



# THE BEACON

## THE BEACON

a worshipping praying learning caring outreaching community

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*CENTRAL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH*

United Church of Christ

*An Open and Affirming Congregation*

VOLUME 68 NUMBER 6

JUNE 2023

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## *June Highlights*

**Sunday, June 4 at 10 am**

Honoring Our Graduates

**Sunday, June 4 at 6:00 pm**

All-church campfire

**Sunday, June 11 at 10 am**

Youth Sunday followed by Annual Church Picnic

**June Movie Discussions**

Monday, June 12 – “Philadelphia”

Monday, June 26 – “The Danish Girl”

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## A MESSAGE FROM OUR NEW OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

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Hello! I'm Peggy Kelly and I am excited to be joining the staff at CCC! I have many years of administrative experience, having worked for both large and small companies and also as a church administrator for two churches. My husband, Stew, and I live in Billerica with our dog, Riley. We have been blessed with two great kids, Katy and Jamie (I say 'kids' even though they're adults). Community Congregational Church in Billerica (another CCC - hopefully that won't get confusing for me) is where we worship and where I serve in senior leadership and family ministry. Some of my favorite things are sweaty workouts, gardening, family time, hockey, reading, and a good nap. I have trained/worked as a health and nutrition coach (yes, I'm a 'kale person') and like all things wellness-related. On June 4, I am planning to attend the worship service and coffee hour at CCC and am looking forward to meeting folks! My office hours are Tues–Thursday from 8:30-1:00.

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## NIGHT LINES

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You've probably heard of the "Elevator Talk." It's where you summarize your company, your non-profit, or even what you have to offer a new company, in the length of an average elevator ride. Church consultants suggest that parishioners practice elevator talks when it comes to one's personal faith as well as regarding one's congregation. What does it mean to you to be a Christian? And, what does it mean to you to belong to Central Congregational Church? Another great elevator talk would be this: What is CCC all about? What is unique about our church?

A few years ago, we described our church this way: *A Community of Faith, Hope, and Love, Growing through Worship and Service*. That's a good start to an elevator talk. CCC is a place where you can grow in faith – through meaningful worship and service to others – have your hope renewed, and experience the love of God and the love of a caring community. I experience our church this way and hope you do, too.

As I prepared the slide show for the annual meeting, one very unique thing stood out to me. We're a church that involves our children and youth in outreach and mission. CCC Kids grow up learning to serve others by serving others! It's part of the DNA of our church. I've never been part of a church that involved children in hands-on outreach like our church does, and it's inspiring. This aspect of our church should be something we share with others – over a cup of coffee, watching a game with another parent, standing in the pick-up line at school, even on an elevator ride!

*Serving Christ with You,  
Pastor Rich*

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## PASTORAL WORD ABOUT PRIDE MONTH

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June is "Pride Month" for our LGBTQ friends and neighbors. This year it feels more important than ever, as many states are making it very uncomfortable and unwelcoming for this often-marginalized community. You've seen the headlines - a teacher in Florida is being "investigated" for showing a Disney movie that had a gay character in it. Remember, "Don't Say Gay?" Originally it applied to classes up through 3rd grade. Now it's up through high school. Utah just banned gender-affirming healthcare for all minors. 21 states are considering similar bans. What troubles me is that much of the driving force behind this "go back in the closet" movement comes from Christians. Apparently, 'love your neighbor' doesn't include *all* of one's neighbors. It also bothers me greatly that much of the anti-gay, anti-trans feelings and initiatives are based on the fear that if it's too much out in the open other kids might be influenced to become gay or trans, as if it's simply a choice. To which I reply, why would anyone choose it? What are the advantages in today's world? I still don't see any.



Our LGBTQ friends and neighbors need our support, our voices, and our love! And not just this month, but every month. *Pastor Rich*



# *Class of 2023*

*Central Congregational Church offers joyous congratulations  
to our graduates and their families.*



## **High School Graduates**

**Will Dorman** is graduating from Chelmsford High School. He will be attending Ithaca College to study film production and screenwriting.

**Bennett Prees** will be attending Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI) in Troy, Ny after graduating from Chelmsford High School. Bennett will be studying mechanical engineering.

**Esperanza Ana Ruth Raye** is graduating from Nashoba Valley Technical High School and plans to continue working at Lil' Sprouts Day Care teaching infants and toddlers.

**Alek Rudewicz** is graduating from Greater Lowell Technical High School in Tyngsboro. He will be serving in the National Guard and then will go to Vermont Tech to study auto and diesel tech. Aleck will continue to run his small engine repair business.

**Jonathan Walsh** is graduating from Chelmsford High School and will go to Middlesex Community College to study fire protection and safety.



## **College Graduates**

**Mitchell Bottomley** earned his Bachelor of Science in Accounting from the Charlton College of Business at UMASS Dartmouth. Mitchell is working for an accounting firm in Westport MA and plans to work toward a Master's degree in accounting.

**Olivia Hungate** graduated from the University of New Hampshire with a BS in Business Administration. Olivia is focusing on Finance and then plans to work in banking.

**Samuel R. Knight**, son of Pastor Rich, graduated Summa Cum Laude from the Berklee College of Music in Boston.

**Hunter Lyons**, graduated from U Mass Lowell, Kennedy College of Sciences, with a Bachelor of Science in Biology - Ecology, Evolution and Organismal Biology Option.

**Michael Rudewicz** graduated Magna Cum Laud from the University of New Hampshire with a Bachelor of Science in Homeland Security. Michael also serves in the NH National Guard. He plans to attend law school.

## **Post Graduates**

**Lauren Pichette Trott** graduated with a Masters in Social Work from Salem State University.

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## **WHAT'S HAPPENING?**

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### **ALL-CHURCH CAMPFIRE!**

On **Sunday, June 4 at 6:00 pm**, we will hold our "All-Church Campfire" in Carson Park. We'll roast marshmallows over the new fire pit and make s'mores for all to enjoy! We'll also do some campfire singing! Please bring a lawn chair or blanket to sit on. Contact Pastor Rich or Jennifer Hart for more information.

### **JUNE MOVIE GROUP**

The CCC Movie Group is open to all! Watch the movie(s) on your own, then join the group on Zoom at 7:00 pm on "Movie Mondays" to discuss. Contact Lynn Horton for the Zoom link, if you have questions, or if you have difficulty accessing the movies!

## June Movie Group

**Monday, 6/12 – “Philadelphia” (1993).** Fearing it would compromise his career, lawyer Andrew Beckett (Tom Hanks) hides his homosexuality and HIV status at a powerful Philadelphia law firm. His secret is exposed when a colleague spots the illness's telltale lesions. Fired shortly afterwards, Beckett resolves to sue for discrimination, teaming up with homophobic ambulance chaser Joe Miller (Denzel Washington), the only lawyer willing to help him. In court, they face one of his ex-employer's top litigators, Belinda Conine (Mary Steenburgen). Directed by Jonathan Demme, who said to Mary Steenburgen at the time of filming, “Mary, it’s not about AIDS. It’s about everyone in this country is entitled to justice – they’re entitled to their representation.” It is worth noting that “Philadelphia” was the first major studio film to face the AIDS crisis head-on and make a movie about the epidemic and the gay community. For his performance, Tom Hanks received both the Academy Award and the Golden Globe Award for Best Actor in 1994.



**Monday, 6/26 – “The Danish Girl” (2015)** A fictionalized love story inspired by the lives of Lili Elbe and Gerda Wegener and the ways their marriage and work evolved as they navigated Lili's groundbreaking journey as a transgender pioneer. The film is set in Copenhagen, Denmark, 1926. Einar Wegener (played by Eddie Redmayne) and his wife Gerda (Alicia Vikander) are a happily married couple. Both are artists, Einar preferring landscapes and Gerda portraits. Lili's awakening begins when Gerda asks Einar to pose in women's clothing for one of her portraits. This is initially done as a lark, as is the later attendance at a party dressed as a woman. However, Einar discovers that she prefers being Lili and is in fact a woman. At first, she and Gerda try to have her situation "cured" but this leads nowhere (other than to many doctors trying to have Lili locked up as a pervert and/or lunatic). Lili's voyage of self-discovery ultimately leads to her being among the early recipients of gender-affirming surgery.



## **KiSeLo – Kindness, Service, Love**

There are no official KiSeLo meetings in the summer, but we usually meet for fellowship and ice cream at some point. Check the all-church announcements each week for news of any plans! In the meantime, please put 1:00 PM, Wednesday, September 27, on your calendar for the first meeting of the 2023-2024 year. Enjoy your summer activities! *Deb Lyons, outgoing KiSeLo President*

## **TUESDAY LUNCH BUNCH**

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

## **THURSDAY MORNING HYBRID BIBLE STUDY**

**The Hybrid Bible Study** meets Thursdays at 11:00 am. We just started the Book of Exodus, so now's a great time to jump in! Here's the Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88329140184?pwd=eWs0REFodkhoOGp6M3A2ZEdPc0ZGdz09>

Meeting ID: 883 2914 0184

Passcode: Bible

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## MINISTRIES IN OUR CHURCH

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### MILESTONES

On Sunday, May 21, we baptized Jacob James Roy, the first child of Christopher and Sarah Roy. Jacob was born on October 6, 2022. The Roy's live in Billerica. Christopher grew up in at CCC. Christopher works at the Edith Nourse Rogers Memorial Veterans Hospital in Beford and Saras works at Brightview Assisted Living in Billerica. They love spending time together as a family and taking walks.

### CHRISTCARE SMALL GROUP MINISTRY

Women's ChristCare is meeting at 7:00 PM on June 5 and 19. The first meeting will be via Zoom, but the meeting on the 19th will be in person, in Carson Park! Ice cream will be involved, along with sharing, deep thoughts, laughter, and prayer. New members are welcome at any time. Contact Deb Lyons ([978-930-6830](tel:978-930-6830)) for information.

### PRAYER MINISTRY

Every day I read from a prayer booklet I subscribe to called "Upper Room". The daily readings help me pray for others and give me a focus for the day. Recently I read one titled "Please Pray For Me." The author told about a time she went into the bank and the teller was complaining of leg trouble. Right then and there, they prayed together for relief from pain. The author included the following prayer at the end of the reading:

"Our Father in heaven, thank you for the privilege of prayer. May we never miss an opportunity to pray for others. Amen." *Leigh Sayers*

The CCC prayer ministry does not want to miss an opportunity to pray for those who ask. If you wish to be a part of the Prayer Ministry or have prayer requests for yourself or others, please contact: Daphne Freeman, [uklady446@yahoo.com](mailto:uklady446@yahoo.com), or Wendy Perry, [wperry39@comcast.net](mailto:wperry39@comcast.net).

### DO YOU NEED A RIDE TO CHURCH?

Transportation to Sunday services and other church events is available. **Please call the Church Office at 978-256-5931 before noon on Saturday.** A church deacon will contact you and make the arrangements to drive you to the church.

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## OUR CHURCH COMMITTEES IN ACTION!

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### CCC PHOTO DIRECTORY PROJECT 2023

It is time for a new Church Directory with Photos!! The last CCC Photo Directory was done in 2016! We are seeking volunteers to form a special committee for this project! Are you interested? The committee will research options (professional photography company and directory printing vs. CCC photographer and "in-house" production) and organize the scheduling of the project. Please contact Lynn Horton if you would like to volunteer! It will be great to have an up-to-date directory with all our current CCC members and friends included! Thank you! Lynn Horton [Lynn@terpssoft.com](mailto:Lynn@terpssoft.com) (978) 256-8524

### HAPPY JUNE FROM YOUR CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Your CE Committee is preparing for the end of the school year festivities. We wish to send all of those who are graduating our heartiest congratulations and best of wishes on your new adventures (Graduation Sunday is June 4th).

The Holy Cows Middle School group have been busy with game nights and a camp out. The whole Sunday School enjoyed a glorious morning at Stony Brook Conservation area on our spring hike in May. We enjoyed prayer and fellowship together in the great outdoors. It is perhaps our most beloved Covid-era tradition and the kids look forward to it.

We are busy preparing for Youth Sunday on Sunday, June 11, which will be followed by a picnic lunch. It is a wonderful time to end the school year with celebration and fellowship. On the 11, the kids will run the service and it is a great way to showcase what they have learned this year. As always, thank you for your support of our youth!

### ***CCC Annual Meeting - Sunday, May 21, 2023 - Recap and Thank You!***

The Annual Meeting of Central Congregational Church was held on Sunday, May 21 in Fellowship Hall. 39 members of the congregation attended the meeting, which was held in-person and included a potluck lunch. The meeting was opened at 11:30 am with a prayer by Rev. Dr. John Zachry, Pastor Emeritus.

Peter White was elected Moderator for the meeting and for another year of service. Many thanks to Peter for his continued expertise in this role and for running an efficient meeting each year. Lindsay Moore, appointed by the Council as Assistant Moderator, led the review of the Annual Report.

Items on the Warrant were taken in order, with the following actions:

Article 2 - To celebrate the events of the past year. With joyful appreciation, we shared the many reasons to be grateful for our wonderful staff, church family, and many church ministries and activities. Pastor Rich presented a special slide show that highlighted the work and play of CCC in 2022-2023.

Article 3 - The Slate was elected unanimously as put forward by the Nominating Committee, with a few additions since the printing of the Annual Report. Vacancies remain in the following committees: House, Communications, Sanctuary, Technology, Nominating, SAM, and Members-At-Large. Volunteers may join these committees at any time throughout the year!

Article 4 - Receive the reports of all committees. There were two spelling corrections made to the Capital Campaign Committees' reports, a sentence added to the Technology report to mention the setting up of streaming services in Fellowship Hall for the Sundays when we worshipped in that space while the Sanctuary was being painted, and corrections to the number of people who have participated in multiple DownEast Maine Mission Trips. Julie Carney, Assistant Clerk, identified an additional correction to the years listed in the heading of the Board of Trustees' Audit Subcommittee report. All other reports were unchanged. The Annual Report was accepted by unanimous vote with the noted amendments/corrections.

Article 5 - The proposed Budget for fiscal year 2023-2024 was passed unanimously. Treasurer Dick Papenfuss emphasized that the balanced budget of \$343,148 was only made possible by cutting or reducing several line items, and by relying on \$3074 from the Carryover (Rainy Day) Account and \$3000 in funds from an anticipated budget surplus from the current year. He acknowledged the challenge in this year's Stewardship Campaign and thanked the congregation for supporting the church financially in so many ways.

Thank you to each member of CCC who attended the Annual Meeting!

Sincerely,

Lynn Horton, Council President

### ***2023/2024 BUDGET SUMMARY***

Especially for those of you who were not at the Annual Meeting on Sunday, May 21, I want to give you an update on the budget for fiscal 2023/2024.

The Stewardship Campaign for this year, brought in \$11,000 less than last year. We lost several pledges or had large reductions in giving from people who passed away, moved, or have health conditions that led to life changes. We lost the income from the Indian Group that had met at the church in previous years for a loss of \$7,200 in income. All of these numbers added up to about \$30,000 in lost income. We received six new pledges during the campaign, but they did not come close to making up for the losses.

As a result, there were some major cuts in the budget for next year. We reduced the auto allowance for the minister as well as continuing education for the minister and fund for substitute ministers when Pastor Rich is on vacation. We reduced the amount available for a substitute organist when Tudor is on vacation and eliminated

vacation coverage for the office. We were able to do some minimal reductions in some of the property expenses but had to factor in large increases for natural gas and insurance. We will have less money available for the Maintenance Fund due to the loss of the Indian Group as 25% of all the fees paid for the use of the church went to this fund.

There will be **NO** funding in the budget for the Christian education program or the music program of the church. Fortunately, each of these areas have special funding available outside the budget to allow them to fully cover the costs for next year with no reduction in their programs. Spending for all other committees was either eliminated or severely reduced. There were minor cuts in the office expenses.

The part of the budget that took the hardest hit was in our benevolence giving and support for the Social Action and Mission Committee. We had to cut our support to the Southern New England UCC Conference by 40% from \$11,700 to \$7,000. We also had to drop the portion of the budget set aside for the SAM Committee to work with from 3% to 2%, a loss of \$2,900. All told we had to cut our outreach giving by \$7,600. This seems harsh, but unfortunately this is the one area of the budget where we have the most discretion in what we spend. Salaries, utilities, and insurance take well over two-thirds of our budget and are not areas where we can make cuts as needed. After cutting most committee work to near zero dollars available, all that is left is benevolences.

On the plus side, we were able to give our staff 2.5% increases at a cost of about \$4,000.

To balance the budget, we are counting on a \$3,000 surplus from this fiscal year and are taking \$3,074 from our Rainy Day Account (money previously set aside for this type of situation), to balance the budget for next year. The surplus is not guaranteed as we are still several weeks and a number of bills away from the end of the year on June 30.

I would like to encourage everyone in the congregation, to think about your giving to the church and what the church means to you. We would appreciate if you are able, to increase your giving this coming year to ensure we have a surplus at the end of the year that could be used to help restore some of the cuts we had to make. I have already had one family who has told me they will be increasing their pledge to help. Will you join them?

Dick Papenfuss, Treasurer

## ***WORK IS NEVER DONE FOR OUR HOUSE COMMITTEE!***

The committee will continue to work on the "to-do" list as reported in last month's Beacon. Plumbing problems are always present and addressed as needed. The burnt out lighting unit in Fellowship Hall has finally been replaced. Air conditioners and dehumidifiers will be brought out for the hot weather. Some outdoor issues completed include returning sand that is swept out from the play yard during rain to the sand pit inside the fence. The lawn equipment is ready to go and the irrigation system is going to be tested and put into place. The area behind the two sheds has been cleaned out. An assessment of storage inside 9 Worthen by members of the Trustees, Council, CE, and House has been completed and will help us identify the best use of the house.

Outdoor activities will include many repairs and maintenance to the church building and property. Cracks in both the building and walkways will be filled, damaged areas will be repaired, and paint touch-ups performed as needed. The outside of the main building will be power washed. Inside jobs that might be disruptive to the preschool, such as replacing windows, door hardware, and repairs to the furnace that heats some rooms on the 3rd floor, will be done during summer break.

The contact person for the summer will be Jim Clark. His email is [larry4562.clark@aol.com](mailto:larry4562.clark@aol.com) and phone number 978-483-7663.

## ***NOMINATING COMMITTEE – JOIN A COMMITTEE!***

At the Annual Meeting of CCC on May 21, the congregation elected our church officers and committee members for 2023-2024. Despite the diligent efforts of the Nominating Committee, there were several vacancies on the slate of nominees. There are openings on the **House, Communications, Sanctuary, Technology, Nominating, Social Action and Missions (SAM), and Members-at-Large** committees. There is also a **delegate** to the Southern New England Conference of United Church of Christ (SNEUCC) position available.

Please consider this to be YOUR invitation! Committees with open positions welcome new members at any time throughout the year! Please contact a member of Nominating if you would like more information about these opportunities. We would be delighted to help you find a committee to match your skills, availability, and interests. You meet some great people at CCC through shared committee work! You are needed and encouraged to “self-nominate!” Please do!

Your Nominating Committee,

Lynn Horton, Deb Lyons, Elizabeth Hartigan, and Dory Toppan

## **BUILDING COMMITTEE UPDATE**



The grease trap for the kitchen has been purchased and delivered to the plumber for installation this summer. We met with Andrew Baker to discuss cabinetry additions and alterations. We looked at a cabinet mounted induction cooktop at FountainHead Food Service Group and are reviewing their preliminary design. The next step will be to purchase the new dishwasher. We are on the June agenda of the Chelmsford Historical District Commission for approval of the exterior gutter installation on the church and 9 Worthen Street.

## **COUNCIL CORNER:** *A monthly update on the activity of the CCC Council*

News from the May 10, 2023, meeting:

- We are 83% of the way through the fiscal year. Pledged giving continues to be a bit below budget and Unpledged giving is still running above budgeted expectations; overall we are at 82% of budgeted income year-to-date. Total expenditures are at 80%. The fiscal year will end on June 30; a budget surplus is anticipated, part of which will go toward balancing the new 2023-2024 budget.
- The Capital Campaign Building Committee is progressing on their scheduling of work for the Kitchen project. A cabinet contractor has been hired and the grease trap installation has been scheduled. The committee has chosen to modernize to an induction stove – this will be more environmentally beneficial than a gas stove and will reduce the cost of the exhaust hood/fire suppression system.
- The 2023-2024 Stewardship Campaign achieved a lower total in pledges than was targeted. The proposed budget for 2023-2024 was therefore a challenge to create. Fortunately, the work of Treasurer Dick Papenfuss was very thorough, and cuts were made in areas that can be supported by independent funds (i.e., Music Committee, Christian Education Committee), and in the line items of the budget that have shown room for reduction. The Council approved an increase in salary for church staff. The proposed budget was approved by unanimous vote of the Council (via e-mail) prior to the Annual Meeting.
- The Nominating Committee presented an updated draft of the slate of church officers and committee members for approval by the Council prior to election at Annual Meeting on May 21, 2023.
- The Council appointed Lindsay Moore as Assistant Moderator. Lindsay will work with Peter White, Church Moderator.
- The members of Council voted in favor of establishing a special committee to undertake a Photo Directory project. It has been seven years since the last CCC photo directory was published. Volunteers from the congregation will be sought for the project.
- All Committees are requested to identify their chair and rep(s) to Council for 2023-2024. Please forward this information to Lynn Horton and Peggy Kelly, our new Office Administrator.
- Dick Papenfuss was elected as the next Council President, beginning in June 2023, and Lynn Horton was elected Vice President.



- John Carson shared photos of the new granite bench in memory of Helen Glinos that has been placed in Carson Park near the labyrinth. John was able to bring Jim Glinos to the park and show him “Helen’s bench.”

The next Council Meeting will be held on **Wednesday, June 14, 2023, at 7:30 pm**, via Zoom. Anyone from CCC is welcome to attend! Contact Lynn Horton if you would like the Zoom link information. [Lynn@terpsoft.com](mailto:Lynn@terpsoft.com) (978) 256-8524

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## *From Your Social Action and Missions Committee*

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### ***THANK YOU FROM SAM!***

SAM would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone at CCC for your generous support of our Social Action and Missions outreach over the past year. Please be sure to read our report of this year's activities in the Annual Report, if you have not already done so. SAM mostly takes a break over the summer, but we will be serving another meal at **St. Paul's Kitchen on Monday, July 31**, so please watch for announcements to sign up for donating food and/or to help with serving on that day.

Thank You,  
Julie Carney, Dale Williams, Ellen Kunkel,  
Becky Wisniewski, Wendy Piacenza, Carol Boucek,  
Cindy Bruetsch, Diane Blair, Pat Vondal

### ***BAKERY DAY AND SAVORY DAY FUNDRAISERS BENEFIT SAM!***

Thanks to Baker and Chef Jeremy Williams, another Bakery Day/Savory Day sale was held on Sunday, May 7, and raised **\$60** for CCC's Social Action and Missions Ministry (SAM). Thank you to everyone who purchased a stew or pastry treat! Assistant Treasurer Sue Sarafinas has reported that to date, **a total of \$2316** has been raised for SAM thanks to these special fundraising events! Wow! No wonder Jeremy named his business “The Do Good Kitchen”!!! This money has certainly done a lot of good in our community, through SAM, and we at CCC have enjoyed the good food Jeremy prepares! There will be “pop-up” bake sales later this summer, but not in June due to Jeremy's busy schedule. For now, you'll just have to dream about blueberry brumbles and chocolate covered macaroons! 😊

~Lynn Horton

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## LINN'S FAREWELL

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Time flies when you're having fun and the past 20 years at Central Congregational Church has been fun! It has been 1100 weekly worship bulletins, 222 monthly newsletters, and 21 annual reports! In 2003, the data base listed 1298 individuals with 642 members. Today, there are 2353 individuals with 803 members – those are active, inactive, or archived! That's a lot of data entry.

But my job hasn't been just about the numbers. It's about the people. And this church has the most wonderful people. As I look out at the congregation –

Wait, Let me take a picture of all of you. Now Wave!! That's perfect!!



I can put a name to many of the faces. And then some of you, I don't know your face, but I know your name!

And the committees at this church are amazing! The dedication of so many volunteers and they get things done! Such caring people from CE to SAM and all the letters in between.

And of course, I can't forget my bosses – from Elva Pawle who hired me to John Zachry to Pastor Rich. And also, You, the congregation are my bosses! You are such wonderful and inspiring spiritual leaders. This church is truly in good hands and in God's hands.

I don't have any special plans as I retire. I want to see more of my grandchildren and to travel and see the country and the world. But nothing definite right now.

So, at a very low time in my life in 2003, God found a special family for me. I thank him and you. Thank you all so very much. I have been truly blessed and I'm overwhelmed with this honor.

And finally, for those who have stopped in the office and hear me singing to musicals, I leave you with  
"So long, farewell, auf wiedersehen, good bye!  
I leave and heave a sigh and say good bye!"

### Thank You from Linn

*"I've heard it said, that people come into our lives for a reason bringing something we must learn. And we are led to those who help us most to grow if we let them. And we help them in return. Well, I don't know if I believe that's true, but I know I'm who I am today because I knew you."*

*"For Good" from "Wicked" by Steven Schwartz*

On Sunday, May 14, two incredible singers sang this for me during the worship service to celebrate my retirement. It is my favorite song and on Sunday, the words rang so true. CCC has made me a better person and I hope I have helped to make CCC a better place. I can't say enough thank you's for such a wonderful celebration. The planning by Pastor Rich, Lynn Horton, the Bell Choir, and the Chancel Choir made the day so special. And the generosity of your gift has me shaking my head in disbelief. Thank you, thank you, thank you, CCC. I have been truly blessed.





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 PO Box 339  
 Chelmsford, MA 01824-0339

*June 2023*

*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 978-684-2031 (cell)	978-256-5931	<a href="mailto:pastor-rich@cccchelmsford.org">pastor-rich@cccchelmsford.org</a>
Director of Music	Tudor Bota	978-772-3173	<a href="mailto:tudorbota@gmail.com">tudorbota@gmail.com</a>
Office Administrator	Peggy Kelly	978-256-5931	<a href="mailto:office.admin@cccchelmsford.org">office.admin@cccchelmsford.org</a>
Nursery Coordinator	Jennifer Hart	610-781-2074	<a href="mailto:5ofHarts@chris-jenn.net">5ofHarts@chris-jenn.net</a>
Custodian	Juarez Gomes		
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:	<a href="mailto:office.admin@cccchelmsford.org">office.admin@cccchelmsford.org</a>
Church Fax:	978-250-3565	Church Web site:	<a href="http://www.cccchelmsford.org">www.cccchelmsford.org</a>
	Conference Web site:	<a href="http://www.sneucc.org">www.sneucc.org</a>	

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