



THE BEACON

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a worshipping praying learning caring outreaching community

CENTRAL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

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

VOLUME 63 NUMBER 9

OCTOBER 2018

Fall Highlights



Friendship Sunday

Bring a Friend or Two to Worship!
Sunday, September 30th

All-Church Campfire

Sunday, September 30th at 6 p.m.



New Member Classes

Sunday, October 21 and 28 at 11:20 a.m.

Blessing of the Animals

Sunday, October 21st at 1:30 p.m.



Duo of Hope Concert

Sunday, October 28th at 3:00 p.m.
Fundraising for Choir's Christmas Concert

Knight Lines



This month I'm going to my high school class reunion. The invitation says it's our 40th class reunion. That can't be right. It seems like just yesterday I was at our senior prom, dancing to the Bee Gees in my leisure suit. (please don't picture that because it may be hard to get out of your mind).

I loved high school. So many great friends. Such wonderful teachers and coaches. And so many memories. There's a strong bond that I feel to my hometown, the schools I attended, and most especially with the people I grew up with. We share a common history, and many common values. We grew up in "a town that time forgot." It was as if the social revolution of the 60's & 70's by-passed Souderton, Pennsylvania. It was an area filled with churches, and it was a cool (or shall I say, "groovy?") thing to be part of a church youth group back then. All of these factors gave us a sense of identity, connection, and community that have shaped who we are today.

(If you're still reading, thanks for letting me reminisce.)

I share these reflections with you because that's exactly how I feel about the church. The church is a group of people who share a common heritage, going all the way back to Abraham & Sarah; then continuing with the Israelites, Jesus & the Disciples, the Reformation, Congregationalism & the UCC, and then with Central Congregational Church! It's a long line of faith and faithfulness that we find ourselves in. We also share a common bond in Christ. We are truly "one in the Spirit, one in the Lord," through the Holy Spirit who dwells within us. All of these factors give us a sense of identity, connection and community that shape who we are today!

In addition to my parents, there are two things that have profoundly shaped my life – the town I grew up in and the church of Jesus Christ. And for that I'm eternally grateful!

Quick, someone play the Bee Gees', "How Deep is Your Love."

*With Gratitude,
Pastor Rich*

The ONA Process at CCC

The ONA Task Force and the congregation have been learning and growing together as we undertake the Open and Affirming process at CCC. On September 16, more than 40 people gathered in Fellowship Hall to share a potluck lunch and to hear the personal stories and experiences shared by members and friends of our church family. The room was filled with love and pain and hope and honesty. We were enlightened and inspired. And many asked, "What do we do next?"

On **Sunday, October 14**, the ONA Task Force will hold another gathering event after the worship service. This will be a coffee and discussion time to talk about what becoming ONA at CCC will mean – how will we put words into practice? The focus of our conversation will be the proposed CCC Welcoming Statement. Here is the draft version:

Draft of CCC Welcoming Statement

We are Central Congregational Church of Chelmsford, United Church of Christ, and you are welcome here. Through God's grace, this congregation is committed to being a loving and welcoming community of faith. We recognize, celebrate, and give thanks for the many diverse gifts of God among us. We affirm that all people are created in the image of God and as beloved children of God, all are worthy of God's love and grace. We declare ourselves to be an Open and Affirming congregation, welcoming into the full life and ministry of the church persons of every race, culture, age, gender identity and gender expression, sexual orientation, physical or mental ability, marital status, education, and economic status. We especially and intentionally welcome all who have known the pain of exclusion or discrimination in the church and society. We invite all people to join us as Christ's disciples in our faith journey toward openness and understanding, justice, healing, mutual respect, and wholeness of life for all.

This proposed statement, created by CCC task force members specifically for our church, would become our declaration and promise, both to ourselves and to the public upon an affirmative vote by the church members. This vote is a few steps later in the ONA process: now is the time to talk about these words, and to do the work of educating ourselves. We do not just flip a switch and turn into an ONA church. We **become** an ONA church, together, step by step.

We invite you to talk to members of the ONA task force and Pastor Rich. We will be available each Sunday at coffee hour (look for our ONA table) and you may contact us directly.

The CCC ONA Task Force – Lynn Horton, Monique Billingsley, Marcia Cassidy, Joe Chapman, Ginnie Hall, Hayley Horton, Beth Jarok, Val King, Deb Lyons, Emily Lyons, Judy Musgrove, Kenny Pantuso, Karen Papenfuss, Pastor Rich Knight

Open & Affirming Resources

There are several resources for studying the "Open & Affirming" question on our web site, www.cccchelmsford.org. Two are in the sermon section, "Sermon Central." Look for:

"Homosexuality & the Bible" - May 27, 2018

"All are One in Christ Jesus" - Sept. 17, 2018

What's Happening at CCC!

FRIENDSHIP SUNDAY

Sunday, September 30th is "Friendship Sunday!" Friendship will be the theme of our service. Leading up to this service we'd like you to consider inviting a friend to worship with you on September 30th. Sometimes we can be leery of inviting our friends to church. We don't want to come off as pushy or fanatical. But a warm simple invitation is all it takes. Here's an example:

"Hey, Joe, I'd like to invite you to my church this Sunday." (this works especially well with people named, "Joe.")

So we hope you'll give this a try. Our Sunday School teachers will be encouraging our CCC kids to invite their friends to Sunday School on this day as well. I wonder who will get more folks to church on this day, the kids or the adults? Let's give it a try! *Pastor Rich*

ALL CHURCH CAMPFIRE

We had a really fun "All Church Campfire" last Fall. So let's do it again! Join us **Sunday, September 30th** at 6:00 p.m. in Carson Park for singing around the campfire and roasting hot dogs and marshmallows and making s'mores! Please bring your own lawn chair or blanket.

COLLECTING FOR BOY SCOUT GIANT YARD SALE

The Friends of Boy Scout Troop 74 are collecting items for our Annual Giant Spring Yard Sale. We need your donations of saleable items such as used tools, good furniture, small appliances, toys, bicycles, books, dishes, etc. This is a great time to clean out your garage, basement, and attic. Receipts for income tax purposes are available upon request. To make it easier for you, you may drop off your items at the church parking lot on **Saturday, October 6** and **Saturday November 3**, from 9 a.m. – noon.

We cannot accept: torn, dirty or broken furniture, mattresses or box springs, stained or torn clothing, child car seats, cribs, tires, large appliances, TVs, large microwaves, computer monitors, CRT's, large exercise equipment, or winter sports equipment.

Any questions, please call 978-935-9474. Thank you!

BENEVOLENT BEADERS

The Benevolent Beaders met in September and had a very productive meeting. We were most fortunate to have Alisa Knight join us. She explained that she is involved with a group of women who make prayer beads. The idea is quite new to us, the concept is very meaningful, and we thoroughly enjoyed hearing about the care that goes into making them and how they are given away.

We also discussed having a Beaders sale in Fellowship Hall after our church service on **Sunday, October 21st**. We tentatively are planning it and will make a further announcement when it is nearer to that time.

Our October meeting will be on **Wednesday, October 10th** in room 308 from 1-3 p.m. As always we would welcome new members and if you are not convinced about making jewelry then come for the fellowship of our group. If you have any questions, please call Nancy Clark at 978-256-5763 or 'Dee' Freeman at 978-256-2944.

SUPER SATURDAY

The Massachusetts Conference of the United Church of Christ is presenting Super Saturday, a day of worship, workshops, and networking. All are welcome! Super Saturday is on **Saturday, October 20th** from 8:00 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. at Keefe Technical Regional High School in Framingham, MA.

There are many facilitated roundtable discussions, some specifically geared toward deacons and Christian educators. There are over 50 workshops from which to choose. Pastor Rich plans on attending!

The deadline for registering is **October 6th** although the wildly popular Super Saturday can reach capacity before. You can find the brochure of the schedule and offerings posted on the back door bulletin board and the bulletin board outside the office. So don't wait – register today at www.macucc.org/SS-Oct2018

NEW MEMBER CLASSES

New Members Classes will be held **Sundays, October 21 and 28**, 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 and our office administrator, Linn Flint, to sign up. Speak with Pastor Rich or one of our Deacons for more information.

CONFIRMATION CLASS ORIENTATION

A confirmation program provides a wonderful opportunity for a young person, 9th grade and older, to explore, question, learn, and practice the Christian faith. It is one of the most important things the church does. We will have an orientation meeting for students and parents coming up **Sunday, October 21st**, following worship. We'll meet in Room 302 on the third floor. If you cannot make the orientation, please speak with Pastor Rich asap. We plan to start this year's class in November. Confirmation Sunday will be in May 2019.

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

Join us in Carson Park **Sunday, October 21st**, at 1:30 p.m. for our "Blessing of the Animals." Bring your pets (dogs, cats, birds, ferrets, etc.) for a fun, brief service in the park, celebrating the joy our pets bring us, thanking God for these blessings and extending a hand of blessing to them. For more information, speak with Pastor Rich or Ray Peterson.

KiSeLo – Kindness, Service, Love

We invite all women of the church to join us on **Wednesday, October 24th** for our monthly KiSeLo meeting. Come to Fellowship Hall at 1:00 p.m. and be treated to a delicious dessert and coffee or tea served by our hostesses of the month. After a brief business meeting, we'll have our special program. This month our own Lillian Began will be leading us in Chair Yoga. Though it won't be a strenuous routine, you may want to wear comfortable clothing. This exercise will, of course, negate whatever calories we took in eating the dessert. If you have any questions, please contact me, Karen Papenfuss, at 978-256-6801. Hope to see YOU on October 24th!

Karen Papenfuss, President

BIBLE SUNDAY

Children in grade three will be presented with an age appropriate Bible during worship on **Sunday, October 28th**. The Beginner's Bible storybook will be presented to each Preschooler (who did not receive one last year) in their preschool classroom after the worship service on the same day.

LUNCH WITH THE PASTOR

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

COMING IN NOVEMBER – CCC'S THIRD "MAKE A DIFFERENCE SUNDAY!"



On **Sunday, November 4th** we will hold our third "Make a Difference Sunday!" We'll worship at 10:00 a.m. as usual, and after worship we'll have brunch in Fellowship Hall. Then we will break into work teams and go out and do service projects! Last fall and spring we cleaned the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail, visited CCC members and others at home and in hospitals, helped at the Lowell Humane Society, worked at our Community Garden plot, and sang to residents of a nursing home. All ages are invited to participate! Sign up at Coffee Hour. Let's commit the entire day to our God and our community! Stay tuned for more details and specific information on the work projects. Please speak with Pastor Rich,

Lynn Horton, or Jen Stuart, SS Coordinator, for more information.

On Sunday, November 4, Don't Just Come to Church . . . Let's BE the Church!

Ministries in Our Church

CHRIST CARE

The evening ChristCare group has begun meeting again after a summer break. We will continue to meet on the second and fourth Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m. We will be choosing a new book or video to discuss. As always, we look forward to deepening our faith and our friendships together. Please contact Deb Lyons with any questions. *Deb Lyons*

PRAYER MINISTRY

When thinking about Prayer, it crossed my mind, that we don't all pray alike, or at the same time. We pray together in church on Sunday. And then we are on our own for the rest of the week.

Think about what qualifies God to be the One to whom you turn in prayer in these ways.

Pleading... trusting in God – as our Helper who works for our good. (Ps.121:3)

Relating ... communing with God – as our Savior and Friend who reconciled us to Himself. (Ps.66:20)

Aligning ... cooperating with God – as our Guide who is holy and all wise. (Prov.3:5-6)

Yearning... seeking after God – as our Comforter who satisfies as nothing or no one else can (Ps.42:1-2)

Exalting... worshiping God – as Our Lord God of whom there is no one greater worthy of praise (Ps.34:1-4)

Revering... honoring God – as our Sovereignty to whom we defer even when we don't understand (Ps.33:6-11)

Whatever you ask for in Prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours; (Mk.11:24) God wants prayer to be about trusting Him to HELP, Guide, Comfort.

Prayer is Powerful, and that is when we remember to be Thankful to God. Your Prayer Ministry is here for you. If you or someone you know is in need of Prayer, or if you would like to be a part of the Prayer Ministry, please contact:

- Ginnie Hall, vrh9159@comcast.net
- Daphne Freeman, uklady446@yahoo.com
- Wendy Perry, wperry39@comcast.net.

COMMUNITY GARDEN

The garden is nearing the end of the season. Lots of tomatoes, peppers, tomatillos, and cucumbers are being taken to The Open Pantry each Monday. The beds that are spent are now covered in weeds. We'll be putting the garden to bed on November 4th as part of the "Make a Difference" Sunday activities.

I'd like to thank all of our garden workers for their hard work and for doing such a great job. Our group includes Lillian Bean, Carol Boucek, Cindy Bruetsch, Therese Burdo, Jennifer Delikat, Carol Engel, Dick Herget, Catherine Loew, Deb Lyons, Sue Sarafinas, and Janine and Brendan Viarella. I'd like also to thank Josh Timmins, Nicholas Bottomley, and Sophia Bruetsch who came out in nasty hot and humid weather to help weed! I hope we can encourage more young people to help out next summer. It's a rewarding way to earn service credits while supporting a worthy cause such as The Open Pantry. *Mary Horne*

Music in Our Church

BENEFIT CONCERT BY DUO OF HOPE

Duo of Hope, a world-class, cello and piano ensemble, will perform a benefit concert at Central Congregational Church on **Sunday, October 28th** at 3:00 p.m. Admission is free, but there will be a free will offering, which will help support and will partially sponsor the Christmas concert on December 9th.

You will enjoy an evening of music of the highest caliber with works by Bach, Beethoven, Elgar, and more, while supporting and making possible that more high quality music takes place in our community in the near future.

Duo of Hope was formed in 2011, when Peruvian cellist Taide Prieto and Mexican pianist Francisco Fernandez were graduate students at The Boston Conservatory. The duo has since then established itself as an important chamber music ensemble in the classical music world across the USA and Latin America.

Duo of Hope's recent and ongoing performances include The Boston Conservatory and Steinert Hall in Boston MA, Celebrity Theater in Phoenix AZ, Hope Channel in Washington DC, Loma Linda University in CA; University of Science and Arts of Chiapas, Cervantino International Festival, Paax-Fest International Music Festival and Universidad Veracruzana in Mexico; National Conservatory of Music, International Biannual Cellofest, and Peruvian Union University in Peru; as well as performances in Lisbon, Portugal and upcoming performances in London, England.

Additionally, Taide and Francisco keep a busy schedule as solo performers and music educators in the Boston area. Taide is a co-founder/co-director of Boston String Academy, a leading non-profit organization inspired by El Sistema – a very successful music education philosophy that utilizes music as a vehicle for social change. Francisco is the Music Director at Central Congregational Church in Chelmsford.

Our Church Committees in Action!

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

A huge thank you to those who organized the beginning of the year cookout! What a great start it was to new Sunday school year. It was wonderful to catch up and touch base – and it was especially fun to see all the different age groups interacting during the inter-generational scavenger hunt. Thank you to all of you who came, ate, and spent time together. Also on Welcome Sunday, we continued the tradition of the "Blessing of the Backpacks" which helps to demonstrate to our students that God's love and the support of the church community continues with them throughout the week.

We also will have Friendship Sunday at the end of September and planned new CCC T-shirts! We are aiming to have them arrive before Make a Difference Sunday in November.

SINGERS AND RINGERS NEEDED AND WANTED!

The Chancel Choir, the Bell Choir, and the Junior Choir are all in need of new members. Please consider filling our sanctuary with joyful noise. Talk to Francisco Fernandez or Christine McNamara for more information.

HOUSE COMMITTEE

The House Committee spent the summer focused on maintenance of the property including lawn care and exterior repairs/painting. We're still working on the boiler issues and energy savings updates to the lighting. We will continue to work on these issues as we enter the fall. Carpets have been cleaned in anticipation of the new Church School Education year. Air conditioners and dehumidifiers will be removed as the heat abates and the cool season starts. Soon we'll be pulling out the snowblower! We're looking forward to the year to come.

New members are still needed. The actual investment of time is small and lots of "training" will be offered. Please contact a member of the Nominating Committee if you feel called to help with this very special church care. *Mary Horne*

FLOWER DONATIONS

The Sanctuary Committee is in need of more flower donations to beautify the Communion Table on Sunday mornings. You can help solve this problem by signing up on the flower chart in Fellowship Hall. Donating flowers for a Sunday can be an excellent way to remember someone special on their birthday or anniversary, to celebrate a special occasion, to remember a loved one who has passed, or to give for the fun of it. After the Sunday service you can either take the flowers home, specify that the Deacons deliver them to someone special to you, or have the Deacons deliver them to someone they know who needs cheering up. Donating flowers is simple. Sign the flower chart for the week you would like to donate flowers on. You will be contacted by a member of the Sanctuary Committee and asked what dedication you would like printed in the bulletin, what would you like done with the flowers after church and how much would you like to spend (\$45 to \$55 is typical). An added bonus is you do not have to sit in church and look at the artificial flower arrangement, AGAIN!

Dick Papenfuss for the Sanctuary Committee

ST. PAUL'S SOUP KITCHEN

We will be serving at the St. Paul's Soup Kitchen at the Eliot Church on Summer Street in Lowell on **Monday, October 29th**. The God Squad will be hosting, serving the Shepherd's Pies and Brownies and prepping salad and bread. Sign-up sheets will be out in Fellowship Hall on Sundays in October. Shepherd's Pies and Brownies should be delivered to the CCC kitchen on the morning of Sunday, October 28th.



SAM's FOCUS FOR OCTOBER – LOWELL TRANSITIONAL LIVING CENTER



The Social Action and Mission (SAM) Committee's October mission is to support the Lowell Transitional Living Center (LTLC). The LTLC provides the most vulnerable adults in the Greater Lowell area with food, shelter, stability and dignity. LTLC goes above and beyond to bring clients into the shelter from the streets for housing and community supports. The LTLC staff target those living on the streets to provide lifesaving services to address serious medical, mental health and/or substance abuse problems. LTLC outreach helps to ease the transition and remains a stabilizing force for a population in crisis.

It is a myth that homeless people are lazy and don't want to work. Joe is a client as well as a volunteer at LTLC. Joe graduated from high school and then went on to own a landscaping business. He owned this business for 20 years. He was badly hurt in a car accident and had to stay in the hospital for several weeks. His injuries lead him to develop an addiction to pain medications. When the pain pills ran out, he started drinking . . . Joe has been sober since he moved to LTLC six months ago. He worked his whole life and his goals are to stay sober, get back to work, own his own place and get back to a normal life. Joe is not used to receiving help so he has been helping out at LTLC as much as he can. He has gained experience working in the kitchen which will help him get a job.

SAM would like you to consider donating items from the following list (in order of most need):

- ✓ SOCKS!!! (White crew socks, men's and women's),
- ✓ Jackets (men's and women's)
- ✓ Sneakers (men's and women's)
- ✓ Backpacks
- ✓ Jeans (especially very small men's sizes waist 28" – 34")

- ✓ Hoodies (hooded sweatshirts)
- ✓ Plus size clothing, XXL and up
- ✓ Deodorant
- ✓ Towels
- ✓ Unscented lotion (travel size)
- ✓ Toothpaste (travel size) & toothbrushes
- ✓ Boxer shorts (new)
- ✓ Men's and women's underwear (new)
- ✓ Toiletries like soap, shampoo, and conditioner.

There is also a [LTLC Amazon Wish List Donation Link](#). The items on the Amazon wish list include:

- ✓ 100 pack Jumbo Smoothie Straws
- ✓ 100 pack clear PET plastic cups both for smoothie day!
- ✓ Glad Tall Kitchen Draw String Trash bags
- ✓ Fruit of the Loom Women's Beyond Soft Bikini Panties 6 pack
- ✓ Hanes Women's Ankle socks – 10 pack
- ✓ 6 pack of Men's Wool Gloves
- ✓ Boardwalk case of 12 mop heads
- ✓ 40-45 gallon roll of 10 heavy grade can liners
- ✓ Genuine Joe Gallon liquid hand soap
- ✓ Pacific Blue Basic Recycled Hardwood Paper Towel Roll by GP PRO Case of 6 rolls
- ✓ Hammermill Copy Paper 8.5 X 11 Letter Size Paper
- ✓ Georgia Pacific Toilet Paper
- ✓ Purell Hand Sanitizer Gel
- ✓ Scott Essential Multifold Paper Towels
- ✓ Comet Cleanser
- ✓ Degree Women's Antiperspirant Deodorant
- ✓ Hanes Men's 6-pack cushion crew socks
- ✓ Venture Pal Lightweight packable durable travel hiking backpack
- ✓ Wet Ones Antibacterial Hand wipes
- ✓ Men's Fruit of the Loom Premium Woven Boxers.

CCC HOLIDAY FAIR 2018 – Make it a Date! November 17!

The Annual CCC Holiday Fair will be held in Fellowship Hall from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on **Saturday, November 17th**. This fund raising event is a wonderful opportunity to get involved with CCC, meet new people, share our enthusiasm with the community, and raise much needed funds to support CCC programs and mission work. If you have never volunteered to participate in the Fair, please consider this my personal invitation to you! **All members and friends are needed to help make the Fair a success!**

We have several returning chairmen to thank for their continued dedication to the Fair. The 2018 table chairmen are:

Crafts Table – Karen Papenfuss

Jewelry Table – Nancy Parker Clark and Daphne Freeman

Plants Table – Helen Glinos

Baked Goods Table – Dory Toppan

SAM Equal Exchange Coffee and Chocolate Sale – Ellen Kunkel

Media and More Room – The God Squad with leaders Steve Hartigan and Will Hargett

Silent Auction – Marcia Cassidy and Lynn Horton

Apple Pies – Lillian Bean, Christine McNamara, and Therese Burdo



Apple Pie baking will take place in the CCC kitchen on **Friday, November 16**. We need veteran “Pie People” as well as new volunteers to peel, cut, mix, bake, and bag dozens of sweet smelling apple pies for sale at the Baked Goods table. Come join the fun and be guaranteed a first pick of a hot apple pie – special privilege pre-sales to pie bakers!

Doug Drake will plan the meals and stock the kitchen for the **Luncheon Café**. His annual commitment to the Scouts prevents him from being in the church on the Saturday of the Fair. We will need experienced kitchen crew and new cooks to make the Lunch service a success! Grab your apron and join the team in the kitchen!

Returning to the Fair for the third year – the **Specialty Shoppes!** This corner of Fellowship Hall is a mini marketplace within the Fair! For a small table rental fee, CCC members and friends are invited to sell their handmade goods for profit. Please contact Lynn Horton to apply for a table space.

Looking ahead, we will need volunteers to staff the tables throughout the day of the Fair, donations of books, games, jewelry, plants, baked goods, and silent auction items, plastic bags, set up and clean up helpers, and lots and lots of shoppers! Be thinking now of the many ways you can help and be a part of this important CCC fund raising event!

Mark your calendars for these dates:

- ✓ Now until Fair - Donate jewelry (and jewelry boxes!) to Nancy Parker Clark and Daphne Freeman so that they and their committee will have time to clean and price the items.
- ✓ Sunday, November 11 - Drop off of non-perishable items on the stage begins and continues through the week. Contact Lynn Horton for special pick up or storage arrangements for fragile or valuable items.
- ✓ Thursday, November 15, 6:30 p.m. - Set up tables and other Fair display structures and signage in FH
- ✓ Friday, November 16, 9:00 a.m. - Apple Pie Baking in CCC kitchen
- ✓ Friday, November 16, 9:00 a.m. - Set up and organize all table areas
- ✓ Friday, November 16, 9:00 a.m. - Drop off baked goods donations throughout the day
- ✓ Saturday, November 17, 8:30 a.m. - Drop off baked goods donations before the Fair
- ✓ Saturday, November 17, 8:30 a.m. - First shift of table volunteers arrives and makes final preparations
- ✓ Saturday, November 17, 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 pm - CCC Holiday Fair Open! Smile and sell! :^)
- ✓ Saturday, November 17, 1:45 pm - Clean-up crew at the ready!
- ✓ Sunday, November 18, during coffee hour - Additional sales of any remaining available items
- ✓ Sunday, November 18, after coffee hour - Final clean up

Sign-up sheets for all areas will be available in coffee hour on Sundays in November, or you may contact Lynn Horton directly. Thank you in advance for helping! I am so grateful I can count on each one of you to do your part!

Lynn Horton, Fair Chair,
Lynn@terpsoft.com, 978-256-8524



MILESTONES

We wish great joy to Brigit Schroeder, Mary Horne's daughter, who was married to Chris Wolff on June 26, 2018. The marriage took place in Salt Lake City just for fun. The couple lives in Santa Cruz, CA, where Brigit is finishing up her doctorate in Computer Science: Artificial Intelligence.

Our love and prayers go out to the family of Jim Rich, who passed away on September 20th, surrounded by his children. Jim was a long-time and beloved member of CCC. A funeral service will be held at CCC on **Saturday, September 29th** at 12:30 p.m. followed by a collation.

We also offer our sympathies to the family of Nancy Maynard who passed away on September 19th at the age of 93. Nancy was a member of CCC many years ago. A memorial service is being held at CCC on **Friday, September 28th** at 10:00 a.m. followed by a collation.

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.



TAKE NOTE

- ✓ The bulletin is printed first thing on Thursday morning, so all announcements must be received in the office by Wednesday morning.
- ✓ The November *Beacon* deadline is **Monday, October 22nd** with a mailing/emailing date of October 31st.
- ✓ Remember to use the PO Box 339 when mailing things to the Church.
- ✓ Do You Need 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.
- ✓ 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
- ✓ 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.



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!

To get started, simply go to <http://smile.amazon.com/>. You will be prompted to log into your Amazon account and select the charity you would like to support. When you enter "Central Congregational Church" into the charity search box, you will see there are many CCCs out there, so be careful to select the Chelmsford MA option! 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!

If you have any questions, please email amazonsmile@cccchelmsford.org. Now get shopping!

SCRIP PROGRAM

You are invited to join our Scrip Program. It is a different kind of fundraiser- it turns your everyday shopping into earnings for CCC! By paying for your purchases with gift cards, you'll earn money on your groceries, gas, dining out, home improvement projects, clothing, travel and more!

I have been buying cards as has one other person. In 6 months, with only 2 people, the church's rebate (funds raised) is almost \$80. So it works. ☺ If 10 families did this...or 20 or more? We have the potential to raise thousands of dollars every year!

On the last page, you should be able to click on the pdf to see the list of participating retailers. Sooner than later, I will make a bulk purchase of cards to sell at coffee hour. Any suggestions on retailers you frequent would be helpful, so I purchase the best cards for our church. Ideally, people will use the online features, especially the Scrip now and Reload/Reload now, as this will be the most efficient way of receiving the gift cards. I've actually shopped at a store and purchased the scrip now card for the amount I was about to spend before heading to the registers. The card is available within a minute and I've earned money for the church while buying the essentials. And it has alleviated the guilt when purchasing the not-so-essentials. ☺

Thank you so much!

Sue Mirisola

cccscrip@cccchelmsford.org



CENTRAL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
 United Church of Christ
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**October
 2018**

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.

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