

THE BEACON

THE BEACON



a worshipping praying learning caring outreaching community

CENTRAL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

United Church of Christ

An Open and Affirming Congregation

VOLUME 64 NUMBER 4

APRIL 2019

Calendar of Lenten and Holy Week Events and Services

- **Lenten Supper:** Wednesday, April 3rd at 6 p.m.
- **Easter Celebration Concert:** Sunday, April 7th at 3 p.m.
- **Palm Sunday/Passion Sunday Service and Cross Dedication:** April 14th at 10:00 a.m.
- **Maundy Thursday Service:**
A Service of Holy Communion on the Night of the Last Supper
Thursday, April 18th at 7:30 p.m.
- **Good Friday Tenebrae Service:**
A Service of Light and Darkness based on the words of Jesus from the Cross
Friday, April 19th at 7:30 p.m.
- **Easter Vigil:**
Saturday, April 20th beginning at 6 p.m. and ending on Easter Sunday, April 21st at 6 a.m.
- **Easter Sunday:** Come, Celebrate the Triumph of Love and Life! April 21st at 10:00 a.m.
- **Easter Egg Hunt:** April 21st following worship



Knight Lines

“Wow!!!”

“It’s perfect!”

“It looks like it’s always been there!”

These are the kind of comments I’ve been hearing about the new cross on the parking lot side of the building. I can’t ever remember a project in any church which has received such glowing, unanimous praise! We all owe a large amount of gratitude to the family of Bob Moore and the Cross Committee Members, as well as to Bob himself and our Savior Jesus Christ for the inspiration and completion of this project.

As you well know, the cross is the symbol of our faith. It reminds us, of course, of Jesus’ sacrificial death, but more than that it represents to us and re-presents to us the everlasting love God has for us, shown through Jesus Christ. A symbol this important and this deep doesn’t just spark a memory, it should open and touch one’s heart. Think of it like a loved one patting you on the shoulder or giving you a hug & a kiss and quietly saying, *“Always remember that I love you!”*

Sunday, April 14th is Palm Sunday/Passion Sunday. It’s the day we commemorate the most courageous ride ever taken, Jesus going into Jerusalem. It’s also the day to remember what transpired later that week. This April 14th, we’ll dedicate our new cross in memory of Bob Moore and in honor Jesus Christ.

It’s such a fitting memorial to Bob. He absolutely loved Central Congregational Church and gave so much of himself to the church and its members, not only through all the things that he did on various committees, in the church office, a beautiful gazebo in Carson Park, and much, much more. Bob also gave his heart to so many people in the loving care that he gave to others, especially those going through challenging times. If the cross is a symbol of sacrificial love (and it is!), then it’s a beautiful and fitting memorial gift for Robert Moore.

At the end of our Palm Sunday service we’ll gather outside in the parking lot up close to the building for a brief but important dedication of this cross. I hope you’ll be there.

***Serving Christ with You,
Pastor Rich***



Thank you to the members of the Cross Committee: Don Brigham, John Carson, Bill Clarke, Lynn Horton, Peter Morin, Dick Papenfuss, Doris Moore, and Pastor Rich Knight.

Holy Week at CCC

Palm Sunday/Passion Sunday and Cross Dedication – April 14, 10:00 a.m.

Palm Sunday begins the holiest of weeks. We'll remember Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem, as well as the events that unfolded that week. Because it's also Passion Sunday, we'll remember Jesus' death upon the Cross and its meaning for us today. The service this year will end outside as we will be dedicating the cross that has been donated in memory of Bob Moore. This promises to be a meaningful service on many levels. Please join us!

Maundy Thursday Service – Thursday, April 18, 7:30 p.m.

There's no better night to hold a reflective, meditative service of Holy Communion than the night of the Last Supper. We'll gather around tables in Fellowship Hall and once again experience, "*The Feast of the Sacrifice Lamb*," which compares the Jewish Passover to the events of Holy Week. It's a service where you'll learn a lot but also experience the power and significance of communion. Please sign up in advance either Sunday at church or by contacting the church office.

Good Friday Tenebrae Service –Friday, April 19, 7:30 p.m.

A Tenebrae service is one of the oldest services in the Christian Church. It's a service of light & darkness, based on the seven last words of Jesus from the Cross. As the words are heard, the sanctuary darkens until it is eventually pitch dark. A single candle re-enters symbolizing the hope of Easter Sunday. Moving spirituals and hymns are sung throughout as we "survey the wondrous cross."

Easter Vigil

Central Congregational Church has for many years offered a vigil for twelve hours prior to Easter sunrise. The hours from 6:00 p.m. on Easter Eve until 6:00 a.m. on Easter morning are divided into half hour segments, and we are encouraged to sign up to come to the sanctuary for one or more of these segments. Ideally, there will be two people in the sanctuary continuously throughout the night, praying and meditating. The sanctuary is dark, except for the chancel area, where there is a table set with inspirational books and glowing candles. There will be a church directory divided into sections, so that everyone in the church is prayed for during the night. This spiritual time of peace and solitude can be very moving, leaving us feeling prepared for Easter Sunday. Please contact Deb Lyons or Lynda Wellman to sign up. There will be a sign-up sheet available at coffee hour in the weeks leading up to the vigil.

Easter Vigil begins on Saturday, April 20th at 6:00 p.m. and ends on Sunday, April 21st at 6:00 a.m.

Easter Sunday!

It's the most important Sunday in the history of our faith, for when Jesus got up, hope was reborn! It's the triumph of light, life, and love. Come, and bring a friend, for a joyous celebration filled with great music and reflections on this crucial, life-giving day!

Our Easter Egg Hunt will immediately follow the service in Carson Park. This is always a fun time for our kids.



Make a Difference Day

Our next Make a Difference Day will be **Sunday, April 28th**! Following worship, we'll have brunch downstairs and then head off for service projects. Please keep an eye out to sign up for a project. We're still lining them up, but certainly the Community Garden and Rail Trail Clean-up will be on the list. Also, please wear your new CCC t-shirts! "*God's Work, Our Hands.*" Amen!

2019/2020 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

This year's Stewardship Campaign will end on **Sunday, April 7**. Hopefully, by this point you have received the stewardship letter and pledge card and have given it some prayerful thought. If you have not received a pledge card, please see Dick Papenfuss.

This upcoming year presents as usual an increased demand for funds to balance the budget requests. Since our pledges provide 72% of our total income for the year, we can only budget based on the gifts to God that you bestow on us to do his work. The more you trust us with your gifts, the more we can do to spread God's word in the church, locally and nationally. The things we do, such as taking care of church members in time of need with meals or financially through the Deacon's Worship and Care Fund, locally, through "Make A Difference Day", community concerts, Open Pantry, soup kitchen meals, the Wish Project, Lowell Community Health Center, and nationally with our work camps and gifts to OCWM can only be done through your increasing gifts and participation.

We are looking for an average increase of \$3.00 per week from all of our 111 pledge units from last year. Knowing that a number of our members may be financially unable to increase their pledge, it requires those of us who can to do more. We hope those of us who have not increased our pledge for several years, will reconsider what our church means to us and consider doing more. We hope those of us who have not pledged will consider pledging to help provide a firm basis for our budget rather than having to speculate on how much we might receive from non-pledging givers.

We ask your prayerful response to our appeal and ask you to "Give until it feels good".

Your Stewardship Committee: Heather Landheim, Becky Wisniewski, and Dick Papenfuss

What's Happening at CCC!

NEW MEMBER CLASSES



New Members Classes will be held **Sundays, March 31 and April 7**, 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.

LENTEN SUPPER

Our next Lenten Supper will be held on **Wednesday, April 3rd** at 6:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Our theme is "Answered Prayers." Deb Lyons will be speaking and then leading a discussion on the topic. Join us! Please sign up in advance by contacting the church office. office.admin@cccchelmsford.org.

CONFIRMATION CLASS

Classes will be held this month on **Sunday, April 7, and Sunday, April 28**. In addition, Confirmands are asked to attend either the Maundy Thursday Service (April 18, 7:30 p.m.) or the Good Friday Service (April 19, 7:30 p.m.) with their mentors. Contact Pastor Rich with any questions for concerns.

Confirmation Sunday is May 5th!

BENEVOLENT BEADERS

The Benevolent Beaders did not meet in March, but will be having a meeting on **Wednesday, April 10th** from 1-3 p.m. in room 308. Our Beaders group has become smaller now and we have enjoyed a wonderful fellowship which has been meaningful to all us. However, for many reasons we have made the decision to bring our jewelry making to a close. We have reached our goals of making profits selling our bracelets, earrings etc. and we were able to donate more than \$9000 to many worthy causes. We may have a future date to sell our remaining trinkets at a sale price, and it will be discussed at our April meeting. If you have questions, please contact "Dee" Freeman at 978-256-2944.

EASTER CELEBRATION CONCERT

I am tremendously excited to announce that on **Sunday, April 7th** at 3 p.m. the CCC choir along with community singers and world-class soloists and instrumentalists will present its annual Easter celebration concert. We have had an orchestra play with us for the last 3 Christmas concerts, but this will be the first time we will have a chamber orchestra for an Easter concert! So help us spread the word, make plans to attend, and to support this beautiful and important ministry of our church.

We will be performing selections from The Crucifixion by J. Stainer, Ave Verum Corpus by W. A. Mozart, and Gloria by A. Vivaldi. It will be a beautiful afternoon of reflection and celebration with magnificent master works performed by extraordinary musicians, right here at our church. There is no admission fee, but there will be a freewill offering to help defray expenses.

Following the concert, there will be a social hour with light refreshments and an opportunity to meet the performers.

I am extremely excited and looking forward to seeing you all here in just a few weeks! Make sure everyone you know finds out about how awesome our church music program is!

*Many Blessings,
Francisco Fernandez, Director of Music*

KiSeLo – Kindness, Service, Love

We invite all women of the church to join us on **Wednesday, April 24th**, for our monthly KiSeLo meeting. Our meeting will begin at 1 p.m. with dessert served by our hostesses: Cindy Bruetsch, Judy Buswick, and Theresa Swanson.

After our business meeting, we will welcome our very own Brian Acheson for our program. Brian, who is a teacher at Chelmsford High School, will tell us about his experiences as a guest teacher over in India. He'll also bring along some pictures he took as he had chances to do a little sightseeing. For those of us who have watched Brian grow up in the church, it should be interesting to see what he's up to in this stage of his life.

Our Open Pantry suggestion for April is boxed rice and potatoes; but, as usual, any non-perishable is appreciated. If you have any questions, please contact Karen Papenfuss at 978-256-6801. Hope to see YOU on April 24th!

TIME TO CLEAN OUT!

The Friends of Boy Scout Troop 74 are collecting items for our Annual Giant 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, March 30** and **Saturday, April 20**, from 9 a.m. – noon.

We cannot accept: torn, dirty, or broken furniture, mattresses or box springs, 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!

LUNCH WITH THE PASTOR

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

Make a Difference Camp!

July 15-19, 2019

A Week of Service for Kids Grades 3 – 8

Rising 3^d Graders are eligible.

High School students may serve as Volunteers & Crew Leaders!



We're going to try something new this summer. It's called, "*Make a Difference Camp.*" It's a bit like Vacation Bible School, but instead of staying at the church to learn, we'll go out into the community and learn about discipleship through serving others. The projects will include things like: Chelmsford Community Garden – weeding & watering, Games with Seniors at Summer Place or another Retirement or Nursing Home, Rail Trail Clean-Up in Chelmsford, a Canned Food Drive with a visit to the Open Pantry in Lowell. Friday, Day 5 will be a fun morning at Kimball Farm!

The camp is sponsored by the Christian Education Committee (with the hope of reaching families beyond our church) and is being planned by this leadership team: Lynn Horton, Carolyn Chapman, Jen Stuart, and Pastor Rich Knight.

Summer is for Mission Trips!

Once again this summer CCC will participate in two week-long mission trips, helping to make homes, "warm, safe & 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 8th grade in order to go. Here are the dates and who to contact for more information:

West Virginia Mission Trip – June 15-22 Contact Bryan Norman, brnorman@comcast.net

Down East Maine Mission – Aug. 4- 10 Contact Peter White, peter.c.white@comcast.net

DOWNEAST MAINE MISSION

Happy Spring!!! As you start your summer plans, please be sure to mark your calendars if you are interested in participating in our DownEast Maine mission trip again this year. The trip is scheduled for August 4-10, 2019.

We will have our first information and organizing meeting on **Sunday, March 31st** at 7:00 p.m. in 9 Worthen and will be meeting monthly thereafter to fundraise and prepare for the trip. We will have a limit of 50 again this year, so if you are sure and want to reserve your spot, please let me know and I will put you down. The fee to for Lower Camp has stayed at \$125 per person. That will lock in your spot. Please talk to me if you are interested in going and need a scholarship.

For those who have gone before, take a moment and remember one of your best memories of making a difference in DownEast Maine. Please pass this on to others you think will be interested in going.

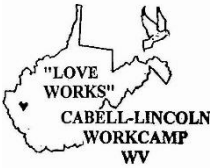
Peace,

Peter White

peter.c.white@comcast.net, 978-407-4913

We will soon be collecting long-sleeve and short-sleeve t-shirts for DEMM. As you do your spring sorting through clothes, please set the t-shirts aside for our collection. Details to follow in May.

WEST VIRGINIA WORKCAMP



Each year, in June, CCC sends a group of youth and adults to the Cabell-Lincoln Workcamp in Huntington, WV for a week. We call this our “West Virginia Workcamp” mission trip and it’s done in partnership with All Saints’ Episcopal Church in Chelmsford and Mont Vernon Congregational Church in Mont Vernon, NH. At the workcamp, we meet up with other groups from all over the eastern U.S. and split into small work crews. Each crew goes to a home site and makes repairs that the homeowner cannot make themselves. The goal is to make each home

“Warm, Safe and Dry.”

This year our trip will take place June 15 – 22. The trip is open to teens 14 years and older and adults. Youth younger than 14 can go if accompanied by a parent. Meetings this year will be on **Sundays, April 7, May 5, and June 2** at 7 p.m. at 9 Worthen St. If you think you are interested, please attend the early meetings to get more details. We need to know who is going by May 1st, as we need to send a deposit to the workcamp.

Also shares for West Virginia workcamp are now on sale! We will be a smaller group this year but we still appreciate your support! Please see Bryan Norman at coffee hour for shares or use the convenience of the ‘Donate’ button on the CCC website (www.cccchelmsford.org). It’s so easy – click the button and select ‘West Virginia Mission Trip’ from the (Optional -use this donation for) menu. Thank you!

Ministries in Our Church

MEALS MINISTRY CONNECTING CHURCH FAMILIES *Serving God Through Serving Others*

All families have it at some point in time, some type of an emergency, illness, tragedy, death. How does the church try to connect with families? One way is providing meals. Our church has a Meals Ministry. This is a list of volunteers, men and women, who would be glad to donate a meal when needed. We have a great list of volunteers, but we need to add to that list.

Would you like to help us and be a part of this Meals Ministry?

It is wonderful to know that when there is a need for meals, we have willing volunteers to help. Psalm 72:12, “God will deliver the needy who cry out, the afflicted who have no one to help”. Sometimes God needs help. If you would be willing to help, please send your awesome name in an email to Ginnie Hall: vrh9159@comcast.net. *Many thanks, Ginnie*

GOD SQUAD MISSION TRIP TO BOSTON – FUNDRAISING SUCCESS!

Many thanks to everyone at CCC who helped to make the God Squad Youth Group’s fundraising effort a tremendous success! The teens and their leaders are grateful for the overwhelming support of their church family! Thank you to everyone who donated items for the Silent Auction, placed a bid, bought a Bake Sale treat, and/or made a cash donation. The generosity of our church family is amazing! We raised \$1458, all of which will go to the City Reach program and to food and clothing for Boston’s homeless and hungry. Thank you for helping our teens show God’s love to our neighbors in need. Prayers on March 29-30 are appreciated as well. *Lynn Horton*

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

On May 4th, David Belleville will be leading a group of volunteers from CCC at a Habitat for Humanity (HFH) construction site in Lowell. Ideally, we need a group of 6-8 adults (18 years or older) to sign up to fill out the crew for CCC. If you are interested, please email David at bellevilledavid@gmail.com so he can provide you with the details and will coordinate the CCC group with HFH.

CHRISTCARE

The women's ChristCare group is beginning to read and discuss The Life You've Always Wanted by John Ortberg. We are learning about God's power for transformation. We recently welcomed a new member to our group and we would be happy to welcome others at any time. We meet on the second and fourth Tuesdays (April 9th and 23rd) from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. *Deb Lyons*

COMMUNITY GARDEN

The Community Garden plans are underway. The seeds are purchased and plantings are started. There will be three planting sessions after church on March 31st, April 28th, and May 5th. Stop by and plant a few seeds. There will be a bowl for cash donations. Please donate if you can. Organic seeds and supplies are costly. So glad spring is almost here!

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Please join us on **Tuesday, April 9th**, at 7 p.m. at the Carson home 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*

PRAYER MINISTRY

“Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.” Philippians 4:6-7

These beautiful words about prayer and God's gift of peace were written by the apostle Paul while he was imprisoned for his missionary work. Anxiety about the future is common for many of us. But Paul's letter to a first century community of Christians instructs us to bring everything to God, even our worries. Paul tells us to bring these worries to God with thanksgiving knowing that God hears our concerns. Prayer takes many shapes and forms for each one of us. The responses we receive from God are different for us as well. Some of us may hear God's thunderous voice calling our name. Some may receive visions. But for the rest of us God grants us peace from our anxieties. This peace comes quietly in a feeling of calm in the midst of turmoil. We may not understand the enormity of God's peace but are blessed to receive it just by praying.

If you wish to be a part of the Prayer Ministry or have prayer requests for yourself or for others, please contact: Daphne Freeman, uklady446@yahoo.com, Ginnie Hall, vrh159@comcast.net or Wendy Perry, wperry39@comcast.net

LIBRARY

Lent is a wonderful time to visit the church library in room 202. In addition to books specifically about Easter, for children and adults, there are dozens of inspirational books, books on faith development, devotionals, study guides, and prayer books. New books were added to our collection over the winter, so please stop by to browse the shelves.

Once you have selected a book (or more) that you would like to borrow, please write your name in the binder provided for that purpose. That will enable us to locate the book if someone else should be looking for it.

Deb Lyons, librarian

Our Church Committees in Action!

PURCHASE EASTER LILIES

The Sanctuary Committee will be taking orders for Easter lilies and tulips on March 31st, April 7th, and April 14th. The cost will be \$13.00. There will be a table set up in Fellowship Hall after the services to take your orders. If you are not going to be in church those Sundays, contact Carol Boucek at 978-857-6803 or cboucek.45@gmail.com with your order and dedication.

ONA MINISTRY TEAM TO HOST COFFEE HOUR MARCH 31

Your CCC ONA Ministry Team will be hosting Coffee Hour on Sunday, March 31. We will have some information to share, and be available if you have questions. *Lynn Horton and the ONA Ministry Team*

THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE ASKS – WHAT IS YOUR WISH?

Do you wish you were more involved at CCC? Do you wish you knew what exactly a member of the Music Committee, or Christian Education, or Trustees *does??* Do you wish you could grow closer to your church family through shared time and work? We can help you make your wish come true!

The Nominating Committee is a wish-granting and matchmaking service, of sorts. We help the committees of Central Congregational Church fill the vacancies that occur each spring when service terms end. At Annual Meeting we present the slate with nominees for a full complement of members to each committee. We can help you find the CCC committee that is just right for your availability, interest, and skill set! Church committee work is a wonderful way to grow in your connection to CCC and to ensure the health and vibrancy of our church. We wish you would come talk to us! Visit the Nominating table at Coffee Hour on **April 7**, or contact a Nominating Rep directly! We will help make your CCC wish come true!

Lynn Horton (978) 256-8524 Lynn@terpsoft.com, Elizabeth Hartigan, Deb Lyons

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Happy Spring from the CE Committee! We have been working hard on exploring the parables of Jesus in our Sunday School curriculum and learning about Lent. The students have been enjoying the “Lent Bags” where they can continue to learn about the traditions and meaning of the season at home with their parents.

As a change from our tradition, we have decided to change the Easter Egg hunt from Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday following worship. Anyone who would like to assist in that project, please let Jen Stuart know. The Easter egg hunt is a favorite activity for the youth and having it on Easter this year will make the morning even more exciting for the kids.

In keeping with a season of service, the God Squad ran the silent auction that so many of you supported. The god Squad will attend a weekend in Boston to work with the homeless called “CityReach”.

Sophia Bruetsch has been helping to lead the K-4 students in singing each week and the kids are excited about the new songs we are learning.

We are also putting together “Make a Difference Camp” for students interested in service within our community- it will be held on July 15-19 so mark your calendars and stay tuned for more specific information.

*As always, thank you for your support our CE mission,
Carolyn Chapman and Elmer Lyons, Co-Chairs
Kristin Strobel, Correspondent*

KIDS CLUB

Kids Club was an exciting, fun night. We had 15 kids join us for songs, pizza, and Minute-To-Win-It games. Thank you to all who came! A big shout out to the parents who brought their kids and helped organize pizza and run games. I look forward to the next time we can all get together.

Carolyn Chapman



SAFE CHURCH ADVOCATE

After 16 years of filling this position, Jennifer Delikat has decided to step down. She has done a wonderful job filling this position and ensuring that the children here at CCC are being nourished in a safe environment as they meet in the youth groups and travel to work camps and outings.

As a result of her resignation, we are looking for someone who would be willing to fill this position. The position involves making sure the provisions of our safe church policy is enforced each time our children are interacting with adults at a meeting our off church property as a group. This involves making sure youth leaders have the proper understanding of the policy and the proper forms are on file. The safe church advocate ensures we have CORI check results for all youth leaders and chaperones. CORI checks are also conducted on staff members every two years. Each September the advocate is responsible for ensuring all church keys are accounted for by having each person with a key signing an acknowledgement that they still have the key and will abide by the church safe church policy.

There are no monthly meetings and the work can usually be done in several time slots during the year. If you think you might be interested in filling this valuable position, you can contact Dick Papenfuss, Council President, or talk directly to Jennifer Delikat about the details. It is a position that must be filled, so we need someone to please come forward. *Dick Papenfuss*

HOUSE COMMITTEE

The House Committee works hard behind the scenes to keep up with the functions of the church. We take out the trash and recycling, make sure the boiler is working, take donations to The Open Pantry, and stop by the church and 9 Worthen to make sure lights are out, and doors are locked. Many of our tasks are the minutiae of daily life that keep things running smoothly, and we're proud to do it.

SAM's APRIL FOCUS WILL BE COMMUNITY TEAMWORK SHELTERS

SAM's initiative for April is Community Teamwork Shelters based in Lowell. CTS provides their clients with opportunities for affordable safe housing, helping with rent and utility expenses, and offering emergency shelter. It's a fact that families behind on rent and housing issues are most likely struggling with feeding family members adequately, having their utilities turned off and may forgo needed health care.

Community Teamwork information will be located on our SAM bulletin board in Fellowship Hall. Community Teamwork has served 63 communities in Middlesex and Essex counties for almost 50 years. Thank you for supporting this worthy cause.

ST. PAUL'S SOUP KITCHEN

On **Monday, April 29th**, the Holy Cows will be hosting St. Paul's Soup Kitchen at Eliot Presbyterian Church on Summer St, Lowell. There will be a need for 16-18 Shepherd Pies and 10 double batches of Brownies. Our church is the only one that serves up Shepherd Pies, and all comment on how delicious they are – and a delightful change from the pasta that other volunteer groups bring!!

Sign-ups will begin on Sunday April 7th following worship during coffee hour in Fellowship Hall. Thank you, CCC, for all you do to support this most important mission that feeds the many who need and appreciate your loving efforts. *Ellen Kunkel for the SAM Committee*

AmazonSmile

Our AmazonSmile fundraising is working great! Keep using it when shopping Amazon!

The AmazonSmile program used by CCC has already generated a few significant quarterly donations! Let's keep the funds coming in by continuing to shop on Amazon and using the AmazonSmile site when checking out!

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 that there are many CCCs out there, so be careful to select the Chelmsford MA option!

Then, while shopping on smile.amazon.com you will see the text: "Supporting: Central Congregational Church" on the top navigation bar.



Remember that even after you've selected CCC as your designated charity, you still need to use the <http://smile.amazon.com/> site to make your purchases! If you (by habit) go to the main Amazon web site and add things to your shopping cart, they will be there in your AmazonSmile shopping cart too! Just remember to switch to the AmazonSmile site before checking out!

AmazonSmile Challenge!

The Horton family offers the following challenge:

One of the following items was NOT purchased via AmazonSmile by the Hortons:

1. Homode Desk Organizer with Drawers, Adjustable Bamboo Wood Desktop Organizer
2. Arkon Replacement or Upgrade Air Vent Car Mounting Pedestal
3. Galton Board – Math in Motion
4. Anley Fly Breeze 3x5 Foot Peru Flag
5. Perplexus Mini-Spiral 3D sculptural Portable Maze Game
6. OutdoorMaster Ski Goggles PRO Replacement Lens
7. Bayer Aspirin, Low Dose (81 mg), Enteric Coated, 300 Count

Identify which one and email your guess to the email address below to be entered into a random drawing for a \$10 Amazon Gift Card!!!!

If you have any questions, please email amazonsmile@cccchelmsford.org. Thanks for supporting CCC!



Notices & Announcements

THANK YOU!

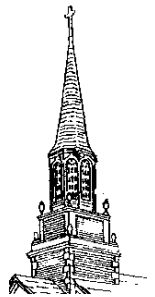
Thank you to everyone who came out for BINGO! We had a ton of fun with many laughs. There were 7 winners, who won various gift cards. And while having all this fun, we were able to raise \$116 for the church. If you weren't able to join us this time, maybe you will be able to make it next time. *Carolyn Chapman*

MILESTONES

On Sunday, March 10th, we welcomed two children to our church family with their baptism. Jaden Marshal Bruce and Greyson Scott Bruce are the sons of Derek and Germaina Bruce and little brothers to almost 5-year-old Desmond. Greyson was born on October 30, 2016. He loves Mickey Mouse Clubhouse, trains, waffles, and wrestling with his older brother. Jaden was born on August 11, 2018 and loves sweet potatoes, getting tickled, watching his brothers play trains, and snuggles. The family loves to dance in the house, family game nights, movie nights, and Grammy Tuesdays and Nana & Papa Thursdays!

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.



We light Our Steeple for the week of:

- ♥ April 7th in celebration of June Nickless' 90th birthday on April 24th from Ray, Dory, and Ginnie.
- ♥ April 14th in celebration of her granddaughter, Liana's, birthday on the 14th April from Daphne Freeman.
- ♥ April 21st for in loving memory of her husband, Ted, from Carol Engel
- ♥ April 28th for Curtis and Donna Bates in loving memory of Curt's father, Maurice E. Bates.

TAKE NOTE

- ✓ Sunday worship services are at 10:00 a.m. Sunday School is held at this time and nursery care is provided as well.
- ✓ Church 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 May *Beacon* deadline is **Monday, April 22nd** with a mailing/emailing date of April 30th.
- ✓ The Church office will be closed on **Monday, April 15th** for Patriots' Day.
- ✓ **Annual Reports from each committee are due on Monday, April 22nd.**
- ✓ 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.



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



April 2019

Join Us for Easter Worship
Sunday, April 21st at 10 a.m.

Central Congregational Church in Chelmsford

United Church of Christ

An Open & Affirming Congregation

"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)	pastor-rich@cccchelmsford.org
Director of Music	Francisco Fernandez	617-669-6492	pacolencia@hotmail.com
Office Administrator	Linn Flint	978-256-5931	office.admin@cccchelmsford.org
Custodian	Juarez Gomes		
Sunday School Coordinator	Jen Stuart	978-250-8538	jennifer.stuart@cccchelmsford.org
Nursery Supervisors	Emily Yurkus Sue Mirisola	978-944-2551 978-420-7865	emilyyurkus@gmail.com mirisola@comcast.net
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:	office.admin@cccchelmsford.org
Church Fax:	978-250-3565	Church Web site:	www.cccchelmsford.org
		Conference Web site:	www.macucc.org

The Beacon, the CCC Newsletter, is prepared by and for the membership of Central Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, in Chelmsford, Massachusetts. It is published monthly except for August and is distributed to members and friends of Central Congregational Church. This issue was emailed/mailed March 27, 2019.