

Central Congregational Church

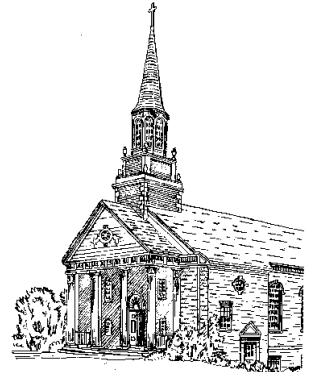
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

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



Weekly Announcements for November 7, 2019

- ✓ Make A Difference – thank You!
- ✓ Fun and Board Game Day – Sunday, November 10th
- ✓ Advent Festival – Sunday, December 1st
- ✓ Good Samaritan Fund (formerly Worship & Care Fund)
- ✓ Sermon Central
- ✓ Quick Bread for the Holidays – Order Now!!
- ✓ “20th Anniversary for Juarez” Collection
- ✓ Christmas Trees are coming – November 16th
- ✓ Kids Club – November 19th
- ✓ Holiday Fair – Saturday, November 23rd
- ✓ Jewelry for the Fair Needed NOW!
- ✓ Contributions for Lowell Transitional Living Center thru November 10th
- ✓ SAM’s November Focus – Neighbors in Need

Mission Sunday and Make A Difference Day – Thank You!!

“Mission is messy!” Pastor Rich said this to me recently when I was worried that the large collection box in the church narthex might detract from a funeral service. He helped me to reframe my view of the situation, and indeed to appreciate the visible signs of our church’s commitment to serving others! A church with things going on has collection piles and the buzz of good deeds in action! Sunday, November 3 was that kind of day! The worship service was energized with the personal accounts of CCC mission work and the singing of hymns that speak to service! Many thanks to our wonderful mission speakers, Lily Chapman (Make A Difference Week Summer Camp), Emma Hartigan (West Virginia Mission), Josh Timmins (Down East Maine Mission), Hayley Horton (City Reach Mission), Mary Horne (Community Garden), Ellen Kunkel (Social Action and Mission, and St. Paul Soup Kitchen), and Dale Williams (Open Pantry). Thank you to Pastor Rich for creating the slide show that highlighted so many of CCC’s service ministries and mission works, and thank you to all the members of CCC who support our church in Making A Difference in our community and the wider world, throughout the year!

Following the worship service, a delicious brunch prepared by Laurie Montgomery-College and Doug Drake fortified the sixty members of our church family who were able to stay and enjoy the meal. Thank you, Laurie and Doug! Teams then headed to the various service projects (and the choir headed upstairs for concert rehearsal!) The Fall 2019 Make A Difference Day projects included Community Garden Clean Up, Bruce Freeman Rail Trail Clean Up, Raking the yard of a CCC couple, and decorating and filling “Hope in a Box” food boxes for people in need. Some of us got a little more messy than others on Sunday, but all worked hard and **Made A Difference!! Thank you!!!** *Lynn Horton, Jennifer Stuart, and Pastor Rich*

Come to CCC for Fun and (Board) Games Day this **Sunday, November 10**, 2019 from 2:00 – 5:00 pm in Fellowship Hall. Bring light snacks and drinks to share, if you wish! *All ages are invited to come and play!* RSVP to Lynn Horton (978) 256-8524 Lynn@terpssoft.com Hosted by the Chapman and Horton Families

Advent Festival on December 1st What is Advent? Advent (from the Latin word “adventus” meaning “coming”) is a season observed by Christians – a time of expectant waiting and preparation for the celebration

of the birth of Jesus at Christmas. It begins on the fourth Sunday before Christmas Day (this year that day is Sunday, December 1st) and ends on Christmas Eve. We gather together for a potluck lunch, create Advent and Christmas crafts, and make an Advent wreath to take home. This is great fun for the whole family and the children love it! The potluck lunch is always yummy. Please come to the Advent Festival. Mark your calendar for **Sunday, December 1st** at 11:30 a.m. Sign-ups for our Advent Festival will begin this Sunday, November 10th during coffee hour. Questions? Contact Jen Stuart at jen.stuart@cccchelmsford.org or 978-905-1895.

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!

Sermon Central. Last Sunday's sermon, "On Faith/Doubt" is posted on our website, cccchelmsford.org. Doubt's relationship to faith is a subject we probably don't talk about enough. Check it out. This Sunday Pastor Rich will try to answer a question that came up during "Ask the Pastors," namely, if the Bible was written by men, why do we call it the Word of God?

Quick Breads just in time for the Holidays! Troop 74 is selling quick bread for \$5 until November 10. They will be delivered on November 22. 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.

Juarez Gomes 20th Work Anniversary! Juarez Gomes, our church custodian, has now worked for us over 20 years. Juarez and his wife, Beth, have kept this church cleaner than any other church I have seen. They have taken personal pride in doing their job well. We have been blessed to have them working for us. To celebrate Juarez's 20th anniversary, we are taking up a collection of gifts to present to him and his wife on Sunday, November 17th. Please send your contribution to this gift to the church office or put a check in the offering plate clearly marked "Juarez Gift". *Dick Papenfuss, Council President*

Christmas trees are coming. 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 TODAY!

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

SAVE THE DATE! HOLIDAY FAIR NOVEMBER 23rd! 9 am to 2 pm

Just a few weeks 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! Volunteers, donors, and shoppers are all needed to make this church fundraiser a success!

- What you can do now –
- Sign up at coffee hour to help staff a table, bake apple pies, assist with set up or clean up. See Lynn Horton!
- Start filling a box at home with donation items for the God Squad's "Media and More" Room. (Books, games, puzzles, DVDs, CDs.)
- Buy a gift card to donate to the Silent Auction. You can double the benefit to CCC when you buy a gift card from the church Scrip fundraiser. See Sue Mirisola!
- Look through closets and other nooks and crannies of your home for items you can donate to the "Christmas Shoppe" or the "Treasure Island" table.
- Buy the ingredients you'll need to bake a sweet treat for the "Baked Goods" table.
- Spread the word about our Fair! Invite your family, friends, neighbors, co-workers....

Thank you for planning ahead! Thank you for contributing! Thank you for doing your part to make the 2019 Fair a success! *Lynn Horton, Fair Chair, 978-256-8524, <lynn@terpsoft.com>*

If you have questions concerning any of the Fair 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!

Jewelry Donations for the Fair are requested as soon as possible!! Please remember it takes the ladies a significant amount of time and attention to assess, clean, price, and prepare the jewelry for sale. October is the month to bring your donations to church! You may drop them off in the office during the week, see Daphne Freeman or Lynn Horton on Sunday mornings, or arrange for pick up at your home. (Contact Lynn Horton) Thank you for your help and timely attention to this request!

Last chance to contribute! The Social Action and Missions 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.

SAM's November Mission is Neighbors in Need (NIN), 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. Please use the envelope in your bulletin.

Lunch with the Pastor is held every Tuesday at noon in Room 202.

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