

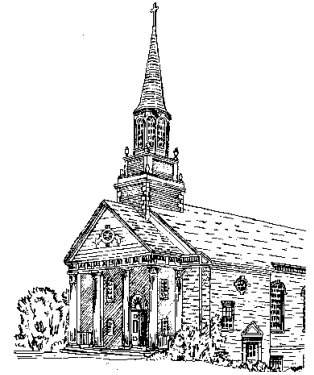
Central Congregational Church

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
"A Community of Faith, Hope, and Love,
Growing through Worship and Service"

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Rev. Dr. Richard B. Knight, Pastor
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Rev. Dr. John A. Zachry, Pastor Emeritus



Celebration of Life for Minnie Collins: Thanks to everyone who came on Wednesday and everyone who worked so hard to ensure a beautiful celebration of a wonderful person, Minnie. Special thanks to Laurie Montgomery-College for coordinating a beautiful reception and to all who donated delicious food.

I couldn't help but think how Minnie filled the church one last time on Wednesday. She helped pack people in for our concerts through her outstanding PR work. Yesterday she packed the church because of her outstanding kindness and the way she touched so many lives. *Well Done, Good and Faithful Servant!*

West Virginia Mission Trip: We're off to West Virginia Saturday morning for this year's mission trip. Please keep us in your prayers.

Don't forget there's "Sunday School in the Park" this Sunday & next. Worship's at 10:00 a.m., with Doug Drake preaching this Sunday.

Lowell Spinner game, Wednesday, July 25. The tickets are in. You can see Linn Flint in the church office during the week or Lynn Horton this Sunday. Tickets cost \$6.

Serving Christ with You,

Pastor Rich

978-684-2031 (cell)

Weekly Announcements for June 14, 2018

- ✓ Strawberry 'n' Arts festival – Saturday, June 16th
- ✓ Deadline for the Summer Beacon – Monday, June 18th
- ✓ Sunday School Continues June 17th and 24th
- ✓ DownEast Maine Mission Meal Prep
- ✓ T-Shirts for DownEast Maine Mission
- ✓ KiSeLo – June 20th
- ✓ St. Paul's Soup Kitchen – July 30th
- ✓ Amazon Smile program
- ✓ SAM's May Focus is The Open Pantry of Greater Lowell
- ✓ Lunch with Pastor Rich every Tuesday at noon
- ✓ Do you need a ride to church?

Strawberry 'n' Arts Festival! You are invited to wonderful day of crafts, music, and strawberry shortcake this **Saturday, June 16th** from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Westford Common. There will be 80 booths with craftsmen who have created wonderful items for sale. Our own Dick Papenfuss will be selling turned wooden items like pens

and Carol Engel will be demonstrating her chair caning. This event is sponsored by First Parish Church United – Linn’s home church. I’ll be there and I hope you will too! *Linn Flint*

Deadline for the Summer Beacon is this **Monday, June 18th** with a mailing/emailing date of June 27th. This issue is for July and August.

Sunday School Continues June 17th and 24th! Join us for “Sunday School in the Park.” Jen Stuart, Bonnie McGrath, and members of the Holy Cows will lead fun and prayer-filled classes outside with an Ice Cream Social on June 24th!

The DownEast Maine Mission team would like to ask you to sponsor our meals in Maine. Kelly has asked for volunteers to make a meal, but that isn’t always possible for everyone. Another wonderful way to help us is to sponsor the cost of a meal, plus write the prayer we will use before we eat. CCC will need to support 10 meals with either food or sponsorship plus a prayer for each. Breakfast sponsorships cost \$50, Lunch Sponsorships cost \$50 and Dinner sponsorships cost \$100, and all have the same request to write a prayer to be read before the meal as our grace. Feel free to jointly sponsor with someone and split the cost and the prayer writing. Please email Peter White & Elizabeth Hartigan if you would like to sponsor a meal. The prayers from our sponsors are an important part of our mission. We usually take a minute to be sure the group gets an introduction to the person(s) sponsoring the meal. In that way, you are there with us in spirit as we help our neighbors in Maine. As the trip treasurer, Elizabeth will be collecting the money, and I will be collecting the prayers. *Thanks as always for your support in our mission work.* Peter White, DEMM Mission Trip organizer.

T-shirts for DownEast Maine Mission: We now have 3 huge boxes of t-shirts ready for Maine and more are coming in every day. The quality of the t-shirts is very good. In fact, we have a lot of brand new shirts and several big packs of crew socks. Thank you to everyone who has participated so far. Don't miss out on the fun!

KiSeLo: Although there are no "official" KiSeLo meetings in the summer, we are informally meeting at Kimball's on **Wednesday, June 20th** at noon for a little fellowship and ice cream. If you are so inclined, meet us at the gift shop area. If not, put Wednesday, September 26th on your calendar for the first meeting of the 2018-2019 year. Enjoy your summer activities! *Karen Papenfuss, President*

St. Paul's Soup Kitchen: The next St. Paul's Soup Kitchen is on **Monday, July 30th** at the Eliot Church. There will be sign-ups in June for kitchen preps and servers and donations of chicken and egg salad mixings, and of course, brownies! Please help!

AmazonSmile: CCC’s latest fundraiser is AmazonSmile, a simple way for you to support the church and our missions every time you shop on Amazon, at no cost to you. When you shop through **smile.amazon.com**, you’ll find the exact same low prices, vast selection, and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to your favorite charitable organization, CCC! While shopping on smile.amazon.com you will see the text: “Supporting: Central Congregational Church” on the top navigation bar. Be sure to use the **smile.amazon.com** site and not the standard amazon.com site when shopping to ensure that Amazon provides CCC with the designated donation!

The Open Pantry of Great Lowell is SAM’s focus for the month of June. Clearly the Pantry is important to so many and serves as a safety net. In a recent survey clients stated that they prefer coming to The Open Pantry versus the other pantries because they are treated well and with respect. Clients also seem pleased with the food they receive. The Pantry is a blessing for its clients but it plays an important part in the lives of the volunteers. With only one part-time paid position the pantry could not function without its volunteers. Some volunteers have been coming back week after week for over 19 years. Here is what some volunteers have said:

- “I look forward to coming and to being with my friends. It gets me out of the house and I feel as if I am giving back.”
- “After a truck accident, my life changed. I am in pain and at the VA hospital often. I can’t work but watching people’s eyes light up when I give them food helps me. They need this place to get by and so do I.”

- “Coming here and interacting with people feels great. This is the one place that gets me out of bed and helps me forget about my COPD and depression.”

This year The Open Pantry of Greater Lowell is in need of a new freezer. Their current freezer has been repaired several times and is not expected to last much longer. They have written a matching grant and still need additional money to close the gap. If you can help with a donation, make a check out to CCC and put Open Pantry in the subject line. If you have any questions, please contact Becky Wisniewski at 978-319-0503. **Acts 20:35** New Revised Standard Version *“In all this I have given you an example that by such work we must support the weak, remembering the words of the Lord Jesus, for he himself said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’”*

Lunch with the Pastor is held every Tuesday at noon.

Do you need a Ride to Church? Can you OFFER a Ride to Church? Transportation to Sunday services and other church events is available. Please call the CCC Transportation Hotline at **978-905-8220**. A church deacon will contact you and make the arrangements to drive you to the church.

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