is very involved with heating and lighting issues, both joint projects with the Board of Trustees. Work has been needed for hardware associated with the new boiler and plans have been made with Milltown Plumbing to address the need for new steam valves and modification of the intake fan this summer.

A contract has been signed with Rise Engineering to replace all lighting fixtures this summer; this will result in a substantial savings in electric bills. As always we will continue to address maintenance and repairs that are needed in and around the church and 9 Worthen Street.

## STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN UPDATE

The results of the 2018/2019 Stewardship Campaign as of April 18 are as follows:

<b>Total Pledges received</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>Pledged amount: \$208,032</b>
Pledges Increased	50	
Pledges the same	24	
New Pledges	7	
Decreased Pledges	6	
Lost Pledges	2	

There are still 28 pledges from last year that have not responded to the campaign. Follow-up emails and phone calls will be going out to these individuals and families. If you are one of the people who have pledged previously and have not responded, please send Dick Papenfuss an email with your response for this coming year. We need all 28 to respond and pledge and hopefully increase their pledge if we are going to meet our goal for next year.

For the Stewardship Committee  
Dick Papenfuss  
[dickandkarenp@verizon.net](mailto:dickandkarenp@verizon.net)

## LIBRARY

One of the largest categories of books in the church library is the Faith section. This includes a wide variety of titles. I recently pulled out these that sounded interesting to me:

- [spirituality@work: 10 ways to balance your life on-the-job](#)
- [Everyday Grace: Having Hope](#)
- [Finding Forgiveness and Making Miracles](#)
- [Living with Mystery: Finding God in the Midst of Unanswered Questions](#)
- [How to Find God: Living Water for those who thirst](#)
- [Soul Feast: An Invitation to the Christian Spiritual Life](#)
- [Faith. God. and Rock + Roll](#)

Some are guide books for specific communication methods, such as [Nonviolent Communication: a Language of Life](#) or [Speaking the Truth in Love: How to Be an Assertive Christian](#).

Some are collections of stories, essays, or sermons, such as [Animals and Christianity: a Book of Readings](#), [Listening for God: Contemporary Literature and the Life of Faith](#), and [Restoring Faith: America's Religious Leaders Answer Terror with Hope](#).

The section includes multiple titles by Max Lucado: [The Applause of Heaven](#), [Six Hours One Friday](#), [A Gentle Thunder](#), and [It's Not About Me](#).

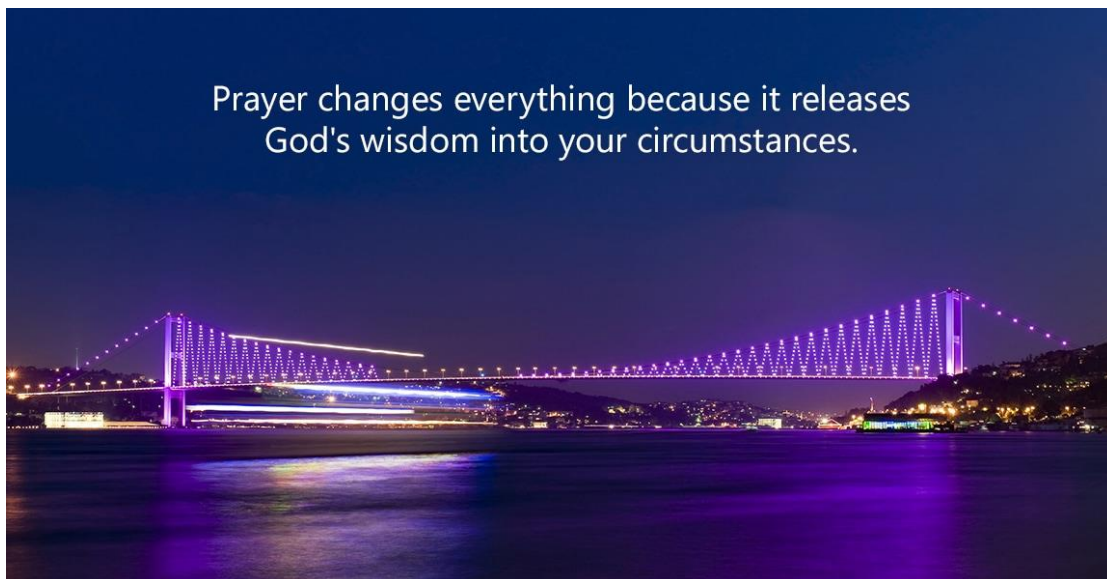
Have you read any of these books? I'd love to know what you thought of them. For these and many other intriguing books, visit the church library in room 202, whenever you are in the building. Please record your selections in the binder provided, and feel free to keep them as long as you need to. *Deb Lyons, Librarian*

## **ChristCare**

The evening ChristCare group will be spending the next six meetings viewing and discussing the DVD "God is Closer than You Think," based on the John Ortberg book. We look forward to learning how to experience greater intimacy with God. As always, anyone is welcome to join the group at any meeting. Meetings are held in room 202, on the second and fourth **Tuesdays** of each month, **May 8 and 22**. Contact Deb Lyons for more information.

Men are welcome to join Glenn Dissinger's group, which meets before church on selected Sunday mornings. Contact Glenn for more information.

## **Prayer Ministry**



I believe that it is not our circumstances that define who we are, but how we navigate through them that shapes what we become. If you would like the prayer ministry with you or others in praying for God's wisdom in your circumstance, or if you would like to be part of this ministry, please contact Daphne Freeman, [uklady446@yahoo.com](mailto:uklady446@yahoo.com); Ginnie Hall, [vrh9159@comcast.net](mailto:vrh9159@comcast.net); or Wendy Perry, [wperry39@comcast.net](mailto:wperry39@comcast.net).

*Virginia Crocker Timmins*



Please join us on **Tuesday, May 8<sup>th</sup>** at 7:00 p.m. for an evening of fellowship as we create shawls that will bring joy to those in need of love and care. We meet on the second Tuesday of each month. *Linda Carson*





### ***This Month Our Thanks Go Out To:***

- All those who made Easter Sunday so beautiful! “He is risen indeed!”
- The Stewardship Committee for organizing this year’s stewardship campaign.
- The Open & Affirming Task Force for organizing a wonderful discussion after worship on April 8. Thanks also to Laurie Montgomery-College and Doug Drake for coordinating the pot-luck brunch.
- Carolyn Chapman for organizing a fun “Bingo Night!”
- Beth Jarok for hosting April 22’s “Neighborhood Gathering” and to all those who came for fellowship and discussion.

We would like to thank the CCC Prayer Ministry, Pastor Rich, and others who prayed or sent sympathy for John's brother Bob, who passed away in February. Thank you to Pastor Rich for attending Bob's funeral service at the Trinity Lutheran Church – it meant a lot to our family. Bob died suddenly from a massive heart attack, while visiting his son in Hawaii. It was especially stressful that Bob was hospitalized so far away, and the family could not all be with him. Your prayers and kind words helped us through a difficult time.

*With thanks, John and Kim Lefebvre and family*

### ***Our Prayers and Sympathies***

Our sympathies to Jim Glinos at the loss of his brother-in-law Larry Schaffner. Please keep Jim’s sister, Irene, in your prayers.

### ***Milestones***

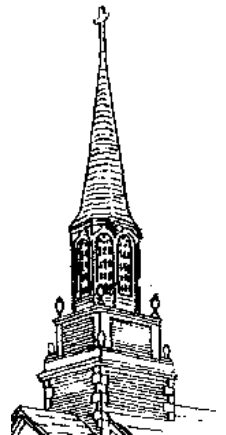
Our congratulations to Bailey Berglund who received his Eagle Award, the Boy Scout’s highest award, at his Eagle Court of Honor on Sunday, April 15<sup>th</sup> at the Aldersgate United Methodist Church. Bailey was confirmed last spring and is the son of Scott and Sheryl Berglund. Well done, Bailey!

Our congratulations to Matthew Wisniewski and Brandi Pedefferri who were married on March 31<sup>st</sup> by Pastor Rich in the sanctuary. Matthew is the son of Alan and Rebecca Wisniewski. We wish them many, many years of joy and happiness!

### ***Steeple Lighting***

Lighting the steeple is a wonderful way to honor the memory of a loved one or to celebrate a special occasion. It costs only \$5 for a week. There are many weeks available, so please sign-up on the Sanctuary Committee bulletin board in Fellowship Hall or call the church office.

- April 29<sup>th</sup> for Jennifer Stuart on the second anniversary of the death of her father, Bob LaPlante.
- May 6<sup>th</sup> for Jim and Helen Glinos in loving memory of Jim’s beloved brother-in-law, Larry Schaffner, who passed away on April 14<sup>th</sup>.
- May 13<sup>th</sup> in celebration of Madeline Frenette’s 14<sup>th</sup> birthday from Tonya and Glenn Frenette. Happy Birthday, Madeline!
- May 27<sup>th</sup> for Julie Carney in loving memory of her mother, Doris Carney.



**Take Note**

- ✓ Worship services are at 10:00 a.m. Sunday School is held at this time and nursery care is provided as well.
- ✓ Office Hours are Monday thru Friday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- ✓ The bulletin is printed first thing on Friday morning, so all announcements must be received in the office by Thursday morning.
- ✓ The June *Beacon* deadline is **Monday, May 21<sup>st</sup>** with a mailing/emailing date of May 30<sup>th</sup>.
- ✓ Remember to use the PO Box 339 when mailing things to the Church.
- ✓ Are you still receiving your *Newsletter* by the US mail? Please sign up to receive it via email. It helps the environment! Contact the office at [office.admin@cccchelmsford.org](mailto:office.admin@cccchelmsford.org)
- ✓ MACUCC Emails: Would you like to receive email messages from the Massachusetts Conference of the United Church of Christ or from our Northeast Association? When the office receives these emails, Linn will forward the messages to you. Please send Linn an email and you will be added to the email list.

**Do you need a Ride to Church? Can you OFFER a Ride to Church?**

If you would like a ride to CCC, please call the Transportation Hotline at 978-905-8220. A church deacon will contact you and make arrangements to drive you to the church. If you are able to provide rides to the church, please contact Lynn Horton, 978-256-8524 or [Lynn@terpsoft.com](mailto:Lynn@terpsoft.com) The deacons sometimes need extra drivers, and you could be a real help as a "transportation angel!" Thank you!

**Please complete and return with your contribution to the church. Thank you.**

**Stock Certificate**

**West Virginia  
Workcamp 2018  
June 16 – June 23**

**This Certificate Designates**

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**WORKCAMP SHAREHOLDER**

\_\_\_\_\_ **\$100 Master Carpenter**

\_\_\_\_\_ **\$25 Leader**

\_\_\_\_\_ **\$10 Friend**

\_\_\_\_\_ **\$\_\_\_ Supporter**

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*Valid only if signed by a West Virginia 2018 Workcamp agent of  
Central Congregational Church, All Saints' Episcopal Church,  
or Mont Vernon Congregational Church*

**Stock Certificate**



CENTRAL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
 United Church of Christ  
 One Worthen Street  
 PO Box 339  
 Chelmsford, MA 01824-0339

**PLEASE JOIN US!**



**MAY  
 2018**

**MAKE A  
 DIFFERENCE DAY  
 SUNDAY, APRIL 29<sup>TH</sup>**

**Central Congregational Church in Chelmsford – United Church of Christ**

*“A Community of Faith, Hope, and Love, Growing through Worship and Service”*

The avowed purpose of this church shall be to worship God, to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ, and to celebrate the Sacraments; to realize Christian fellowship and unity within this church and the Church Universal; to render loving service toward mankind; and to strive for righteousness, justice, and peace.

**We invite you to join us in worship on Sundays at 10:00 a.m.**

Pastor	Rev. Dr. Richard B. Knight	978-256-5931 978-684-2031 (cell)	<a href="mailto:pastor-rich@cccchelmsford.org">pastor-rich@cccchelmsford.org</a>
Director of Music	Francisco Fernandez	617-669-6492	<a href="mailto:pacolencia@hotmail.com">pacolencia@hotmail.com</a>
Office Administrator	Linn Flint	978-256-5931	<a href="mailto:office.admin@cccchelmsford.org">office.admin@cccchelmsford.org</a>
Custodian	Juarez Gomes		
Sunday School Coordinator	Jen Stuart	978-250-8538	<a href="mailto:jennifer.stuart@cccchelmsford.org">jennifer.stuart@cccchelmsford.org</a>
Nursery Supervisor	Emily Lyons	978-250-4029	<a href="mailto:emilalyons@gmail.com">emilalyons@gmail.com</a>
Church Location:	One Worthen Street, Chelmsford, MA		
Church Mailing Address:	PO Box 339, Chelmsford, MA 01824-0339		
Church Phone:	978-256-5931	Church e-mail:	<a href="mailto:office.admin@cccchelmsford.org">office.admin@cccchelmsford.org</a>
Church Fax:	978-250-3565	Church Web site:	<a href="http://www.cccchelmsford.org">www.cccchelmsford.org</a>
		Conference Web site:	<a href="http://www.macucc.org">www.macucc.org</a>

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