

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 10

NOVEMBER 2019

November Highlights



Sunday, November 3rd – Make A Difference Day

Saturday, November 9th – Habitat for Humanity Work Day

Sunday, November 10th

Come to CCC for Fun and (Board) Games Day! 2 p.m.

Sunday, November 17th

Celebrating Juarez Gomes' 20th Anniversary at CCC

Tuesday, November 19th – Kids' Club – 6 p.m.

Wednesday, November 20th – KiSeLo – 1 p.m.



Saturday, November 23rd – Holiday Fair 9a.m. – 2 p.m.

Sunday, November 24th – Thanksgiving Celebration

“Fall Back” Remember to turn your clocks back one hour before you go to bed on Saturday, November 2nd.



Knight Lines

*“Little things can make a **big difference.**”*

We pick up our mail at the “club house” where we live. There are over 100 mailboxes there, in three separate sections. Our mail person does a very nice thing for us. She organizes the packages that don't fit into the mailboxes, according to the location of our mailboxes. She could just leave a pile of packages for us to sort through, but instead she carefully organizes them right under our individual boxes, with the mailing labels facing up to make it as easy on us as she can. It's a little thing, but it makes a real difference. Recently I saw her doing this and I thanked her for her thoughtfulness. Her face lit up with a huge smile, because someone noticed that she was going the extra mile. I was grateful I had taken the 15 seconds it took to thank her, because it brightened her day. Little things make a difference.

I've been thinking about these things lately because we're going to celebrate the 20th anniversary of Juarez Gomes' service to Central Congregational Church. This is a big thing, not a little thing. 20 years of faithful, excellent service is a Big Deal! The celebration will be during the service on Sunday, November 17th.

Juarez and his wife, Beth, are so amazing because they carefully, conscientiously do the little things exceedingly well, over and over again. Have you ever seen a church so clean? I haven't. Last Fall we hosted another UCC church's deacons for their annual retreat. They were stunned at how beautifully kept our facilities were. They went home vowing to do better. (I remember feeling bad for their custodian!)

It's the little things that make a good job a great job. It's the little things that make things sparkle. It's the little things that make for kindness, gentleness, and encouragement. Little things aren't so little after all. Because, it's countless little things done in love that start to make our lives a reflection of God's beautiful love.

*Serving God with You,
Pastor Rich*



Recently two sermons seemed to hit home with a number of folks - "On Faith/Doubt" October 20 and "Word of God, Word of Men" October 27. Both messages came from questions asked on, "Ask the Pastors Sunday." The October 27 sermon was an attempt to answer the question, "If the Bible was written by humans, why do we call it the Word of God?" You can find both messages on our website. Just look for "Sermon Central" on the home page. cccchelmsford.org

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION (CE) NEWS

Hope you are all adjusting to the cooler temps and shorter days. Your Christian Education Committee knows that these changes are bringing us closer to the Advent season and we are busy planning the Advent Festival which will be held on December 1st this year. This year, the first Sunday of Advent falls on the Sunday after Thanksgiving. We hope this will allow us to extend the spirit of family and traditions right through the long weekend so we can be even more present for the beginning of the Church's season of anticipation. We want to extend an invitation for the young at heart of all ages to join us to celebrate together. We will have a potluck dinner, crafts, fellowship, and caroling. Please mark your calendars to stay at church a bit later that day so we can enjoy the music and time together.

Before the Advent season begins, however, we want to look back to October and thank the church for its continued support of our youth through the purchase of Bibles. The Bible Sunday was on October 27th and we awarded preschool and middle elementary students with age appropriate Bibles. It is an important rite of passage for our youth and a special moment for them as members of our church community. It is a moment of direct and tangible evidence that the church cares about their spiritual journey.

On November 3rd, we are looking forward to Make a Difference Sunday. We will be sending teams to the community garden, to clean up the bike path, and to a local nursing home. Please wear your CCC or Make a Difference Week shirt if you have one!

SAVE THE DATE!

HOLIDAY FAIR NOVEMBER 23rd!

9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

It's November! Just weeks to go until our annual Holiday Fair on Saturday, November 23. This wonderful CCC event has something to offer to one and all, and hopefully YOU have something to offer to the Fair! Have you signed up at coffee hour yet? Volunteers are needed to **BAKE APPLE PIES** in the CCC kitchen on Friday, November 22, beginning at 9:00 a.m. If you can't join us in the CCC kitchen, bake something at home for the **BAKE SALE & COOKIE WALK** table. In addition to the apple pies, home-made cookies, cakes, bars, brownies, cupcakes, fudge, breads and muffins are always highly prized! Baked goods may be dropped off on Friday, November 22nd from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. or on Saturday between 8:00 and 8:30 a.m.



The **JEWELRY** table is not just for women's jewelry – we welcome donations of men's and children's jewelry as well. Please bring in your donations as soon as possible – extra time is needed to clean, repair, and price the jewelry for display. There is also a great need for jewelry boxes. Thank you!

Visit the **HANDIWORK and CRAFTS** table to find the perfect Christmas ornament, teacher's gift, cozy hand-knit mittens, festive decorations, and so much more! The crafters have been busy all year creating clever items for you to buy!



Perhaps you have a green thumb, and have a plant to donate to the **PLANT** table. Or, maybe you'd like to purchase a pretty plant to liven up a corner of your home, give to a good neighbor or cheer a friend. Come visit the plant table at the back of the hall and choose a living gift to help brighten the winter days ahead.



Don't miss the **SILENT AUCTION** on the stage. Past Fairs have included such items as Sporting Event Tickets, Use of a Vacation Home, Hosting a Dinner Party, Babysitting, Movie Tickets, Gift Baskets, Handcrafted Items, Yard Work Service, Home Repairs Service, Art Work, Holiday Decorations, Spa or Restaurant Gift Certificates, and Skin Care products. Use these ideas for some possible donations, or add something new of your own imagining! Let the bidding begin!

Just around the corner in the classrooms is where you will find the **MEDIA and MORE ROOM** with BOOKS, DVDs, CDs, PUZZLES & GAMES. This part of the Fair is organized and staffed by our High School Youth Group – The God Squad – and they need your donations! Note: Children's books are the items most requested by our shoppers! Please leave donations on the stage beginning Sunday, November 17, marked "CCC Fair," and thanks for supporting our teens!



Treat yourself to lunch! The **LUNCHEON CAFE** is always a highlight of the Fair. Chief chef Doug Drake will oversee the advanced preparations of traditional Fair favorites and some menu surprises, thanks to Doug's culinary creativity! Jay Hungate will run the kitchen on the day of the Fair and he will need a strong kitchen crew, so please help here if you are able! The Cafe is open from 11:15 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Dine early for best selection!



Do you enjoy the coffee that is served each Sunday at Coffee Hour? Visit the **SAM** (Social Action and Missions) Table and buy some **Fair Trade coffee** to take home or give as a gift to your coffee-loving friends! Also available, **Fair Trade chocolate!!!**

This will be the fourth year that we will have a corner of Fellowship Hall dedicated to the "**SPECIALTY SHOPPES**." CCC members and friends are invited to sell their handmade items for profit. If you make jewelry, quilts, pottery, wooden items, note cards, soup kits, gift baskets, candy, children's items, artwork, sculpture –

this is a business opportunity for you! For a table fee of just \$30.00, come sell your hand-crafted items at the CCC Fair!

Returning to the Fair, **TREASURE ISLAND!** Many thanks Cynthia Dorman for volunteering to bring back this CCC Fair favorite! Donations of items that are of good quality, such as wedding gifts that weren't quite your taste, will be perfect for this elegant corner of the Fair.

If we receive sufficient donations, we will also offer a **CHRISTMAS SHOPPE**, so peek in your closets and attic to see if you have holiday items to donate! 'Tis the season to move along those decorations that never leave their storage boxes!



Maybe what you have to offer to the Fair is YOURSELF! The gift of time is one of the greatest there is, and cheerful volunteers are needed to staff each of the tables throughout the five hours of the Fair. You will meet members of our CCC family you may have only seen in passing at Sunday coffee hour, and working together makes the day so much fun! Also needed are **SET-UP** workers on Thursday, November 21 at 6:30 p.m. and Friday, November 22 at 9:00 a.m. The **CLEAN-UP** team begins at 1:45 p.m. on Saturday at the end of the Fair. So, table workers, behind-the-scenes work crew, bakers, donors, SHOPPERS! All are needed and necessary to make the 2019 Fair a success! I'm counting on you; let me know how you would like to help! We welcome any talent or treasure you have to offer!

See you at the Fair!
Lynn Horton, Fair Chair
978-256-8524, lynn@terpsoft.com

If you have questions concerning any of the tables, please contact the following chairpersons:

Bake Sale Table	Dory Toppan
Craft Table	Karen Papenfuss
Homemade Apple Pies	Therese Burdo
Jewelry Table	Nancy Clark and Daphne Freeman
Plant Table	Helen Glinos
Silent Auction Table	Marcia Cassidy and Lynn Horton
Treasure Island Table	Cynthia Dorman
Specialty Shoppes Tables	Lynn Horton
Media Room	God Squad, Steve Hartigan, and Will Hargett
SAM Fair Trade Coffee	Ellen Kunkel

Many thanks to these dedicated and tireless chairs for their hard work!

The November Fair is fast approaching and Nancy Clark and Dee Freeman would like to remind the members of CCC that although our jewelry table is always a success, we could never achieve this without the help and generosity of the ladies (and men) of CCC. Please contribute any jewelry that you do not wear or like anymore to our cause, and we will clean and repair if needed. We will appreciate any trinkets or baubles that you contribute and it could be just what someone is hoping to find. Also, we are in great need of **small boxes!** Please contact Dee at 978-256-2944. Thank you!

What's Happening at CCC!

MAKE A DIFFERENCE SUNDAY! NOVEMBER 3, 2019

Join your CCC family and friends for this special day of worship, fellowship, and action!

On November 3, following worship, we'll have brunch in Fellowship Hall. (Thank you, Laurie M-C and Doug Drake!) After brunch, we will break into work teams and go out into the community to do service projects.

Planned Projects/Activities:

- "Hope in A Box" packing and box decoration
- Visit Homebound, recovering Church Members, and/or Nursing Homes
- Bruce Freeman Rail Trail Clean Up
- Community Garden Clean Up
- Teen project

This is the **third** autumn Make a Difference event and we have shown CCC really can make a difference in just one day! Let's do it again!! It is not too late to join a work team! Contact Lynn Horton, Jen Stuart, or Pastor Rich.

CONFIRMATION CLASS Schedule for November

Sunday, November 3 – the class participates in Make a Difference Day

Sunday, November 17 – our first regular class at 11:30 a.m. in room 302

VOLUNTEER FOR HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Volunteer Work Day for Habitat for Humanity for **Saturday, November 9th**. We will need a crew of 6-8 volunteers to participate in a local HFH build site (details to follow). Interested folks can email me with any questions at bellevilledavid@gmail.com

COME TO CCC FOR FUN AND (BOARD) GAMES DAY!

All ages are invited to come and play! Please join us on **Sunday, November 10th** from 2:00 – 5:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Bring light snacks and drinks to share, if you wish!

Event schedule: 2:00 – 2:10 – Gather and choose games to play
2:10 – 3:10 – Session 1 (quicker games; mixer)
3:10 – 3:15 – Break and choose groups for Session 2
3:15 – 3:30 – Rules (each table/game will have a "coach")
3:30 – 5:00 – Session 2 (longer games with single play)

Games available:

Session 1 For Sale, No Thanks, Qwixx, Bonanza, Azul, Hey That's My Fish, Love Letters, Codewords

Session 2 Carcassonne, Cataan, RFTG, Ticket to Ride, Dominion, Pandemic

Big groups Sabateur, Bang, The Resistance

Easy plays Go Go Gelato, Dog Eat Hot Dog, Uno, Animal Upon Animal, Tok Tok Woodman, Phase 10, Tsuro

You can bring your favorite games, too! RSVP to Lynn Horton, 978-256-8524, Lynn@terpsoft.com

Fun and Board Game Day is being hosted by the Chapman and Horton Families

JUAREZ GOMES' 20TH ANNIVERSARY AT CCC!



Juarez Gomes has been our church custodian for over 20 years. He and his wife, Beth, have continued to do a tremendous job keeping the church clean and ready for the many events that take place on a weekly basis. So it with great joy that we will be recognizing this milestone by presenting Juarez and Beth with the gifts we have been collecting on **Sunday, November 17**. We have been blessed to have two such conscientious people working together when we only hired Juarez. They have kept this church cleaner than any other church that I have been into.

If you have already contributed to the gift for Juarez, thank you. If you have not contributed, please do by dropping off a donation to the church office marked for "Juarez Gift" or by putting your donation in the Sunday offering clearly marked the same way.

Dick Papenfuss, Council President

KIDS CLUB

Kids in grades K-5 are invited to join us for Kids Club on **Tuesdays, November 19, January 14, and March 17 at 6:00 p.m.** We will get together for a pizza dinner and then enjoy a craft, game, or something fun! Each event will cost \$5.00 per child. Look for more information as each date gets closer. If you have any questions, contact Carolyn Chapman at carolyndarlene@gmail.com

KiSeLo – Kindness, Service, Love

KiSeLo invites all women of the church to our monthly meeting on **Wednesday, November 20th**, at 1:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. At the time of writing this, we do not have hostesses for November. Please contact Carol Boucek if you would like to volunteer. Our hostesses will serve us coffee, tea, and dessert. For our program we will be celebrating our many blessings . . . the things we're thankful for. Pastor Rich will be joining us to add to our Blessings booklet and talk about how gratitude can improve your attitude. If you haven't submitted your poem, quotation, memory, prayer or a simple "I'm grateful for _____" for the Blessings booklet, please send it to Karen Papenfuss dickandkarenp@verizon.net. Come join the discussion and bring your questions along.

Each month we ask KiSeLo members to bring a food donation for Open Pantry, so we hope to see you arriving with canned vegetables (or any other non-perishable) this month. If you have any questions, please contact me at 978-930-6830 or deb@dandelyons.net. Hope to see YOU on November 20th!

Deb Lyons, President

JUST ANOTHER MISSION PROJECT AT CCC

KiSeLo has a basket in the narthex to collect used eyeglasses. This month 126 pairs of glasses were taken to Massachusetts Eye Associates, where they were picked up by the Lions Club. The Lions Club cleans and repairs the used eyewear, which are then distributed worldwide to people who don't have access to affordable eye care and corrective lenses. Donating eyeglass frames is an easy way to help people who can't function normally because they can't see well to do basic everyday tasks, such as reading, writing, cooking, and earning a living. Thank you for your donations. Keep up the good work!

COMMUNION CLASS – SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24TH

This year's Communion Class is now scheduled for **Sunday, November 24th** following worship. The class is for children in 4th grade and older. We'll learn about the meaning of Holy Communion as well as bake the bread to be used the following Sunday in worship. The kids "First Communion" will be on Sunday, December 1st. Please contact Pastor Rich for more information and to sign up.

LUNCH WITH THE PASTOR

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

Boy Scout Troop 74 News!

TIME TO CLEAN OUT!

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, November 2** from 9 a.m. – noon.

We cannot accept: torn, dirty or broken furniture, mattresses or box springs, child car seats, cribs, tires, large appliances, microwaves, old tube-type TV's and computer monitors, large exercise equipment, or winter sports equipment. Any questions, please call 978-935-9474. Thank you!

QUICK BREADS JUST IN TIME FOR THE HOLIDAYS!

Troop 74 is selling quick bread for \$5 until November 10th. They will be delivered on November 22nd. Flavors are: Banana, Apple, Pumpkin, Mocha Chocolate Chip, Peach Basil, Sugar Free Banana, and Gluten Free Chocolate Brownies. If you are interested, Nicholas Bottomley will be selling them at Coffee Hour on November 3 and November 10 or you can email him at gwen.bottomley@gmail.com. Thanks for your continued support of the Scouting Program.

CHRISTMAS IS COMING!

HO! HO! HO!

Yes, it is that magical time of the year again! Christmas trees are coming again. The truck of Christmas trees will be arriving on **Saturday, November 16 at 7:00 a.m.** We will need more help than usual this year to unload since the scouts will be camping that weekend. A sign-up sheet will be available on November 3.

The tree stand will be set up on Friday, November 29 at 9:00 a.m. Sales will start on Saturday, November 30. Extra help will be needed on three Saturdays – November 30, December 7, and December 14 – as I will not be available until 6:00 p.m. those days.

This year we will be opening the stand at 2:00 p.m. during the week to lessen the need for help during the day. We will continue to open at 10:00 a.m. on Saturdays and immediately after church on Sundays. The work shifts will still be two hours leaving many opportunities for everyone to help. We continue to encourage everyone to help, members/non-members, young/old, men/women, experienced/non-experienced and groups. If you have not done it before, we will find someone who has to work with you. If you have any questions, please see me, as I will be making weekly announcements until all the trees and wreaths are sold. *Dick Papenfuss*



Is it too soon to talk about Christmas? Heavens no! November is the perfect time to start your holiday shopping! Do you have relatives in other parts of the country? Looking for a blanket or LEGO set for your great-aunt or grandkids? Need to replace those old Christmas tree lights? Amazon has it all and AmazonSmile is a great way to shop! Using AmazonSmile generates donations to the church, and the more you shop with AmazonSmile, the more it helps CCC's programs and missions.

Remember, you can also tell your friends and family to use AmazonSmile and designate CCC as the receiving charity! They don't need to be CCC members or even live in Massachusetts!

You can use AmazonSmile to "check out" when you buy anything on Amazon! Just be sure to use <http://smile.amazon.com>!

If anyone needs assistance with using AmazonSmile or setting up an Amazon account, please send an email to amazonsmile@cccchelmsford.org and we'll help you out!

Our Church Committees in Action!

HOUSE COMMITTEE

Now that summer is behind us, we turn our attention toward the winter. Air conditioners out, storm windows down. The irrigation system is put to bed, and the snow blower is serviced. The boiler has passed its start-up evaluation. We're ready to face all the challenges the cold weather throws our way.

SECRET SANTA from SOCIAL ACTION AND MISSIONS (SAM) COMMITTEE

SAM will be looking for elves again this year to help with Secret Santa. Names will be available on November 24th and December 1st. We will be collecting gifts on the December 1st and 8th. *Shhhhh! SAM*



“Neighbors in Need” – Our Faith, Our Voice, Our Vote

“Don’t burn out; keep yourselves fueled and aflame. Be alert servants of the Master, cheerfully expectant. Don’t quit in hard times; pray all the harder. Help needy Christians; be inventive in hospitality.”
Romans 12:12 MSG

Neighbors in Need (NIN) is a special UCC mission offering that supports works of justice and compassion in the United States and abroad. Two-thirds of all the NIN offering goes to towards supporting program initiatives and direct grants offered through the UCC’s Justice and Witness Ministries. This years’ special support will be directed to students, schools, and staff by offering aid to mental health counselors as well as the retention of ‘good teachers’. Neighbors in Need set forth an agenda to increase the funding for mental health counselors so that students have a 250:1 ratio. This ratio is the minimum needed to provide basic support for our students. Retaining our best teachers is key to the success of our school system. Increasing teacher pay is essential to this goal.

NIN grants are awarded to UCC churches and organizations doing justice work in their communities. These grants fund projects whose work ranges from direct service to community organizing and advocacy to address systemic injustice.

Neighbors in Need Donations Help Support:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| *Mental Health Awareness | *Immigration Justice |
| *Environmental Justice | *Voting Rights |
| *LGBTQ Advocacy & Youth Services | *Health Care |
| *Poverty Initiatives | *Erase the Hate Campaign |

Whether it’s helping to build a home, providing mental health first aid training, offering a safe haven to LGBTQ teens to adding a gardening space to grow, harvest, and sell more produce while transforming the lives of a community, together, we make a difference.

To make your donations, please use the envelope in the November Sunday bulletins or send a check to church with “Neighbors in Need” on the memo line. For more information, contact Arlene Belleville or visit www.ucc.org/nin

LOWELL TRANSITIONAL LIVING CENTER – TWO MORE WEEKS TO DONATE

The SAM Committee is continuing its October mission to support the Lowell Transitional Living Center (LTLC). LTLC is the largest homeless shelter north of Boston with 90 beds and 70 emergency beds.

A collection box will be in the Narthex for donations until November 10th. Please consider donating items from the following list (listed in order of most need):

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|--|--|
| 1. Socks (urgent need) | 9. Sneakers | 16. Canned food |
| 2. Men & Women Razors | 10. Boxer shorts (new) | 17. Unscented lotion (travel size) |
| 3. T-Shirts | 11. Men's and women's underwear
(new) | 18. Toothpaste (travel size) |
| 4. Blouses for women | 12. Plus size clothing XXL and up | 19. Toothbrushes |
| 5. Shirts | 13. Deodorant | 20. Soap |
| 6. Bottoms (Pants and Skirts) | 14. Cereal | 21. Shampoo and Conditioner
(travel size) |
| 7. Jeans | 15. Coffee | 22. Combs |
| 8. Leggings | | |

Ministries in Our Church

COMMUNION TABLE FOR THANKSGIVING SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24th



For the past few years, we have created a beautiful bounty of fresh fruits and vegetables on our Communion Table for Thanksgiving Sunday. The Diaconate is once again asking for your help to create an overflowing cornucopia of fresh fruits and vegetables. You can either bring in your contribution on Saturday to the Holiday Fair and give it to Karen Papenfuss at the craft table or bring it on Sunday morning. The donations will be taken to the Open Pantry.

Thank you in advance for sharing your bounty with others this season of Thanksgiving. If you have any questions, please call Karen Papenfuss at 978-256-6801.

GOOD SAMARITAN FUND

This Fall the Deacons changed the name of the "Worship & Care Fund," to the "Good Samaritan Fund." This is because 100% of the donations into this fund are used to help those in need, almost always locally, as we regularly get requests for help. *Donations using the Communion Envelopes go into the Good Samaritan Fund.* Thank you for your assistance in helping us help others. Sounds like church!

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

We have some very faithful cooks and meal planners in our congregation, however we could always use a few more. It is wonderful to know that when there is a need for meals, we have volunteers to help.

In times of need, a friendly face and a meal is a true gift. Please keep this thought, this is a ministry of caring; it will bring love and blessings to your life as well as to those you bless with a meal or two. Join us in this wonderful endeavor. Please call or email me, 978-256-9159, or vrh9159@comcast.net. *With Gratitude, Ginnie Hall*

PRAYER MINISTRY

The Prayer Ministry is always dedicated in their prayers for others, and if you feel the need for someone to pray for you, your family, or friends, please do not hesitate to call the Prayer Ministry at CCC.

We all pray for many different reasons, and we ask for God's help and blessings for those who need courage, strength, healing, hope, and comfort . . . as only God can give them.

There are many Bible verses that encourage us to pray.

Jeremiah 29:12-13. "You will call on me and pray to me and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you search with all of your heart".

Mark 11:24 "Therefore I say unto you, what things you desire, when you pray, believe that you will receive them and you shall have them".

The Prayer Ministry is here for you, so let us know if you would like prayers given for your family, friends, or other needs. If you would like to become part of our Prayer Ministry please contact: Ginnie Hall at vrh9159@comcast.net; Wendy Perry at wperry39@comcast.net or Daphne Freeman at uklady446@yahoo.com



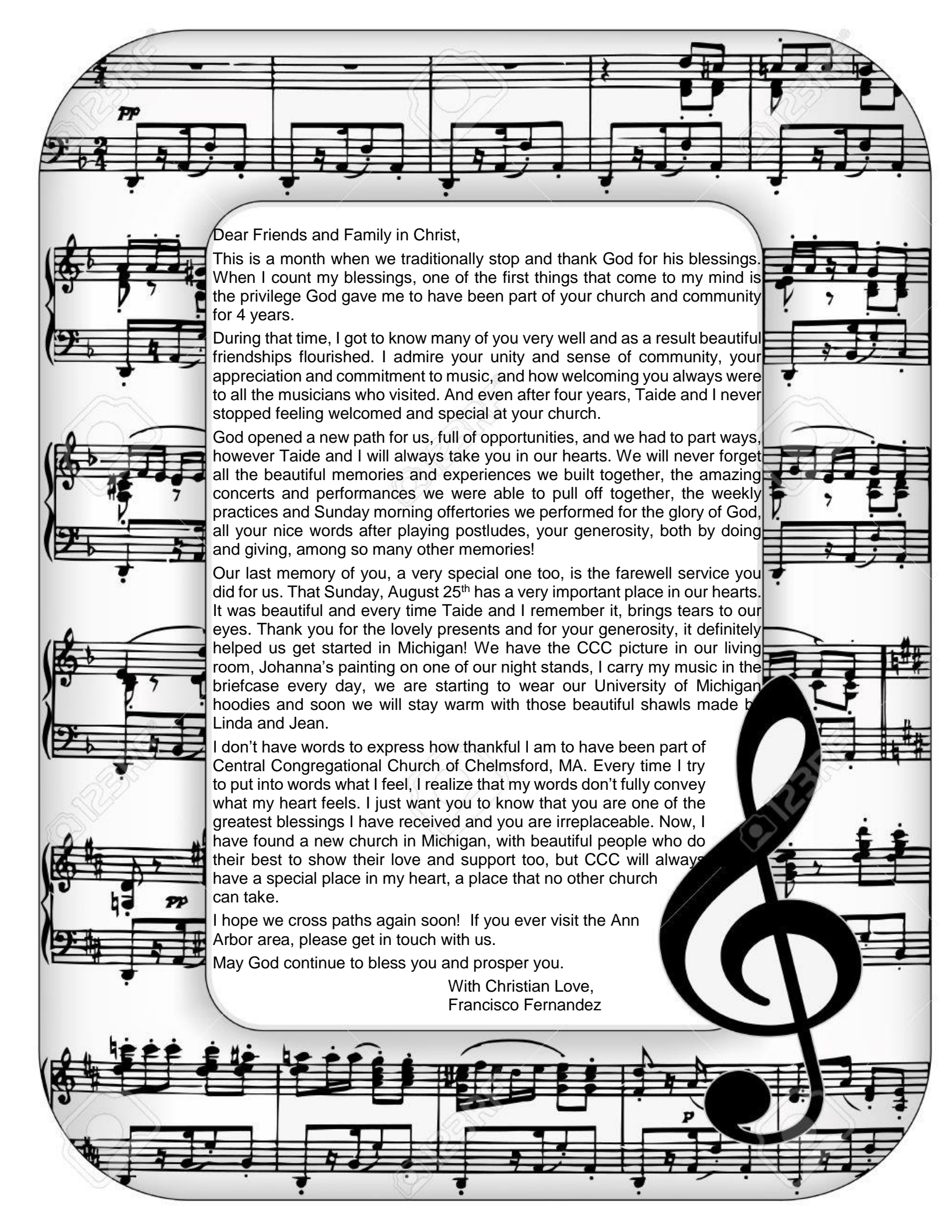
Please join us on **Tuesday, November 12th**, at 7 p.m. at the Carson home for an evening of fellowship as we create shawls that will bring joy to those in need of love and care. We meet on the second Tuesday of each month. *Linda Carson*

CHRISTCARE

The Tuesday night ChristCare group will be reading and discussing The Way of Prayer in November. We meet on the second and fourth Tuesdays, from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. Anyone is welcome to join us; please contact Deb Lyons at 978-930-6830 or deb@dandelyons.net, so we will know to expect you.

COMMUNITY GARDEN

The garden has given its all and is ready to be put to bed on November 3rd as part of Make A Difference Sunday. The final tally is not yet in, but one harvest day we picked 73 pounds of tomatoes! Due to physical limitations on my part, I'm not able to continue as garden coordinator. We're looking for a new coordinator for this very important ministry. If you have questions about it or think you might be interested, call Mary Horne at 978-729-5632.



Dear Friends and Family in Christ,

This is a month when we traditionally stop and thank God for his blessings. When I count my blessings, one of the first things that come to my mind is the privilege God gave me to have been part of your church and community for 4 years.

During that time, I got to know many of you very well and as a result beautiful friendships flourished. I admire your unity and sense of community, your appreciation and commitment to music, and how welcoming you always were to all the musicians who visited. And even after four years, Taide and I never stopped feeling welcomed and special at your church.

God opened a new path for us, full of opportunities, and we had to part ways, however Taide and I will always take you in our hearts. We will never forget all the beautiful memories and experiences we built together, the amazing concerts and performances we were able to pull off together, the weekly practices and Sunday morning offertories we performed for the glory of God, all your nice words after playing postludes, your generosity, both by doing and giving, among so many other memories!

Our last memory of you, a very special one too, is the farewell service you did for us. That Sunday, August 25th has a very important place in our hearts. It was beautiful and every time Taide and I remember it, brings tears to our eyes. Thank you for the lovely presents and for your generosity, it definitely helped us get started in Michigan! We have the CCC picture in our living room, Johanna's painting on one of our night stands, I carry my music in the briefcase every day, we are starting to wear our University of Michigan hoodies and soon we will stay warm with those beautiful shawls made by Linda and Jean.

I don't have words to express how thankful I am to have been part of Central Congregational Church of Chelmsford, MA. Every time I try to put into words what I feel, I realize that my words don't fully convey what my heart feels. I just want you to know that you are one of the greatest blessings I have received and you are irreplaceable. Now, I have found a new church in Michigan, with beautiful people who do their best to show their love and support too, but CCC will always have a special place in my heart, a place that no other church can take.

I hope we cross paths again soon! If you ever visit the Ann Arbor area, please get in touch with us.

May God continue to bless you and prosper you.

With Christian Love,
Francisco Fernandez

Notices & Announcements

ANNOUNCEMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS!

Have you seen our new announcements insert in the bulletin? We know it's a bit clumsy as it sticks out from the worship bulletin, but we want to highlight this insert and have you take it home to refer to during the week. Even in this digital age, something tangible on the kitchen counter can still be quite helpful!

MILESTONES

Our prayers are with the family of Dotty Morris who passed away on October 12th at her home surrounded by her husband, four children, and grandchildren. Dotty was a longtime member of the church and a dear and gracious lady. A memorial service was held on October 25th at the church. Memorial donations in Dotty's name may be made to Central Congregational Church.

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. No one has signed up, so **there are many weeks available**. 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:

November 3rd for Cynthia, Scott and Will Dorman in loving memory of Andrew Scott Dorman

November 10th for Cathy Center in memory of loved ones.

November 17th with Happy Thanksgiving wishes from the Bruetsch family.

November 24th for Carol Engel in celebration of her daughter, Dawn's, birthday and with a Happy Thanksgiving wish to All.

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 Church Office will be closed on **Thursday and Friday, November 28th and 29th** for Thanksgiving.
- ✓ The December *Beacon* deadline is **Monday, November 18th** with a mailing/emailing date of November 27th.
- ✓ 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.

Calendar November



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

November 2019



**Come to the Holiday Fair
 Saturday, November 23rd
 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.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"

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	Tudor Bota	978-772-3173	tudorbota@gmail.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
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 October 30, 2019.