

Annual Report

2023-2024



December 2023 Christmas

Central Congregational Church

United Church of Christ

An Open and Affirming Congregation

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Contents

Warrant for the Annual Meeting on May 19, 2024	2
Warrant for the Annual Meeting on May 21, 2023	2
Minutes for the Annual Meeting on May 21, 2023	3
Minutes of September 17 Special Meeting.....	8
Church Membership Statistics	10
Gifts and Donations	11
Pastor's Report.....	12
Council	13
Board of Trustees.....	14
John R. Carson Memorial Park	16
Capital Campaign Building Committee	18
ChristCare Small Group Ministry.....	19
Christian Education Committee	19
Sunday School Coordinator.....	22
Coffee Hour Committee	23
Collation Committee	23
Communications Committee	25
Church Historian	25
Delegate to Northeast Association	26
Delegate to the Southern New England Conference	26
Diaconate	27
Finance Committee	28
House Committee	29
KiSeLo – “KIndness, SErvice, LOve”	30
Members-at-Large	31
Music Committee.....	31
Nominating Committee	32
Slate of Nominees – as of May 9, 2023.....	33
Open and Affirming (ONA) Ministry Team.....	35
Pastor-Parish Relations Committee	35
Prayer Ministry.....	36
Prayer Shawl Ministry	36
Sanctuary Committee	37
Scouts BSA Troop 74	37
Scouts BSA Troop 75	38
Social Action and Missions (SAM) Committee	39
SAM Financial Summary	40
Stewardship Committee	41
Technology Committee.....	42
DownEast Maine Mission.....	43
Treasurer	46
Financial Statements as of March 31, 2024	47
Balance Sheet as of March 31, 2024	51

Warrant for the Annual Meeting on May 19, 2024

To the Members and Friends of Central Congregational Church in Chelmsford:

The Annual Meeting of the Central Congregational Church in Chelmsford, United Church of Christ, will be held on Sunday, May 19, 2024, at 11:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall to act upon the following articles:

- Article 1 To elect a Moderator.
- Article 2 To celebrate the events of the past year.
- Article 3 To act upon the recommendations of the Nominating Committee to elect the officers of the church.
- Article 4 To receive the reports of all committees.
- Article 5 To approve the budget for the fiscal year 2024 – 2025.
- Article 6 To transact any other business that may lawfully come before the meeting.

(signed)
Val King, Clerk

Warrant for the Annual Meeting on May 21, 2023

of Central Congregational Church in Chelmsford, United Church of Christ

To the Members and Friends of Central Congregational Church in Chelmsford:

The Annual Meeting of the Central Congregational Church in Chelmsford, United Church of Christ, will be held on Sunday, May 21, 2023, at 11:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall to act upon the following articles:

- Article 1 To elect a Moderator.
- Article 2 To celebrate the events of the past year.
- Article 3 To act upon the recommendations of the Nominating Committee to elect the officers of the church.
- Article 4 To receive the reports of all committees.
- Article 5 Approve the budget for the fiscal year 2023 – 2024.
- Article 6 To transact any other business that may lawfully come before the meeting.

(signed)
Val King, Clerk

Minutes for the Annual Meeting on May 21, 2023

of Central Congregational Church in Chelmsford, United Church of Christ

The meeting was opened at 11:30 am with a prayer by Rev. Dr. John Zachry, Pastor Emeritus

The Warrant Articles 1 – 6 were presented by Peter White:

Article 1 **To elect a Moderator.**

Peter White reported that Lindsay Moore has expressed interest in learning how to be a moderator, and that she would be assisting him during this meeting. She was given the role of Assistant Moderator by the Council.

Motion: Accept Peter White as Moderator for this meeting and future all-church meetings in 2023-2024.

Motion approved unanimously.

Article 2 **To celebrate the events of the past year.**

Peter White provided about 15 minutes for attendees to discuss and share the many CCC activities, persons and events that we are grateful for. These include:

- Support of Pastor Rich through his health crisis, which has included members giving some Sunday morning messages and Children's messages to provide him a break.
- Capital Campaign success and the resulting renewal of the Sanctuary.
- Pat Vondal's wonderful CCC historical presentation.
- New members and a number of baptisms.
- New faces stepped up for committees, such as the new Christmas Tree Committee.
- Music Program in general, and for Tudor Bota, Music Director, in particular, for bringing out the best in the Chancel Choir and Bell Choir and producing wonderful Christmas and Easter concerts. Also for Sun Light Band.
- Inclusivity of our church, and the opportunities to create deeper friendships.
- Tuesday Lunch Bunch.
- The many opportunities for service, such as helping the Afghan immigrant family.
- Jeremy Williams' contributions to SAM from his bakery/savory food sales.
- For the people who make things happen by working behind the scenes, such as Lynn Horton, who coordinates collations, the Christmas Fair, and other special events throughout the year. Also, Jim Clark who is at the church fixing things every week.
- For our dedicated Sunday School Teachers.
- For Linn Flint's 20 years of service as Office Administrator, and the wonderful celebration held to honor her.

- For Juarez, our custodian, who keeps the church sparkling clean.
- For Jennifer Hart, our nursery helper.
- Pastoral visits to people in hospital.
- Celebrating the lives of members who helped build the church and now have passed.
- Gratitude for our Tech team for streaming services, including memorial services and weddings, which allow people from far away to attend.
- Blessing of being more free from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Pastor Rich followed by presenting a slideshow of the Year in Pictures 2022-2023, and afterwards pointed out the strong inclusion of our kids in service and worship that makes our church community somewhat unique. He also made the observation that our livestream technology enables older watchers to hear the services better and to see the kids participating in the Children's messages.

Article 3 To act upon the recommendations of the Nominating Committee to elect the officers of the church. (See pages 37-38 of the 2022-2023 Annual Report.)

Dick Papenfuss stated that the slate of nominees reflects current membership for all committee/positions except Treasurer, which turns over on July 1.

Lynn Horton presented the slate of nominees and offered the following Amendments to the slate of nominees printed in the Annual Report:

Finance – no vacancies. Elizabeth Hartigan and Mike Cassidy have been added.

Communications – Samantha Shields added for term ending in 2026.

SAM – Ellen Kunkel has stepped down.

Motion: Approve the officers of the church as presented in the 2022-23 Annual Report, as amended.

Motion passed unanimously.

Article 4 To receive the reports of all committees. *The following committees had no changes to their annual reports:* Council report, John R. Carson Memorial Park, ChristCare Small Group Ministry, Christian Education, Holy Cows - Middle School Youth Group, God Squad – High School Youth Group (no report), Coffee Hour (no report), Collation, Communications, Church Historian, Delegate to Northeast Association, Delegate to the Southern New England Conference, Diaconate, Finance, House, KiSeLo, Members-at Large (no report), Music, ONA Ministry Team, Pastor-Parish Relations, Prayer Ministry, Prayer Shawl Ministry, Sanctuary, Scouts BSA Troop 74, Scouts BSA Troop 75, Social Action and Missions (SAM), Stewardship, Technology, West Virginia Workcamp (permanently closed), Treasurer.

There were no corrections to the Warrants or the 2022 Annual Meeting minutes.

Changes or amendments to annual report

Pastor's Report – Pastor Rich provided additional remarks to his report to include: a brief update on his health issues, which may include some additional treatments during the summer, as well as his continuing thanks for support from members who have preached and given children's messages this year. He then stated that his big focus on the coming year will be the transition of the Office Administrator position from Linn Flint to Peggy Kelly. There were no questions about his report.

Capital Campaign Fundraising Committee, page 26 –replace the word “and” with “any” cost overruns and any surprises that might arise.

Capital Campaign Building Committee, page 27 - correct Val King's listed position to (at-“Large”).

Nominating – incorporate changes as reported in Article 3 above.

Technology, page 46. It was noted that there was no mention of setting up for streaming of services in Fellowship Hall while the sanctuary was being painted.

DownEast Maine Mission, pg. 46 - change statistics as follows:

28 people have been 5 or more times; 44 people have been 4 or more times; 63 people have been 3 or more times; and 92 people have been twice or more.

Note: Assistant Clerk found an error in preparing the minutes: Audit Subcommittee of the Board of Trustees for 2020-2021 heading should read 2021 - 2022

Motion: Accept annual reports as updated.

Motion passed unanimously.

Article 5 Approve the budget for the fiscal year 2023 – 2024

Prior to review of the budget, Dick Papenfuss reported on the Stewardship Campaign.

Pledged income amounts to \$257,168, which is approximately \$11,000 less than last year. We received 104 pledges, down from 108, some of which is due to member deaths. 34 pledges were increased, 46 stayed the same, and 16 were decreased. 5 previous pledges were not renewed, while 6 new pledges were received. Since preparing the budget, one family has indicated their intent to increase their pledge. In addition to this drop in pledged income, we have also lost the \$7,200 income from the Indian group that used to rent our facilities. Combined, we face approximately \$18,000 less income than was budgeted for last year.

The budget for fiscal year 2023-2024 is balanced, but a number of items have had to be reduced or cut. The amount set aside for Benevolences has been reduced from 3% to 2%. This amounts to \$2,910 less than last year. Both the CE Committee and the Music Committee will receive no new funding, but Dick handed out a table of Special Accounts that shows that both of these committees have ample money in their accounts to cover anticipated expenses. In all, committee expenses were reduced by \$5,650, which in addition to the Benevolence decrease amounts to a total of \$8,650 in cuts.

The Treasurer anticipates that we will end the current fiscal year with an approximate \$3,000 surplus, which is allocated to help balance the new budget. In addition, \$3,000 from the “Carryover Account” has been allocated to the new budget, leaving about \$4,000 in that account for the future.

Some expected increases in income are anticipated to help offset the decreases from other income sources. These include an extra \$3,000 in Unpledged Gifts, which came in over budget this past year, and an expected \$3,500 increase in Christmas Tree income. There will be a slight increase in rent income from the Co-Op Nursery School.

Other significant expected changes include: a slight decrease in SREC income from the solar panels, but a large decrease in expected electricity costs that is due to the solar panels; a reduction of \$4,700 in our proportional giving amount to the SE Conference, and a potential savings of approximately \$500 from ADP for going paperless, which was learned about after the preparation of this budget.

The new budget allows for a 2 ½% increase in salaries for the Pastor, Music Director and Custodian. The new Office Administrator position was filled at a slight salary increase over the current budgeted amount. Some reductions in other personnel expenses result in a slight decrease in overall personnel expense.

Budget Summary: The Treasurer is projecting a balanced budget of \$343,148 in income and \$343,148 in expenses, as summarized below.

Current Operations Pledges	\$246,984
Current Operations Other Income	\$ 96,164
Total Income	\$343,148
Total Personnel Expenses	\$233,683
Total Property Expenses	\$ 66,885
Total Committee Expenses	\$ 4,750
Total Office Expense	\$ 8,950
Total Other Expenses	\$ 28,880
Total Expenses	\$343,148

Motion: Accept Fiscal Year 2023-2024 budget as presented.

Motion passed unanimously.

Article 6 **To transact any other business that may lawfully come before the meeting.**

Hearing no requests for any additional business the following motion was made:

Motion: Adjourn meeting at 12:40 pm.

Motion approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Julianne Carney, Assistant Clerk

Attendance – CCC Annual Meeting- May 21, 2023

Judith Barnes	Carol Engel	Lindsay Moore	Dorinda Toppan
Lillian Beean	Mary Horne	Kenny Pantuso	Pat Vondal
Gwen Bottomley	Hayley Horton	Dick Papenfuss	Betsy White
Bernie Boucek	Lynn Horton	Karen Papenfuss	Peter White
Carol Boucek	Devin Hussey	Ray Peterson	Christine Williams
Cynthia Bryant	Rev. Dr. Rich Knight	Sheila Pichette	Dale Williams
Jessie Buchanan	Bruce Kunkel	Shaleena Pulliam	Eric Wright
Julianne Carney	Ellen Kunkel	Sue Sarafinas	John Zachry
Glenn Dissinger	Deb Lyons	Samantha Shields	Shirley Zachry
Margie Dissinger	Jane McKenzie	Patrick Shields	
Number Present = 39 - All Active Members of CCC (Number needed for quorum = 24)			

Minutes of September 17 Special Meeting

Meeting moderated and called to order at 11:05 by Moderator Peter White

1.0 Peter White read the warrant.

To the Members and Friends of Central Congregational Church in Chelmsford: A Special Meeting of the Central Congregational Church in Chelmsford, United Church of Christ, will be held on Sunday, September 17, 2023, at 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary to act upon the following articles:

Article 1: To amend the Lewis Memorial Christian Education Fund as follows:

- a. Remove the requirement that withdrawal can only be made from the Total Return of the Fund,
- b. Remove the requirement that any withdrawal must be matched dollar for dollar from the regular church budget, and
- c. Add the requirement that a maximum amount of \$5,000 may be used each Fiscal Year to hire a trained person or persons (other than the Senior Pastor) to lead young people in Christian Education in Central Congregational Church.

Article 2: To transact any other business that may lawfully come before the meeting.

2.0 Discussion: Christine Williams (Trustee) discussed the origin and purpose of the Lewis Memorial Christian Education Fund. **Article 1a (above)** The fund currently has a balance of \$72,000. The challenge in the last few years has been to comply with the original intentions of the fund to limit any expenditures to the total return of the fund. It is proposed that we change that stipulation from “total return of the fund” to a “maximum amount of \$5,000 **(Article 1b and 1c above)**

Peter commented that we may have to determine other funding sources or an increase in our church budget should our church require a full time CE director to increase the director’s currently negotiated hours and pay.

MOTION: Approve Article 1 as written. Motion passed unanimously.

Article 2 – No other business was requested.

Meeting adjourned at 11:12 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Valerie King – Clerk

Attendees

Becky Acheson	Don Defosse	Maureen M.
Karen Banakos	Jennifer Delikat	Jean Montgomery
Judith Barnes	Glenn Dissinger	Lindsay Moore
Curtis Bates	Margie Dissinger	Stacey Mulholland
Lillian Beean	Cynthia Dorman	Josephine N.
Arlene Belleville	Scott Dorman	Janie O'Brien
Jennifer Bellissimo	Shirley Eberhart	Timothy O'Brien
Kyle Bellissimo	Carol Engel	Karen Papenfuss
Gwen Bottomley	Lynn Horton	Sheila Pichette
Bernie Boucek	Elizabeth Jarok	Elisabeth Phinney
Carol Boucek	Valerie King	Shalena Pulliam
Don Brigham	Alisa Knight	Barbara Reilly
Jan Brigham	Rev. Richard. Knight	John Reilly
Judy Buswick	Bruce Kunkel	Meredith Robson
Julie Carney	Ellen Kunkel	Jonathan Walsh
Carolyn Chapman	John Lamplough	Jennie Walsh
Joseph Chapman	Linda Lis	Betsy White
Alan Cross-Hansen	Kathy Lueck	Peter White
Jody Cross Hansen	Deb Lyons	Eric Wright
	Jane McKenzie	John Zachry

Attendance: 55 CCC members , 4 non-CCC members

Church Membership Statistics

The numbers are based on the names included in the database maintained in the Church office.

Summary of Church Membership Statistics	Total as of 03/31/23	Total as of 03/31/24
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TOTAL ACTIVE MEMBERS	264	349
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Active Adult Members	247	332
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Active Child Members	17	17
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TOTAL INACTIVE MEMBERS	59	80
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Inactive Adult Members	59	79
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Inactive Child Members	0	1
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TOTAL ARCHIVED MEMBERS	480	480
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TOTAL MEMBERS	803	909
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(Active, Inactive, and Archived)

NEW MEMBERS:

Date Joined	Names
11/05/2023	Alan and Jody Cross-Hansen
11/05/2023	Rich and Nancy Swain

CONFIRMANDS

None.

BAPTISMS (April 1, 2023 through March 31, 2024)

Child	Parents	Date of Birth	Date of Baptism
Elliot Bennett Pulaski	Ben and Kerry Pulaski	09/11/2022	06/25/2023
Ainsley Ann Lawlor	Patrick and Ashley Lawlor	01/31/2023	08/20/2023
Owen Patrick Lawlor	Patrick and Ashley Lawlor	01/31/2023	08/20/2023
Reagan Michele Lawlor	Patrick and Ashley Lawlor	03/22/2020	08/20/2023
Mia Joan Wettergreen	Jason and Alicia Wettergreen	03/27/2023	11/19/2023
Grace Diane Vu	Kelly and Dat Vu	09/27/2023	03/24/2024

MARRIAGES (April 1, 2023 through March 31, 2024)

Date of Wedding

None

DEATHS (April 1, 2023 through March 31, 2024)**Members of Central Congregational Church**

Name	Date of Birth	Date of Death	Service
Elizabeth J. "Betty" Bastian	12/06/1933	05/28/2023	06/09/2023; Rev. Richard B. Knight at Central Congregational Church
Phyllis Herget	03/06/1934	08/28/2023	Private service; Pastor Richard B. Knight at Central Congregational Church
Mildred "Millie" Greenhalgh	06/07/1926	11/10/2023	Private family service
Roger T. Collins	1930	11/11/2023	11/25/2023; Rev. Richard B. Knight at Central Congregational Church
Catherine Center	01/23/1929	03/22/2024	03/29/2024; Rev. Lee Atherton at Blake Funeral Home

Non-members of Central Congregational Church

Name	Date of Birth	Date of Death	Service
Lauren Kenyon	06/25/1999	08/27/2023	Private family service (granddaughter of Gayle Kenyon)

Church statistics reported by Peggy Kelly, Office Administrator.

Gifts and Donations

As of March 31, 2024, memorial donations were given to the Church in memory of:

Elizabeth Borden

Nancy Owens

Roger Collins

Gifts and Donations reported by Sue Sarafinas, Income Treasurer

Pastor's Report

A Journey of Faith and Resilience

As I reflect on my time with you and pen this annual report, I am filled with a mix of emotions. The past months have been a period of change and uncertainty for Central Congregational Church, yet also of profound faith and resilience. In my short tenure as your pastor, I have been privileged to witness the unwavering strength and unity of our church community in the face of adversity, a testament to our shared values and commitment.

In these last few months, our church has experienced several losses that have touched us all deeply. We have said goodbye to cherished members of our congregation. You have had a new and unknown pastor (and her black lab) in your pulpit, one who has mixed up familiar liturgy and brought a different style of preaching. We have unexpectedly celebrated the ministry of our beloved Pastor Rich and sadly learned that he won't be returning to full-time leadership of CCC.

Yet, through these losses and changes, the steadfast spirit of our church has shone brightly, a testament to our collective faith and the guiding hand of God.

The losses we have experienced these last months have been profound, touching the very heart of our community. Each person whose life we have celebrated was a unique thread in the fabric of our church, contributing in their own special way to the tapestry of our faith community. In the face of these losses, we have come together to mourn, to support one another, and to find solace in our shared faith. These moments have reminded us of the preciousness of life and the importance of our church family.

Palm Sunday brought joyous sounds as the young people of our church waved palms to welcome us to worship. We journeyed through Lent with darkness and heavy hearts. And with echoes of "Alleluia" and "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today," we have also celebrated and raised our praise to God. We've laughed at children's time and rejoiced in glorious music during worship and the Easter Concert. We've welcomed through baptism a baby into Christ's church and celebrated the Confirmation of six youths who have tremendous faith and hope for the future. We've had robust conversations of faith in Sunday School, Youth Groups, Bible Studies, and so many other gatherings. And just last week, we celebrated the ministry of the Rev. Dr. Richard B Knight. What a joyous occasion and opportunity to affirm, "Well done, good and faithful servant!"

I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to you for your unwavering faith, your leadership, your generosity, and your commitment to our church. To our church leaders and volunteers, thank you for your dedication and tireless efforts. Your contributions are invaluable. To those who have faced personal losses this year, know that you are not alone; we stand with you in grief and in hope.

In closing, I am reminded of Paul's words in Romans 8:38-39, "For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord." As we move forward, let us hold fast to this promise, drawing strength and comfort from our faith and from one another.

With deepest gratitude and blessings,



Council

Council has continued to meet by Zoom this year, which results in more efficient meetings and better attendance.

I want to thank Lynn Horton, Vice President, for covering for me in several meetings I was forced to miss. Her experience as Council President meant that Council continued to meet and function as it should. I also want to thank all the Council members who consistently attended the meetings to ensure all voices were heard on the issues facing Council.

Council approved changes to the Sunday School Coordinator's job description when CE decided they needed to fill the position after several years without one. A special meeting was called on 9/17/23 to change the wording on the Lewis Memorial CE Fund to provide funding for the position. The congregation approved changing the wording so up to \$5,000 can be used to fund the coordinator's position without requiring a budget match.

Each committee was asked to review their entry into the Organizational Practices Manual (OPM). Council approved changes to the entries for CE Coordinator, CE Committee, Communications Committee and the Sanctuary Committee that bring them up to date with the current practices.

There will be no photo directory this year as Council was unable to find a volunteer to lead the project.

Council approved the Trustee's recommendation to keep the use of 9 Worthen St. for church related activities after recommendations were made by a Trustee sponsored 9 Worthen St. Usage Committee. The Trustees brought a proposal to Council to approve a trial contract with Mari Raye to use a room at 9 Worthen for a business she has. She will pay the church \$1,000 for the three-month trial.

The Council approved the church's support for the new Chelmsford project, "Ramp for Neighbors." The project is being led by former leaders of the West Virginia Workcamp and is being done in association with All Saints Episcopal Church. One of the first projects completed will be a deck for one of CCC's members.

Lucas Hart approached Council for support in his work with the Cradles to Crayons clothing drive. Council was pleased to give its support to this cause and by all reports it was very successful.

The Communications Committee approached Council with the idea of using QR codes to increase giving from people viewing on live stream and at special events, such as concerts. Pastor Lee has seen it used at her church with positive results. The code, when viewed by a phone, would take people to our website to where they could contribute through PayPal. Council approved the request, but asked to see how it was to be used before implementation.

The church received a request to use our facilities from the Pentecostal Church in Lowell, who needs a meeting space very soon. The Trustees did a lot of fact finding on what their actual needs were. A delegation also visited the church for a service. In discussion at Council, it was decided their needs for time and space could not be accommodated and they were going to have to look elsewhere.

Lastly, Council has tried to support Pastor Rich and his family where ever possible in this past year while working with the Pastor Parish Relations Committee and the Diaconate.

Sincerely,
Dick Papenfuss, Council President

Excerpted from the CCC Constitution – Article VII - Council: *The Council shall be the executive body of this church. It shall be composed of the Ordained Minister(s), two members of the Board of Trustees elected by that Board, Clerk, Moderator, two Deacons elected by the Diaconate, Treasurer, three Members-at-Large, and one member from each of the following committees, elected by that committee: Christian Education, Communications, Finance, House, John R. Carson Memorial Park, Music, Nominating, Pastor/Parish Relations, Sanctuary, Social Action and Missions, Stewardship, and Technology. The Council shall be the policy-making body and shall be responsible for directing and coordinating all affairs, activities, responsibilities, and interests of the Church.*

Board of Trustees

Trustees have had a busy year. We acted on numerous items including:

1. Approved the purchase of two office computers at a cost of about \$1,750. Payment was made from the Trustee Discretionary Account.
2. Reviewed and approved numerous proposals from the Capital Building Committee for their kitchen and Fellowship Hall projects. Funds were taken from the Capital Campaign.
3. Partially resolved several alleged copyright infringement matters. This started when Pastor Rich received a letter in April 2022 stating that a photo posted on the church's website of January 6 events in Washington was used without permission. This was followed in January 2023 by a letter from another firm alleging infringement of other copyright photos. In both cases we immediately removed the photos from our website. We initially took the position that since we are a church we are a non-commercial entity, so payment was not necessary. The letters kept coming, and the demands for payment increased. Upon advice from our church's lawyer, we sent a \$500 check to each firm with the understanding that if they cashed the check that would be their acknowledgement that the case was closed. One firm accepted, but the other did not. We continue to work to resolve this second matter.
4. Received approval from the Historic District Commission to install gutters on the main church building and 9 Worthen.
5. Worked with Central Co-Op, Hancock Associates, and Chelmsford Landscaping to find a solution to excess runoff from Journey Church's parking lot that caused a major problem when the Co-Op's playground was expanded. After several discussions with a representative of Journey Church, the church agreed to allow Chelmsford Landscaping to replace the berm that was removed next to their parking lot prior to landscaping of the Central Co-op playground expansion. This solved the problem. Central Co-op paid for this work.
6. Contracted with a UMass Lowell graduate student and his professor to survey the parking lot to locate any underground structures. This is needed before repaving to make sure that we don't develop any more sinkholes. This work is nearly complete.

7. Voted to support the 9 Worthen Street 2023 Committee's recommendation to keep the building for the congregation's religious education, church activity groups, storage, and the work of its closely affiliated groups such as Scouts.
8. Contracted with MillTown Plumbing to replace two major castings in our main boiler that cracked in November. The manufacturer notified us that the cracks were caused by "improper maintenance" and therefore not covered by our warranty. Bills in the amount of approximately \$32,000 including work on the boiler and loss of rental income from Central Co-Op (they had to close for 7 ½ days because of no heat) were submitted to our insurance company. After considerable delay, they recently paid for the boiler cost less \$2,500 deductible. They are still considering our loss of income claim.
9. Developed and approved a rental agreement to allow Mari Raye to use an upstairs room in 9 Worthen for her Vital Matter healing practice. This initially covered a 90-day rental (effective Jan. 1, 2024) but was later extended for an additional year since both parties feel that it is working well.
10. Responded to a request from an African, Pentecostal start-up church in Lowell to rent our Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall for their Sunday services and meetings and monthly Saturday conference. After much deliberation we declined their request.
11. Started review of our room rental rates.
12. Completed expense and revenue audits reports for FY22-23. We did not find any problems.
13. Continued to work with the House committee to jointly address issues identified in the Property Condition Assessment report. This includes short-term items and longer-term items to be addressed over the next 5 to 20 years.

The Trustees would like to thank the House Committee, the Technology Committee, and the CCC Treasurers for their collaboration during the year, as well as the Office Administrators, Linn Flint and Peggy Kelly, for their continued support.

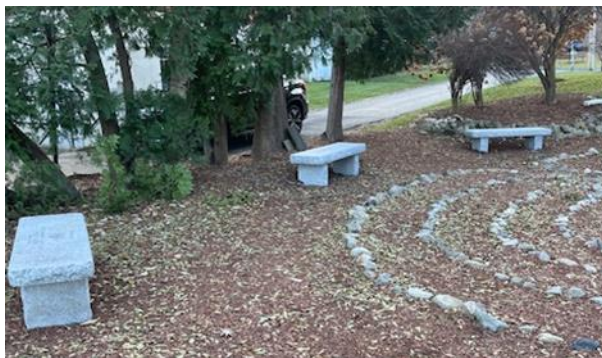
Respectfully submitted,
John Carson, Chair
Christine Williams, Vice chair
Sheila Pichette, Secretary
Jennifer Delikat
John Lamplough
Alan Wisniewski

John R. Carson Memorial Park

The park continues to be popular for lunches, photo sessions, weddings, and church services when weather permits.

Three of the four large Yoshino Cherry trees just outside the picnic area were dedicated to the founding members of the Park Committee: Mary Harrison, Jane McKersie, and Bob Moore.

Three granite benches were installed around the labyrinth. One was donated by Jim Glinos and his family in loving memory of Helen. A second is in memory of Molly Duggan's mother Barb. The other is available for a future dedication.

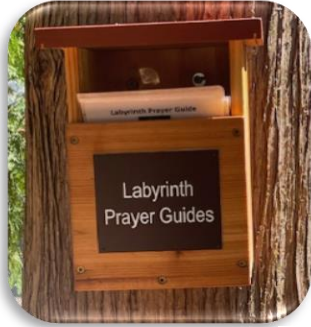


Jim Paul, one of Bob Moore's sons-in-law, replaced rotten boards and power washed the gazebo. Castle Complements Painting painted it, replaced some missing cedar shakes on the roof, and put a preservative on it.

The firepit has been upgraded with a locked storage box that is large enough for three propane tanks. This has allowed the connection line to be shortened significantly, which greatly improves the flame.

Instructions on use of the firepit are on the front windowsill inside 9 Worthen. For questions, please contact John Carson: 508-783-8295.





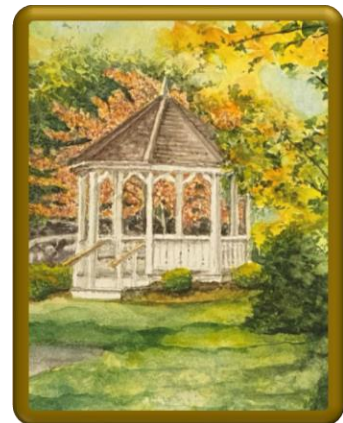
A birdhouse to hold prayer cards was installed at the entrance to the labyrinth.

The area that was disturbed by the kitchen sewer work has been restored and upgraded with several new plantings.



New shrubs in Carson Park

A beautiful print of an original watercolor painting of the gazebo by local artist Jane Castle is available for sale. Proceeds benefit the Carson Park Fund. Contact Lynn Horton for information.



An original oil painting of the gazebo is now hanging in the church parlor. This is on loan from John and Linda Carson.

Doris Moore once again purchased wreathes for the gazebo for the Holiday Season. We appreciate her continued support of the park.

Respectfully submitted,
John and Linda Carson

Capital Campaign Building Committee

The committee has had a busy year moving forward with our kitchen project, now nearing completion. After setbacks from ledge, rusted pipes, high water table flooding, and inaccessible pipes, we were able to begin the required upgrades. Once the indoor and outdoor grease traps were installed, the new floor was poured and now their pipes have been covered with removable panels. The new appliances and sinks are in place, conform to code, and have passed the town inspection. All the cabinetry has been repainted and new door pulls installed. Preparations for constructing the new island are underway, which then will allow us to order and install all the required quartz countertops. The final steps will be to replace the heater, install an air conditioning unit, and decide about the need for a pot rack and electricity on the island. Please treat our new additions with care and follow instructions on their use: training materials are forthcoming. To get an operating permit from the town, we also will need a Food Safety Manager accredited through a program such as ServSafe. All of this took enormous effort and diligence from your committee and took us much longer than we could have imagined! We thank our many uncomplaining helpers who moved kitchen contents back and forth or painted and even repainted cabinets.

Much of the work in Fellowship Hall is complete: we have both a new floor and new ceiling tiles. The remaining projects are to install a new stage curtain and drape around the chair stack. We have received suggestions for a new carpet from the ramp to the back door and to install room darkening shades. Both would be costly expenditures that must be put on a “wish list” until funding is available. We are hopeful that our renovated kitchen and hall will be able to generate rental income as well as add to our own use and enjoyment of these facilities.

We completed our outdoor project to replace the gutters on the church building and install them on 9 Worthen. The resulting flooding of the parking lot has been addressed. The next undertaking late summer or early fall (pending the needed cash flow) will be repaving of the church parking lot. The remaining work will be to bring electricity, water, and plantings to the end of the parking lot. We have a suggestion that the deteriorating asphalt berms along the Carson Park and playground sides of the parking be replaced with granite. This too will be added to the “wish list” pending available funds.

Your contributions to this capital campaign have been generous and vital to the repair and refurbishing of our church home for the next decades.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Williams, chair (Trustees)
Val King, secretary (at -large)
Jim Clark (House)
Kenny Pantuso (Diaconate)
Shirley Zachry (kitchen)

ChristCare Small Group Ministry

Central Congregational Church (CCC) is an active church, with many opportunities to engage in worship, faith building, and mission. The Sunday morning services are inspirational large group gatherings, where the majority of the church comes together. In between those services, the church gathers in small groups: choir, Bible study, lunch bunch, movie group, and ChristCare groups. In these small groups, connections are made. Friendships are formed that make those involved feel like part of a church family.

ChristCare groups consist of five to twelve people who meet on a regular basis in order to grow in faith. The group members pray together and for one another, they study the Bible and books related to faith development, and they discuss issues on their minds. Central Congregational Church currently has two ChristCare groups.

The Monday evening ChristCare group is led by Deb Lyons and meets on two Mondays each month, from 7:00 to 8:30 PM. The group of about eight women normally meets via Zoom. We relaxed our schedule to monthly meetings over the past summer, taking advantage of the warm weather to meet outdoors at Country Creamery and at church.

We used devotionals from Pastor Rich and the UCC to start some of our discussions. At other times, group members shared their wisdom. In February, we discussed our favorite scripture verses. In May, we started reading Help, Thanks, Wow, by Anne Lamott.

The men's ChristCare group meets on Sunday mornings before church, at 9 Worthen Street. Glenn Dissinger leads the group and will be happy to answer any questions.

Our church has offered ChristCare groups for fourteen years. Group members are sharing Christian love and deepening relationships, praying for one another, and lifting up others who are on our hearts. We welcome new members!

Respectfully submitted,
Deb Lyons

Christian Education Committee

It has been a busy and exciting year for the Christian Education Committee. Without the support of the church, and all of you, we would not be able to do the work that we do.

Our first big change from last year was that we reinitiated the Sunday School Coordinator position this year, and we were blessed to be able to welcome Jennifer Hart into this crucial role. We have a wonderful dedicated CE Committee including: Becky Acheson, Elmer Lyons, April McCarthy, Lindsay Moore, Meghan Naish, Shaleena Pulliam, Kristin Strobel, Pastor Rich Knight, and me (Samantha Shields). CE meets the first Wednesday of every month. If you are interested in joining CE please reach out to Samantha Shields, Deb Lyons, or Lynn Horton as we still have one remaining opening for the committee, but we are always looking to welcome new members to our team.

We are very fortunate to have such a talented group of Sunday School teachers dedicated to caring for our children and teaching them about God's work. A big thank you to: Becky Acheson, Samantha Shields, Lindsay Moore, Kristin Strobel, Elmer Lyons, Bonnie McGrath, Steve Hartigan, and Will Hargett. This year the Nursery Coordinator role was split between Jennifer Hart for the first half of the school year and then we welcomed Catherine Boivin to the role in February 2024. We were lucky to have two caring and compassionate individuals in our Nursery as well as many volunteers. If you are interested in volunteering in our Nursery, please contact Jennifer Hart as we always welcome volunteers to help care for our youngest students.

It has been a full year of learning, while also hosting events for our Sunday School students and families, and more. We continued many of our cherished traditions this year starting with Welcome Sunday, the blessing of the backpacks, and the Hot Dogs picnic. We continued our Acolyte Ministry this year rotating through all interested Sunday School students who wished to participate, from K-8th grade. We had a great turn out for Bible Sunday in October where we handed out 16 new Bibles to new Sunday School Students and our third grade Students where they move to a more advanced Bible to continue their studies. We rounded out our fall events with our fall Make a Difference Day (MADD) projects and a hike in the Thanksgiving Forest. For MADD we welcomed the Lowell Humane society and some furry friends, guinea pigs(!), while we made dog and cat toys to donate to the Lowell shelter. We also worked on creating crafts to later be sold at the annual Holiday Fair to raise money for the Open Pantry. On our fall hike over 13 students, ranging from PreK through 8th grade, and their families spent the morning sharing what they were most thankful for while taking in the beauty of God's creation.

We continued one of our most beloved traditions of hosting the Advent Festival for the church to usher in the season of Advent. We enjoyed fellowship and a delicious potluck lunch for all. We were blessed with many wonderful volunteers who shared their time and their talents with us to aid in our celebration and fill the afternoon with kids singing, our Holy Cows band performing, followed by beautiful music by the talented SonLight band, while we had multiple craft tables available for all to participate in, and our advent wreath building table. We finished out the Christmas season with two new amazing Christmas Pageants! Our youth came together and learned two new scripts and retold us the story of Christ's birth from two new points of view, and they all did a fantastic job. During the Coffee Hour celebration of Jesus's birthday CE also invited children of all ages to bring in non-perishable goods as a "present" for Jesus's birth to aid in our annual Can Tree collection for the Open Pantry of Greater Lowell.

After our winter break, CE started the New Year by hosting a new event, a build your own sundae ice cream social held during Coffee Hour at the end of January. The event was well received and we hope to make this an annual celebration leading into the season of Lent.

During Lent our Sunday School students worked on learning about many meaningful events, mostly those leading up to and during Holy Week and Easter Sunday. The youth started Palm Sunday with a processional into the sanctuary to start worship, recreating the events of the first Palm Sunday. The students then put their knowledge into action by creating many projects to share with the Congregation during our Holy Week Walk on Palm Sunday while CE hosted Coffee Hour. The youngest classes each chose one group topic to prepare, while our Holy Cows covered many events

of Holy Week. On Easter Sunday, with the help of our Holy Cows, CE hosted our annual Easter Egg hunt in Carson Park after worship where many children participated in this joyous event.

This spring our Sunday School teachers, students, and their families again participated on a hike, this time at Great Brook Farm State Park to usher in the season of growth and rebirth. The youth started a new spring curriculum written by our amazing Sunday School Coordinator, Jennifer Hart, with all the lessons building to our main focus and theme for Youth Sunday, *living the love and justice of Jesus*. Within these lessons the children are building our Youth Sunday service week by week. We hope that you will all join us for Youth Sunday on June 9th where the kids run the service. Immediately following the service, CE is asking for everyone to join us on the front steps of the church for an all-church picture. Then, in lieu of Coffee Hour, CE will be hosting our annual All Church Picnic at the picnic tables and Carson Park. Please join us for fellowship and fun to celebrate the end to another great Sunday School year at CCC!

Our Youth Groups continued to meet during the year and host both social and spiritual gatherings, helping our youth build friendships in their church community while engaging in activities to serve others in need. Our Holy Cows continued to bake brownies on multiple occasions for St. Paul's Soup Kitchen as well as acted as servers. Both our Holy Cows and God Squad members participated in Common Cathedral in Boston, which is always such a meaningful and impactful event for our youth. The Kids Club members worked with their Sunday School classmates through multiple meetings, the Fall MADD, and the host a table at the Annual CCC Holiday Fair to fundraise for the Open Pantry of Greater Lowell, raising \$631 to donate in time for the holiday season. Our Holy Cows and God Squad combined for a fun social night of bowling and pizza in the winter and plan to combine forces again this year for the Down East Maine mission trip.

Our youth of all ages are very kind, caring, and passionate children with a strong desire to help others in need, whether they be human or animal, wherever possible. These are only a few examples of the service projects and collections that our youth participated in this year. The students and CE also made monetary donations to the Lowell Humane Society, Junie's Place, Toys for Tots, and St. Jude. The Holy Cows hosted Coffee Hour, volunteered to sell Christmas Trees, clean up the rail trail, run the "Souper Bowl of Caring" collection, and our God Squad closed and opened the Community Garden. We are so proud of the big kids and young adults they are becoming and how they inspire others around them with their selflessness and dedication to serve those in need.

Respectfully Submitted,
Samantha Shields

Sunday School Coordinator

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve Central Congregational Church in this role this year.

Central Congregational Church has an amazing group of dedicated teachers and supports in place that have created a great Sunday School Program. Because of this group of adults willing to do the work, we have a wonderfully amazing group of children wanting to be part of church life in the busyness of school, sports, and other activities that a family does throughout the year. There are only a few churches who can do this and we should all be proud that we are one of them.

This year we have had as many as 40 students on a given Sunday from the Nursery to our high school senior. It is an amazing group of youth with family behind them that support them along the way.

We started the year in September with Welcome Back Sunday and a picnic at Carson Park and the year blasted off from that point. Six eighth grade students worked with Pastor Rich and Bonnie through the curriculum for Confirmation, and a group of fourth grade students prepared for their first Communion.

Sunday School Curriculum this year varied throughout the grades with Pre-K - K using Shine and the Grades 1 - 4 class using Sparkhouse for the fall and winter. The Holy Cows made their way through the Bible in a meaningful and creative way that the students connect to. The God Squad built on the skills gained from their Holy Cow years, connecting them to what is going on in a high schooler's life right now. These teachers are really amazing!

Through the fall and winter students did a MADD project for the Lowell Humane Society, making toys for the shelter animals, and prepared for the Christmas Program with an Advent Festival, lessons and the productions of the Christmas Pageant. The Holy Cows and God Squad gave us a different take with a skit written by Pastor Chris Hart. As the winter curriculum came to an end teachers started working with the youth on Jesus's journey to Easter Sunday. The students worked so hard on props and lines; it will be a lasting memory for many.

After Easter we started to prepare for Youth Sunday with six weeks of Sunday School Curriculum created by me with the focus theme of Living the Vision and Justice of Jesus. Although each class took on this curriculum a bit differently, we hope that it creates a Youth Sunday that is meaningful to all. We also had a spring MADD project of creating cards and preparing plants for people who do not make it to church as much as they used to; we hope that the 24 families enjoyed the Pre-K through 4th grade class' work.

Our Sunday School students also chose to make some meaningful donations to different non-profit organizations over the year and we are so thankful that they were willing to share what they have with others.

The Nursery was graced with wonderful volunteers in September, October, and November. As Sunday School Coordinator and Nursery Coordinator I was having problems getting to the nursery

before these wonderful people who stepped up with extra Sunday School things to do, so I asked Christian Education about hiring someone for the nursery. In February we hired Cathrine Boivin, a senior at Chelmsford High School who plans on going to Worcester State University to study Early Childhood/Elementary Education. Catherine's addition has made it possible to have someone in the nursery first thing in the morning, but the volunteers stopped. I do have a few people that I can talk to on Sunday morning if we need a volunteer in the nursery and I am thankful for those people.

Central Congregational Church has a great program. I hope that you all understand how lucky you are to have these young people in your midst and continue to support Christian Education by helping with our children's growth and understanding of Christianity.

Respectfully submitted by
Jennifer Hart, Sunday School Coordinator

Coffee Hour Committee

No Report.

Collation Committee

Though we lost several special members of our CCC church family this year, we held only two collations held at Central Congregational Church. Roger Collins, husband and true helpmate to Minnie, passed away on November 11, 2023. Roger had been living with his daughter Priscilla in recent years after Minnie's death in 2018. Pastor Rich Knight led the funeral service on November 25 at CCC and a full collation was held in Fellowship Hall following the service. The echoes of past Collation Coordinator Minnie's directions, "Now Roger, move that table here; now Roger, put that pitcher there," could be heard by those of us who arranged the reception, and we did our best to honor both Minnie and dutiful Roger.

Daphne "Dee" Freeman was a dear member of CCC for over 50 years and served our church with love and care. Dee and Nancy Parker Clark were the co-founders of the Benevolent Beaders Ministry; Dee, Ginnie Hall, and Wendy Perry co-founded the Prayer Chain Ministry; and Dee also served CCC as a Deacon, as a member of KiSeLo, as a joyful singer in the Chancel Choir, and as an active committee volunteer. Each person who met Dee felt her joy of life and her pleasure in getting to know people. We celebrated Dee on May 11, 2024, with a beautiful memorial service led by Pastor Lee Atherton and Pastor Bonnie Steinroeder. The collation was filled with reminders of Dee and husband Bruce, namesake of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail for which Dee was such an advocate. Slideshow photos from their post-war wedding, she a British bride, he an American GI in London, were accompanied by music from the 1940s, such as "We'll Meet Again," and "White Cliffs of Dover." The special request made by Dee for "a lovely luncheon" was fulfilled by the many generous CCC friends who loved her dearly. How blessed we were to have Daphne Freeman as our own and to say that a life of 99 years was too short!

We also remember with love Betty Bastian, Phyllis Herget, Millie Greenhalgh, Cathy Center, and Bill Harrison. Each of these dear CCC friends is missed.

Elizabeth “Betty” Bastian, mother of Valerie King and a member of CCC, passed away on May 28, 2023, at the age of 89. Pastor Rich Knight officiated the service for Betty that was held at Blake Funeral Home. In addition to the photos of Betty’s 4-generation family, the room was filled with Betty’s many works of art – she was talented in quilting, painting, and stained-glass crafting.

Phyllis Herget passed away on August 28, 2023, at the age of 89 after many years of health challenges. Phyllis and Dick Herget were long-time members of CCC and were married for nearly 70 years. Pastor Rich provided a small private service for the Herget Family.

Mildred “Millie” Greenhalgh was a long-time member of CCC and was well-known for her quilting expertise. Millie lived in her big house on nearby Bridge Street until just a bit before her passing at age 97 on November 10, 2023. A private family service was held in New Hampshire.

Cathryn “Cathy” Center died at age 95 on March 22, 2024. Rev. Lee Atherton, CCC Pastor pro tem, officiated the service for Cathy that was held at the Blake Funeral Home. Cathy was a member of CCC for over 30 years and could be counted on to work at the Holiday Fair jewelry table. She was also an original member of the Benevolent Beaders ministry.

William “Bill” Harrison passed away on April 4, 2024, after a brief illness. Bill and his beloved Mary were united in marriage and the adventures of life for 67 years. Their love extended to family and friends who they considered as dear as family. Bill’s twinkling blue eyes would light up whenever he saw his sweetheart, Mary, and he was also a charmer with women, which delighted himself and Mary as well. A beautiful memorial service was held for Bill at Blake Funeral Home, led by Pastor Lee Atherton who had come to know Bill and Mary through visits to the hospital.

Though many of this year’s funeral services were not held at CCC it worked out to be a blessing because the kitchen has been under construction and unusable for most of that time. Fortunately, we see the completion of the kitchen project on the horizon, and things will be back to normal. The agile Collation team was able to work within the constraints and we are grateful to the many CCC volunteers who cheerfully assisted when needed.

Each collation is made possible through the kind and helpful efforts of so many church friends. Grateful thanks to all who have provided desserts, finger sandwiches, fruit trays, cheese and crackers – including gluten-free options, veggies and dip, and other tasty foods. To the workers who washed dishes (using the proper new sinks!), wrapped flowers to be sent home with family and guests, set up or folded and put away tables and chairs, washed and ironed tablecloths, and attended to the multitude of other tasks that help these events to run smoothly, many thanks.

A special thank you to Shirley Zachry for sharing the bounty of her flower gardens and creating lovely arrangements of daffodils, pink bleeding hearts, blue forget-me-nots, lily-of-the-valley, lilacs, roses, and other colorful blooms!

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Horton

Communications Committee

Members – Beth Jarok, chair, Margie Dissinger, Samantha Shields, council representative, three vacancies

The Publicity Committee is charged with publicizing church events, especially those open to the public. This means notices on internet sites, newspapers, The Beacon, the weekly bulletin, and Tuesday notices that Peggy sends out. Beth has written articles for papers, the bulletin and the Beacon, while Margie creates all the posters and programs; Sam does all the internet placements. This year we provided publicity for the following:

1. Holiday Fair in November
2. Christmas Concert in December
3. Advent workshop
4. Notice about Advent and later an article about Christmas services in December
5. Easter Concert on March 24
6. Any other publicity that we were asked to do.

Sam was instrumental in suggesting to council that we add a QR code to our weekly livestream, and we will add a QR code to all upcoming concerts to aid in ease of online donations and offerings.

Submitted by,
Elizabeth Jarok

Church Historian

The inventory of our church's archive will be completed this spring. Plans are to provide each CCC committee and group with a copy of the contents of the church archive. This way, committees can access materials that may be helpful to them in 2024 and beyond. For example, a member of the KiSeLo Club has requested access to the Club's historical records for potential programming ideas. We also have a complete record of the annual church fairs dating back to the 1950s. These records are full of ideas for preparing and organizing activities for annual church fairs, including recipes for meals and snacks sold at the fair, and lessons learned from the previous year. We even have handouts advertising the fair dating back to the 1890s! Let's make our archives work for us!

Did you know that in 1946 our church helped co-sponsor a young couple, Reverend and Mrs. Elton Brown, as Missionary Representatives of CCC to the Philippine Mission in Davao City, Mindanao for five years? We have the original program for their Commissioning Service held at CCC on September 22, 1946. The couple and their two young children boarded the Marine Lynx with 700 other missionaries to sail to the Philippines Islands on December 15, 1946. [We don't know the final destination of all 700 missionaries!] Reverend Brown's annual newsletter, spanning 1947 until 1952...describe their activities, the joys and challenges of missionary work, their slow but steady progress in learning the local dialect, the birth of their third child, and much, much more.

I attended the 200th Anniversary of the North Chelmsford Congregational Church on April 27th and 28th and met with their church historians. Their records go back to 1824, the year they were founded! They will send us their digital database of historic records which includes interactions with our church after its founding in 1877. Please contact me if you are interested in learning more about this collection and its relevance to CCC.

Finally, your church historian encourages you to donate materials, news clippings, and photos (with names and date marked clearly on the back, please!) for the archives. Our archives demonstrate that CCC has always had a strong church family and fellowship with one another, through thick and thin. Thank you for your interest in our church's history.

Respectfully submitted,
Patricia Vondal, Church Historian

Delegate to Northeast Association

The Northeast Association is an association of forty-two diverse churches, spread over thirty-one cities and towns in Essex and Middlesex Counties. Delegates Pat Vondal and Lynn Horton represented Central Congregational Church at the Northeast Association Spring Meeting at Georgetown Congregational Church on Sunday, May 7, 2023. It was interesting to experience a gathering of the wider UCC community. We were surprised that the business meeting of the day was extremely brief! Most of the time together was organized as a presentation about strengthening churches that are in a phase of challenge, whether they be growing, seeking to engage inactive members, or facing closure due to insufficient membership. Prayers were shared and hymns were sung, and there was a time of fellowship over refreshments. Attending the Spring Meeting highlighted for Pat and me that we have much to be grateful for at CCC! Our vibrant congregation is truly a blessing!

Southern New England Conference – UCC
Lynn Horton

Delegate to the Southern New England Conference

Central Congregational Church is a member of the Southern New England Conference of the United Church of Christ (SNEUCC). We are entitled to send delegates to the meetings of the SNEUCC, to vote on matters of policy. The conference also offers valuable resources. More information about these can be found on the SNEUCC website.

The conference held its fourth annual meeting on June 17, 2023, at the DCU Center in Worcester, MA. I was able to attend the conference virtually, via Zoom. I enjoyed the opening and closing worship sessions, as always. In between those bookends, I selected three breakout sessions to

attend. In the first one, I learned about the Witness Stones project, which “restores the history and honors the humanity of enslaved individuals who helped build churches in our communities.” In the second, I viewed the Resiliency Time Capsule Docuseries. This project captured the experiences of churches who showed innovation, adaptability and resilience during the turbulence of 2020. Finally, I participated in a conversation about disability justice in SNEUCC churches. The keynote address and sermon for the conference were recorded and are available online, along with the treasurer’s report.

The next annual meeting will be held at UMass Amherst on June 21 and 22. There will also be an online component for those who find it difficult to attend in person. The meeting will focus on growing the church. The keynote speaker will share stories of churches who have grown their ministries by working smarter, not harder, relying on the “abundance of God’s grace manifest in real and practical ways.” The Rev. Darrell Goodwin, Executive Conference Minister, will be preaching.

I invite anyone who finds the idea of meeting and learning from members of other UCC churches, participating in inspirational worship, and helping to guide the direction of the conference appealing to join me in attending Annual Meeting and future SNEUCC meetings. I would love to have your company, you would certainly enjoy the experience, and our church would be enriched.

Respectfully submitted,
Deb Lyons, Delegate to SNEC UCC

Diaconate

The Deacons are charged with caring for the congregation and fostering spiritual leadership and growth within the church. We meet once a month (mostly now via Zoom meetings) and occasionally in face-to-face events like our annual retreat and end-of-year transition meeting.

Deacons who served God and the Central Congregational Church during the 2023-2024 term were: Karen Banakos, Lillian Beean, Bryan Norman, Lynn Horton, Gwen Bottomley, Scott Dorman, Deb Lyons, Arlene Belleville, Kenny Pantuso, Meredith Robison, Shirley Zachry, and Jennie Walsh.

One of the biggest roles of the Diaconate is to support the minister in multiple aspects of our weekly worship services. This year the Deacons, as well as the congregation, were faced with the news of our dear Pastor Rich being diagnosed with cancer. The Deacons stepped up to ensure smooth and complete church services to aid our minister in rest and recovery. When Pastor Rich requested his leave of absence, the Deacons utilized the resources from the United Church of Christ to seek out and vet appropriate ministerial coverage. Although our hearts are heavy, we were pleased to welcome in Rev. Lee Atherton as Pastor pro tem. The Deacons continue to support the Pastor in worship services as well as the emotional and spiritual needs of our congregation.

You will see the Deacons participating in church services as liturgists, greeters, preparing and serving communion and other significant church rituals and ceremonies. What many do not see are the quiet but important outreach that the Deacons participate in on a weekly basis. The Good Samaritan Fund, which is funded by you the congregation via donations, is utilized to offer support to local and national charities and individuals in need. Some of the examples of this ministry are assistance to a bed building initiative for the incoming Afghan refugees settling in greater Lowell, disaster relief funds for affected communities, food gift cards to needy individuals, and assistance with emergency housing for homeless during frigid weather months. Additionally, the Deacons are very active in reaching out to our own CCC family members who are affected by health issues, loneliness, the death of loved ones, and/or the need for meals or rides to church. We have 3-4 members that regularly receive rides to church from the Diaconate. It is these unseen activities that exemplify the love our church has for people or groups in need and why the Deacons find serving as a Deacon to be such a rewarding and special lay ministry.

Transitions: Concluding her service of a 3-year Diaconate term this year is Gwen Bottomley. Concluding her second consecutive 3-year term is Deb Lyons. We will be excited to welcome two new Deacons and for the grateful support for the continuing Deacons to another year on the Diaconate. We ask the congregation for prayers for our ministry.

Respectfully submitted,
Kenny Pantuso and Deb Lyons
Senior Deacons

Finance Committee

The members of the 2023-2024 Finance Committee were:

Glenn Dissinger (Chair)	Sandra Lamplough	Elizabeth Hartigan
Heather Landheim	Tim O’Brien	Scott Bottomley
Mark Timmins	Scott Dorman	Merri Robison
Mike Cassidy	Judith Barnes	

The Committee is responsible for:

- Counting the weekly service offerings and any other funds received by the church during the week.
- Reporting the receipts to the Assistant Treasurer.
- Alerting the church office of any special donations.
- Making the weekly deposits to the bank.

This past year, we welcomed three new members to the counting team: Sandra Lamplough, Mike Cassidy, and Judith Barnes. All have served well.

Two person teams working on a 6-week schedule carry out these duties. The Chairman represents the Finance Committee at Council meetings and coordinates the counting schedule of the committee.

To assist the Committee in carrying out its duties, please:

- Always use separate checks for donations for different items. For example, use one check for your normal pledge / offering, and a different check for a special item such as paying for sanctuary flowers, a donation to SAM, etc. This makes the recording of your offerings much easier for the counters.
- Always use the memo line on the check to designate a special offering. Otherwise, we will assume it is your normal pledge / offering.
- Likewise, do not use any special envelopes to submit your normal pledge / offering. If the check is in a special envelope, the counters and Treasurer will designate the check amount to that fund and NOT towards your annual pledge.
- Never use old envelopes from previous years! Envelope numbers change from year to year. The use of an old envelope could mean that you will NOT get credit for the donation.

Respectfully submitted,
Glenn Dissinger, Chair

House Committee

The members of the House Committee this past year were Geoff Bryant, Jim Clark, Bill Clarke, Scott Dorman, Tim O'Brien, John Wellman, and Mary Horne. The House Committee meets on the third Tuesday of every month or as needed.

The purpose of the House Committee is to maintain and repair all church property and equipment. Duties and responsibilities are described in the CCC Organizational Practice Manual, version 10.3.

This past year, Jim Clark served as House Committee representative on the Capital Campaign Building Committee.

- House Committee has hired a painting contractor to do painting and repair outside of 1 Worthen.
- Monitor church boiler and resolve issues by calling boiler support
- Meet with Central Cooperative Nursery School director and resolve any maintenance issues.
- Monitor church thermostats remotely to conserve heat
- Gutters were installed on the church to resolve water drainage issues.
- The Chimney was removed and new hot water tank was installed in 9 Worthen.
- The Church under water drainage system has been repaired.

- The House Committee will be working from an engineering study of issues that need to be addressed.

The House Committee gives a big thank you to Peggy Kelly, Church Administrator, and the Trustees for their support.

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Clark, Chair

KiSeLo – “KIndness, SErvice, LOve”

KiSeLo is a women’s group which promotes community and offers opportunities for service. It meets one Wednesday each month from September through May, for fellowship, refreshments and informative and entertaining programs.

For service this year we headed the collection of school supplies for The Lowell Wish Project. We collect food for the Open Pantry at each meeting, and in September we donated \$200 to the Open Pantry. We covered the cost of a Winterberry bush in Carson Park in memory of our members who have passed on.

In June we met informally at Country Creamery and then had an ice cream social at church in August.

In September we met for our annual potluck lunch. October’s meeting was a field trip to the Lowell National Park & the Brush Gallery, preceded by lunch at Olympia Restaurant. In November we met to do some Christmas crafts and write cards of encouragement and thanks to the Military. We had a large table of toys the ladies brought for Toys for Tots. Our January meeting was led by Shirley Zachry as she encouraged us to make a list of “What We Need to Know”SS#, account numbers, tax info, health care info, credit card info, insurance info, etc. In February Barbara Reilly and a music friend of hers told us how music has influenced their lives and then they played a beautiful piece for us on their French Horns. March was a tasty meeting – cheese tasting, that is. We tasted and learned about cheeses from all over the world. Our April meeting was a travelogue done by John Carson about their trip to Petra and Egypt. Our May meeting will be our annual May Luncheon and we will be going to Princeton Station.

As is true for all KiSeLo meetings, all women of the church are invited!

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Papenfuss, President

Members-at-Large

No Report.

Music Committee

Members of the music committee this year were Monique Billingsley, chair; Val King, vice-chair; Beth Jarok, sec.; Janet Ottey-Rivera, treasurer; Dory Toppan, council rep; Jacki Dibble; Mary Harrison (ex officio); and Tudor Bota, Director of Music.

The Music Committee oversees the budget for music expenditures, the care of the church-owned instruments, and the music director who is an ex-officio member of the committee, and the four music groups – chancel choir, junior choir, bell choir, and SonLight. We also have one memorial fund, the Berg Fund, whose interest we can use for special projects to enhance the music program such as soloists. We have the Music Special Account which currently funds the music budget. At least one choir performs in the service each week and the Chancel Choir has sung at several funerals in the past year.

We have had two concerts in the past year. For the Christmas and Easter concerts, Tudor chooses the music and, along with the choirs, spends many hours in preparation for these concerts, but the committee gets volunteers to bake, greet, usher and serve at the concert and reception that follows. Each of these concerts has made a profit which goes into the music special account. Thank you to all the congregational friends and members who volunteered their help to make these concerts a success and to the audience for their monetary contributions.

We have started a Junior Choir for children aged 6 – 13 this year. They have sung during the church service several times, in both concerts, and will be singing on Children's Sunday in June. Thank you, Tudor for this successful undertaking and to Jacki Dibble who helped Tudor and was the second adult each week. The committee has also worked on updating the OPC.

We consult with Tudor about the upkeep of the piano, organ, and bells including tunings and any repairs.

*Elizabeth Jarok,
Music Committee Secretary*

Nominating Committee

It is the goal of the Nominating Committee to connect individuals with the role or roles within the church where they can best feel the satisfaction of serving. Often this is through committee work, and CCC is blessed with many committees! Thank you to each person who has said “yes” to the opportunity to serve on a committee or in the position of a church officer! Many of you are long-time CCC volunteers, and your years of service are invaluable to the stability and smooth operation of our church. To everyone who is newer to the church committees, thank you for being the source of fresh ideas, new perspectives, and an enthusiastic infusion of energy!

The work of our committees ensures the success of Central Congregational Church, within and beyond our walls. A special thank you to those who are completing their term of service in 2024; your dedication is recognized and greatly appreciated! Despite our best efforts, there remain vacancies on the slate of nominees. There are openings on the House, Christian Education, Social Action and Ministry, Communications, Sanctuary, Technology, Nominating, and Members-at-Large committees. There is also a delegate to the Southern New England Conference of United Church of Christ (SNEUCC) position and a Northeast Association representative position available.

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! Give it a try!

Your Nominating Committee,
*Lynn Horton, Deb Lyons, Elizabeth Hartigan,
Dory Toppan*

Slate of Nominees – as of May 9, 2023

Central Congregational Church in Chelmsford, UCC Draft Slate of Nominees – as of May 6, 2023

* Moderator	Peter White	* Treasurer	Richard Papenfuss
* Clerk	Valerie King	* Asst. Treasurer – Income	Sue Sarafinas
* Assistant Clerk	Julie Carney	* Asst. Treas. – Expense	Margie Dissinger

	2025	2026	2027
* Diaconate (12)	Shirley Zachry Kenny Pantuso Jennie Walsh Bryan Norman	Lynn Horton Lillian Beean Arlene Belleville Scott Dorman	Karen Banakos Meredith Robison Marcia Cassidy Joe Chapman
* Members-at-Large (3)	<i>vacant</i>	<i>vacant</i>	<i>vacant</i>
* Nominating (6)	Deb Lyons <i>vacant</i>	Lynn Horton Elizabeth Hartigan	Dory Toppan <i>vacant</i>
* Trustees (6)	Jennifer Delikat John Lamplough	Christine Williams Alan Wisniewski	John Carson Shirley Eaton
** Christian (8) Education	Kristin Strobel Meghan Naish	Elmer Lyons Shaleena Pulliam Becky Acheson	Samantha Shields April McCarthy <i>vacant</i>
** Communications (6)	Margie Dissinger Beth Jarok	Samantha Shields <i>vacant</i>	<i>vacant</i> <i>vacant</i>
** Finance (10)	Elizabeth Hartigan Heather Landheim Mark Timmins Mike Cassidy	Glenn Dissinger Judith Barnes Sandy Lamplough Merri Robison	Scott Dorman Tim O'Brien Scott Bottomley
** House (9)	Jim Clark John Wellman Tim O'Brien	Scott Berglund <i>vacant</i> <i>vacant</i>	Scott Dorman Bill Clarke Geoff Bryant

	2025	2026	2027
** Music (6)	Beth Jarok Valerie King	Mary Harrison Janet Ottey-Rivera	Monique Billingsley Dory Toppan Amy Provencal Nancy Swain
**Pastor Parish (3) Relations	Curtis Bates	Linda Carson	Valerie King
** Sanctuary (10)	Elizabeth Hartigan John Lefebvre Jennifer Delikat Sue Sarafinas	Catherine Loew Cynthia Dorman <i>vacant</i>	Dick Papenfuss Curtis Bates Barbara Reilly
** Social Action (9) and Missions	Wendy Piacenza Dale Williams <i>vacant</i>	Becky Wisniewski Diane Blair <i>vacant</i>	Carol Boucek Julie Carney <i>vacant</i>
** Stewardship (3)	Mark Timmins CE Rep – <i>vacant</i> SAM Rep – Becky Wisniewski Advisor – Dick Papenfuss	Cynthia Dorman	Wim Nijenberg
**Technology (6)	Vivian Hussey <i>vacant</i>	Joe Chapman Patrick Shields	Lillian Beean <i>vacant</i>

+ Northeast Association: Pat Vondal, ***vacant***

+ Southern New England Conference of the United Church of Christ (SNEUCC): Deb Lyons, ***vacant***

* Voted by majority at Annual Meeting. Church membership is required.

** Voted by majority at Annual Meeting.

+ Appointed by Council and Church membership is required.

Note: All terms for elected positions begin at Annual Meeting, except for the Treasurer and Assistant

Treasurers, whose terms begin at the beginning of the fiscal year on July 1st.

Open and Affirming (ONA) Ministry Team

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

Respectfully submitted,
Lynn Horton

Pastor-Parish Relations Committee

The Pastor-Parish Relations Committee (PPRC) is charged with:

- Guiding relations between the Pastor(s) and the Parish, serving as an advocate for both.
- Act as advocate for the Pastor(s) and the Parish, working to maintain a climate in which the spiritual life and mission of the Church are strengthened.
- To bring concerns from one to the other, mediating or advising, and bring relevant issues to other organizations (Diaconate, Church Council, Christian Education Committee) as appropriate.
- Not resolve disagreements and disputes, unless easily done, but to bring parties together and address disagreements and disputes to positions that will lead to resolution.

Our committee would like to thank the congregation for their support of, and contributions for the Celebration of Pastor Rich and his ministry on May 12, 2024, and to thank the congregation for their ongoing support of the Knight family during his ministry at Central Congregational Church.

Members of the PPRC are Valerie King-Chair, Curtis Bates, and Linda Carson. We meet quarterly with the Pastor(s) and on an as need basis. The work of the PPRC is confidential, so if members of the Parish wish to contact any of the members of the PPRC, you may do so in confidence by contacting Val King, committee chair, Curt Bates, or Linda Carson.

Respectfully submitted,
Val King, Chair

Prayer Ministry

The Prayer Ministry is a group of dedicated people who believe in the power of prayer to heal and restore. We are honored to pray for the needs of our members and their loved ones. We believe that God hears our prayers and responds, not always in the way we want but as God wants. Our prayers bring hope and comfort. We are always grateful for answered prayer however it comes, in God's time. We have been a CCC ministry for over 30 years and we always welcome new members to our group.

Respectfully submitted,
Wendy Perry

Prayer Shawl Ministry

As I prepare this report for the 2023-2024 Annual Report I've reflected on the history of our Prayer Shawl Ministry. It seems impossible that our first year takes us back to 2004. The mission of the Prayer Shawl Ministry is to present shawls to individuals experiencing loss and difficult times in their life journey. The shawls are meant to be symbolic of the love, support, and commitment to others through our Christian faith.

We have knit and distributed approximately 600 adult prayer shawls and 50 baby prayer shawls over the course of the past 20 years. These have gone to Lowell General Hospital patients including those at the Cancer Center, individuals of Central Congregational Church, friends of friends, and high school graduates of Central Congregational Church. Our baby prayer shawls have been given to infants at the time of their baptism.

Our gratitude, appreciation and thanks go out to the church membership for the financial support in the purchase of the yarn. A heart-felt thanks also goes to every one of the many volunteers who have given of their time to make the Prayer Shawl Ministry such a success. My special appreciation also goes to Karen Papenfuss for supplying the cards that we attached to each prayer shawl over the years.

After 20 years I will be bringing the active Prayer Shawl Ministry to a close. We continue to have ample shawls available at the church for continued distribution.

In Christian fellowship,
Linda Carson, Chair

Sanctuary Committee

The Sanctuary Committee consisted of the following members this year:

Curtis Bates	Jennifer Delikat	John Lefebvre
Sue Sarafinas	Elizabeth Hartigan	Dick Papenfuss
Cynthia Dorman	Catherine Lowe	

The committee members are responsible for getting flowers for each Sunday, greeters, and ushers. They decorate the sanctuary for Advent and Easter. They clean up the sanctuary after each service. But we can only have a successful year if we get the cooperation of you, the congregation.

We want to thank all of you who said yes to helping as greeters and ushers, providing flowers for each Sunday, and purchasing the poinsettias, lilies and tulips to help beautify the sanctuary for Christmas and Easter. If we somehow have missed asking you to be a greeter or an usher and you want to help us, please, speak to a committee member and we will work you into the schedule. Volunteers are always welcome.

We would like to encourage more people to donate flowers this coming year. You can choose to take the flowers home or to have the Diaconate take them to someone who needs to have their day brightened. Sign up on the flower chart along the ramp in Fellowship Hall and we will contact you the week before your donation. We will need to know what dedication you would like for the bulletin, what you would like to spend and whether you want to take the flowers home.

I would like to thank all the committee members for all their hard work this year and am looking forward to another successful year next year.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dick Papenfuss, Chairman

Scouts BSA Troop 74

Scouts BSA Troop 74 is an active Troop with 7 boys and 16 adults registered. Weekly meetings are held on Monday evenings in Fellowship Hall and continue to be run by the Scouts. The Senior Patrol Leader holds Patrol Leaders Council (PLC) meetings monthly where the Scouts plan interesting and informative meetings and outings. Meetings and outings give the Scouts opportunities to learn leadership skills, as well as Scout skills such as knot tying, cooking, and first aid.

Troop 74 believes strongly that regular, frequent camping trips help the Scouts practice and develop their skills and experience the world through adventure. The Troop had monthly outings including BSA MASS Jam jamboree in Barnstable, MA, an overnight at the Maynard Rod & Gun club, and a ski trip to Pat's Peak. Last summer, the Troop attended camp at Wanocksett Scout Reservation.

In November, the Troop teamed up with Troop 77 for its annual bread baking fundraiser and headed up to Camp Wanocksett near the base of Mt. Monadnock. Over 1,000 loaves of bread were baked and over 100 loaves were donated to organizations in the community including: House of Hope, Milly's Place, and Lowell Transitional Living Center. The Scouts and adults enjoyed the opportunity to connect with another Troop.

The Scouts participated in community service activities. The Troop raked the lawns of veterans in November and donated gift baskets to Veterans in December. They also served hot chocolate and cookies at the Day-Before-Thanksgiving Hike held by the Chelmsford Open Space Stewardship. In December, the Troop also helped CCC sell Christmas Trees. The Scouts are preparing for a Mountain Biking Trip in Stowe VT this summer and several Scouts are planning to attend summer camp at Yawgoog Scout Camp in Rhode Island.

In February, Troop 74 had an active role in Scout Sunday at CCC. Douglas Drake wrote the service and delivered the sermon. Scouts from Troop 74, Troop 75 and Pack 45, along with 6 Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts and Cubs Scouts from CCC participated in the service.

Patrick Kelliher continued as Scout Master and Eric Salerno is the Troop Committee Chair. I have served as Chartered Organization Representative since 2013. The Troop encourages parents to be active in their sons' Scouting career. When an adult registers, the Boy Scout Council performs a CORI check. As required by National BSA policy which is similar to CCC's Safe Church policy, adults must be registered and pass Youth Protection Training every two years in to attend sleepovers or campouts. We also encourage adults to complete training offered by the BSA. The Troop is considering merging with another BSA Troop to increase membership.

The Troop looks forward to another year as the chartered Troop of CCC. Thank you for your continued support.

Respectfully submitted,
Gwendolyn S. Bottomley
Chartered Organization Representative

Scouts BSA Troop 75

No Report

Social Action and Missions (SAM) Committee

The members of SAM for the past year were Julie Carney, Diane Blair, Carol Boucek, Cindy Bruetsch, Wendy Piacenza, Becky Wisniewski, Dale Williams, Pat Vondal

SAM 's first actions for the year were to make donations from our Capital Campaign Funds to two local flood relief programs; the Massachusetts Farm Resiliency Fund for support to farmers in Central and Western Massachusetts, who experienced crop losses in July, and then to the Leominster Flood Relief program, a nearby town that experienced significant damages due to extraordinary rainfall in September.

SAM then coordinated our annual collection of clothing, towels and other items for the Lowell Transitional Living Center shelter.

In October, SAM reported on the dire situation that the Open Pantry of Lowell was facing with increased demand from clients, while their food allotment from the Greater Boston Food Bank had been cut back. Food donations had decreased for both entities, and worker shortages at the Boston Food Bank also affected the amount of food being received. Our appeal led to an outpouring of support from CCC, with monetary donations totaling \$945. The Christian Ed Committee then raised another \$631 at our Holiday Fair in November, and SAM then designated Open Pantry as the recipient of our Christmas Eve collection, which amounted to \$2329.56. Altogether, including donations made during Souper Sunday in February, and an additional donation from SAM's Mission Fund, CCC donated a total of \$5,076 to the Open Pantry, along with many, many bags of food items to help feed our neighbors.

In November, SAM allocated some funds to the UCC Neighbors in Need fund drive.

In December, SAM held another successful Secret Santa collection of gifts for needy Chelmsford families, who are recommended to us by the Chelmsford Housing Authority. CCC helped to bring joy to 30 children, providing three gifts to each for a total of 90 gifts.

In February, SAM hosted Dave Kuzara from All Saint's Episcopal Church to talk about a new mission they have started to build handicap ramps for people in the Chelmsford area. This is an outgrowth of the West Virginia Mission project that our two churches used to collaborate on, but is no longer in operation. One of the early projects for this new Ramps for Neighbors program will support one of CCC's own families in need of a deck reconstruction. SAM has allocated some of our Mission Funds to the program.

Over the course of the year, SAM has coordinated the preparation of four meals at St. Paul's Soup Kitchen in Lowell; July, October, January and April. SAM is grateful for the help provided by our CCC young people for this mission. The Holy Cows have provided all of the brownies for three of the meals and helped to prep and serve at the October meal. The God Squad served at the January meal, and Boy Scout Troop 75 supplied all the Shepherd's Pies and helped serve at the April meal. This scout service project was led by God Squad member, Arthur Hargett, with great success.

The remainder of our Mission Funds have been allocated to eight local agencies working to address housing and/or food insecurity in the Lowell area.

A detailed list of SAM spending is shown below.

Respectfully submitted,
Julie Carney

SAM Financial Summary

A detailed list of SAM spending is shown below.

	July 1, 2022 to June 30, '23	July 1, 2023 to June 30, '24*
UCC Sponsored Initiatives		
Neighbors in Need	400.00	300.00
The Christmas Fund	160.00	0
One Great Hour of Sharing	895.00	496.00
Invest in the Vision	0.00	0
UCC Disaster Fund - Hurricane Relief	400.00	0
UCC International Emergency H.O.P.E	400.00	0
Total UCC Missions	2,255.00	796.00
Local Mission Support		
Alternative House	500.00	502.00
Boys & Girls Club of Lowell	500.00	0
Community Teamwork Shelters	500.00	520.00
CTI Emergency Fund	500.00	500.00
DownEast Maine Mission	1000.00	0
Habitat for Humanity	500.00	500.00
House of Hope	500.00	500.00
International Institute of New England (Afghan refugees)	500.00	0
Lowell Transitional Living Center	1,770.00	520.00
Lowell Community Health Center	514.00	500.00
Open Pantry of Greater Lowell	2001.00	5076.56
Project Kompass	600.00	500.00
Ramps for Neighbors	0	300.00
St. Paul's Soup Kitchen	500.00	670.39
The Wish Project	500.00	500.00
Total Local Missions	10,385.00	10,588.95

Other		
Doctors Without Borders	500.00	0
Leominster Flood Relief	0	500.00
Mass Farm Resiliency Fund	0	1000.00
Sleep in Heavenly Peace	2314.00	0
Other total	2,814.00	1,500.00
*Total Expenditures	15,454.00	12,884.95
*As disbursed through May 14, 2024		

Stewardship Committee

The Stewardship Committee team members were Cynthia Dorman, Chair, Sherman Horton, Lindsay Moore, Dick Papenfuss, Mark Timmons, and Becky Wisniewski

The Stewardship Committee began meeting in January 2024 on Zoom to discuss the campaign for 2024-25 and decide on a theme and the amount of increase in pledges required to ensure a balanced budget. The theme of “Imagine Together” was agreed upon as it encouraged members and friends to not only remember many of the great programs that were once offered at CCC, but also the potential that could be reached with additional pledges. The suggested increase was \$10 per week, a stretch for some, but also encouraged for those who haven’t increased their pledge in several years.

To kick off the campaign, in late February, Sherm Horton introduced the campaign theme during the first Stewardship Moment during church service. It was agreed that the Stewardship Committee would use one of the bulletin boards in Fellowship to further illustrate the “Imagine Together” theme with index cards that represented CCC from members and friends vision for the future as a result of Sherm Horton’s presentation. In addition, Becky Wisniewski created caricatures of church members for the bulletin board, which was a great conversation piece! Subsequent Stewardship Moments were presented by Cynthia Dorman and Becky Wisniewski in March. A plea for additional pledges was made in early April, which resulted in all pledges being accounted for, including new pledges. The campaign was deemed a success, given significant new pledges and increases, despite the loss of several longstanding pledges. The campaign results are as follows:

- We received 101 pledges vs.103 last year
- 53 pledges increased, which is over 52% of all pledges
- We gained 7 new pledges
- Our pledges for the 2024-2025 fiscal year totaled \$270,404 vs. \$255,168 last year, or an increase of \$15,236

Additional financial details are available from the Treasurer and Stewardship Committee Advisor, Dick Papenfuss. In reflecting on this year's Stewardship campaign, the Stewardship Committee strongly believes that the theme "Imagine Together" helped the congregation envision a stronger and brighter future for CCC. This was a different approach than previous years and it clearly spoke to friends and members of CCC. We sincerely thank everyone who pledged, whether it was increased, stayed the same or decreased. We are truly blessed and thankful.

Respectfully Submitted,
Cynthia Dorman, Chair

Technology Committee

The technology committee continued its work this year with the purpose of supporting our church's mission through mindful application of technology. Responsibilities include

- Maintaining information technology (IT) and information systems
- Developing a vision and roadmap for technology upgrades and projects
- Consulting with other committees as needed to support technology initiatives
- Assisting members and friends with technology needs
- Streaming worship services and live concerts to Facebook Live and YouTube Live
- Helping the church with sign up forms, including:
 - SAM Secret Santa drive
 - Christmas tree sale volunteer sheet

This past year, we completed the following projects:

- Transferred Website into CCC owned web hosting account
 - Updated to latest OS and WordPress versions
 - Setup billing to be paid by church directly
- Sound System Updates
 - Repaired hanging microphone in sanctuary
 - Added audio connection to projector in fellowship hall.
 - Started with helping replace ceiling speakers in fellowship hall.
- Created QR Code for Communications for donations.
 - Utilizing new domain cccc.one for short links

Next year, we plan to tackle the following projects:

- Fellowship Hall Upgrades
 - Connect to sanctuary mixer for hearing worship service
 - Complete Ceiling Speaker installation

- Add a video/picture player device for easy playing of videos or pictures
- Sanctuary Audio Upgrades
 - Run microphone cabling under chancel to eliminate wire across steps
 - Add microphones in front of pulpit and lectern for children's moments
 - Add pulpit and lectern mute buttons to allow remote control

We are grateful to our congregation and leadership for its support and encouragement throughout and touched by some of the stories we have heard about how live streaming services have kept us together in Christ.

Submitted by,
Patrick Shields

DownEast Maine Mission

This was the 17th year CCC has sent mission workers to DownEast Maine and the 12th with the youth and adults from the Harvard Congregational Church. We had a wonderful time doing God's work and learning about helping ourselves while we help others. Our Workcampers this year were: Sam Becker, Arthur Hargett, Will Hargett, Elizabeth Hartigan, Emma Hartigan, Steve Hartigan, Trey Hartigan, Fiona Hungate, Carter Lindberg, Jack Salmon, Joe Walsh, Jonathan Walsh, Heidi Wharton, Rachael Wharton, Michele White, Peter White

From July 30st – Aug 5th, 2023 we stayed at the Jacksonville United Methodist Campground in East Machias, where we regularly stay and enjoyed campfires, puzzles, cards and music. We had 16 mission workers this year. We had two teams of 7/8. Each had challenging work to complete during the week. One team needed to replace a handicap ramp which was beyond repair and without it, the grandmother in the house could not get out. The team took on the challenge and completed it. The other team needed to replace an entranceway to a trailer which was no longer viable and didn't keep out the weather or water. This was a challenge for the team, but again, they rose to the challenge, designed a new entryway and made sure the roof did not leak. With God's help and lots of hard work from the mission workers, we met the challenge and made a difference to two related families. In addition, it was wonderful to get to know the homeowners (brother and sister) and learn about their stories.

Meals this year were freshly made each day by Michele White. She continued her role in the kitchen to be sure we all ate healthy, filling, fresh and tasty meals. All meals started with a prayer written by a meal sponsor from one of the two churches. Thank you very much. Before each meal, we would introduce the prayer sponsor through someone on the trip who knew them, and then as a group we would hear the prayer.

Hump day turned out to be a wonderful day with most of the time spent chilling by the ocean at the West Quoddy Head lighthouse. Unfortunately, we did have an injury, luckily not serious, but it cut short the time at the ocean. A twisted ankle, a fine piggyback ride from Trey and support from the group kept everyone going. Even with this, the group felt recharged and ready to finish out the week.

Thanks to the many people who helped make this trip possible: all the adult leaders (Heidi, Steve, Elizabeth, Will, and Michele) awesome youth leaders (Emma Hartigan and Fiona Hungate) and all the youth for taking time from their summer to make a difference in Maine. A giant “Thank You” to all of you who sponsored us with contribution which make this trip possible. My personal thanks go to Heidi Wharton, the Harvard Leader and trip co-leader, who organizes the Harvard crew, I couldn’t do this trip without her help. Thanks to Elizabeth Hartigan for taking on the financial work associated with the many donations from every direction. Thanks also to all those who contributed T-shirts and socks for the migrant workers in Maine.

CCC, Harvard church and all our sponsors, because of your support of talent and treasure, we went to Maine and experienced God each day. We were the miracle workers you sent to Maine. Please enjoy and share these reflections from this year's mission workers. Here are a few of the reflections. Reach out to me if you would like to read all of them.

Peter White
DownEast Maine Mission Trip Organizer

Fiona Hungate

This was my seventh year attending this mission trip. Every year has been an amazing experience, which is why I keep coming back. The people we get to help each year are so kind and really make us feel welcome. This year was my third year working as a youth leader. The homeowners we were able to help were a mother named Shirley and her son Johnathan. The project we completed for them was a new deck and ramp. Shirley is on the older side and is currently using a walker to get around. The only way she can safely get in and out of the house is by using a ramp. We completed the demolition of the old ramp on the first day and started building on the second day. Shirley would watch us work from inside the front door with a big smile on her face. Once we got the first part of the deck up, she was able to come outside and watch us work. It was great to see the joy that this brought her. Shirley was also an avid knitter. She knit everyone on both crews packs of kitchen cloths to bring home to our families. This trip continues to bring me new friends and great joy every time I attend. Thank you to everyone who donated, wrote prayers and attended the trip this year. We would not be able to do this without your support.

Heidi Wharton

This year our team replaced a handicapped ramp for our 84 year old homeowner who uses a walker. She was so appreciative of the work we did. She kept saying that we built a better ramp than the professional carpenter who was recommended to build the original ramp. Improving the quality of life

for our homeowners and helping them to stay in their homes longer are two reasons why DEMM is so meaningful to me. Seeing the happiness on our homeowner's face as she sat outside on the new, wider deck and enjoyed her beautiful property and knowing she can do so safely, is so satisfying. I am grateful for the families who encourage their youth to participate in the trip. Their energy and enthusiasm as they learn new skills and see the tangible difference they can make in another person's life through their work is so exciting to witness. I especially want to thank the donors who help make the trip possible. The cost of building materials, particularly lumber, has increased significantly over the past few years. We would not have been able to pay for the materials to build a ramp like this, or have been able to afford to rent the vehicles or cover much of the cost without the financial support of our sponsors and our churches. Thank you to all of you who supported us this year and helped us to continue to make a positive difference for the folks in Down East Maine.

Will Hargett

What a trip DEMM 2023 was this year! As usual, I was blessed with a superb home owner, an incredible crew and an interesting and challenging project. Jeannie, our home owner, was a most gracious host and an incredible lady. She adopted her autistic grandson and they lived together. Jeannie is a doer! She used to work construction, roofing and a variety of other very physical jobs. It was very hard for her to not pick up a hammer or paint brush and help us during the work week. Her project involved the demolition of an old front porch that leaked terribly and construction of a new front porch and new steps. The skirting around her home also needed priming and painting and her back deck needed stairs completed. Our team did it all! We even finished the painting of the new front porch in the rain! :) Many thanks to our crew and sponsors for making Jeannie's day to day life a little easier and a little nicer. Jeannie shared that our team's presence with her that week was inspiring to her and encouraged her to get back to socializing again. Our team and Jeannie connected, both spiritually, and emotionally. Her energy encouraged our work and our energy encouraged her to get out there in the world and get busy engaging with people again. We wish her all the best!

Trey Hartigan

This was my fourth year on this trip. I attend this trip every year due to the many learning experiences it gives me. Both mentally, physically and spiritually, I can learn so much with the help of my peers, but also with the help of God.

One thing I learned throughout the trip this year is that taking time out of my week to help others is also helping myself. I was on a worksite where we destroyed a portico, and rebuilt it so it could be sturdier, rebuilt stairs on the back deck, and painted the skirting to protect from weather. Jeanie, our homeowner, was very talkative and fun to listen to. She had many stories to share with us, and always had us coming back for more stories throughout the trip. While helping Jeanie, I learned life lessons about what to do and what not to do. Learning about her life, she could give us advice about life so we could do things she wasn't able to, and avoid things she regretted doing. She helped us mentally. We also learned how to use our minds to engineer a way to fix a portico, or stairs, or better ways to paint. All these new strengths of ours can be used in the future to continue to help others, or help ourselves with home projects to save more money.

Another part of this trip is its gratification. I am given the chance to bring a smile back on people's faces. Jeanie was so inspired since we could help her. She told us about how we gave her faith in humanity again, and she wants to come back into the world that she had been so apart from for so long. We gave her that reason. I was overjoyed to hear her excitement about that.

Lastly, our faith. Every night around eight o'clock, our groups would gather around a campfire and talk about our God sightings, sing songs, and learn a lesson everyday about our topic, help. At our campfire, we were asked where we felt closest to God, and immediately I answered, right here in DownEast Maine. I feel closest to God when I am helping people with him right by my side.

Treasurer

As we finished the 2022/2023 fiscal year, we passed a budget last year that included an anticipated \$3000 surplus to include in this year's budget. Unfortunately, giving dropped off at the end of the year and some expenses increased more than anticipated, resulting in a deficit at the end of the year. As a result, we started this year (2023/2024) with an unbalanced budget. Despite this bad start to the year, expenses have remained under control and income has remained on track. At the end of April, the budget is slightly in the black.

The budget for electricity has been greatly exceeded due to an inverter on the solar system at 9 Worthen failing. We have not been able to produce electricity there since around the first of the year. Unfortunately, the repair part will not be available until mid-August. The rest of the utilities are very close to budget or slightly under budget. The lack of electrical production will result in lower income from the SREC's we receive for our production.

With Pastor Rich's illness, we have had to hire a temporary minister to fill his place in the pulpit. As Pastor Rich transitions to short-term and long-term insurance, we will stop paying his salary and housing as of May 18. The savings from not paying the rest of the fiscal year, will be used to cover Pastor Lee Atherton's pay.

As of the end of April, the capital campaign has received \$321,369 of the \$443,082 pledged and given. This is about 73% of the total funds we need to finish all the capital projects. Please try to maintain your schedule of payments to the Capital Campaign, so we can bring the campaign to a successful completion by the end of the upcoming fiscal year (June 30, 2025). We appreciate your continued support.

Again this year, I need to thank our Assistant Treasurers, Margie Dissinger and Sue Sarafinas for their work in their specific areas of receipts and expenses. They continually do an excellent job of tracking all the financial happenings at the church. With the CDM+ software we installed, they are able to provide all of the financial information needed by the Church Council and the various committees to help make financial decisions

Submitted by,
Dick Papenfuss

Financial Statements as of March 31, 2024

Monthly Comparison Detail

Central Congregational Church
(United Church of Christ)
One Worthen St, PO Box 339
Chelmsford MA 01824

March 31 = 75%

Transaction Date Mar 1 2024 to Mar 31 2024

	FY 2023-2024 Budget	March Actual	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	Annual % of Budget
Income					
Undesignated Funds					
<Accounts Without Sub-Categories>					
4000 Pledged	246,984.00	18,949.28	185,238.00	188,692.44	76%
4010 Unpledged	15,000.00	1,463.48	11,250.00	9,638.45	64%
4020 Initial	200.00	0.00	149.99	125.00	63%
4030 Interest - NB&T Checking	40.00	1.34	30.01	18.23	46%
4035 Interest - NB&T Savings	0.00	6.80	0.00	88.81	0%
4055 Income from Carryover	3,074.00	0.00	2,305.49	0.00	0%
4070 Christmas Trees	24,500.00	0.00	18,374.99	24,136.50	99%
4080 Fair	6,500.00	10.00	4,874.99	6,866.00	106%
4090 Parking Lot	11,200.00	0.00	8,400.01	7,845.86	70%
4100 Sanctuary (Flowers)	2,000.00	980.00	1,499.99	2,420.00	121%
4130 Special Offering - Easter	300.00	338.00	225.00	338.00	113%
4140 SREC Trades	6,000.00	0.00	4,500.00	3,762.00	63%
4150 Steeple Lighting	100.00	0.00	75.01	90.00	90%
4160 Weddings, Baptism, etc	200.00	0.00	149.99	0.00	0%
<hr/>					
<Accounts Without Sub-Categories> Total	316,098.00	21,748.90	237,073.47	244,021.29	77%
Building Usage					
4060 Central COOP rent	21,850.00	2,300.00	16,387.51	15,168.00	69%
4062 Single Use	1,000.00	423.00	750.01	1,759.00	176%
4063 Donations	200.00	0.00	149.99	0.00	0%
<hr/>					
Building Usage Total	23,050.00	2,723.00	17,287.51	16,927.00	73%
SAM					
4005 Pledged - Benevolences	5,041.00	386.72	3,780.76	3,814.56	76%
4015 Unpledged - Benevolences	306.00	29.87	229.50	196.70	64%
4120 Special Offering - Christmas	2,400.00	0.00	1,800.00	2,329.56	97%
<hr/>					
SAM Total	7,747.00	416.59	5,810.26	6,340.82	82%
<hr/>					
Undesignated Funds Total	346,895.00	24,888.49	260,171.24	267,289.11	77%
<hr/>					
Total Income	346,895.00	24,888.49	260,171.24	267,289.11	77%
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Expenditures					
Personnel					
Minister					
5000 Minister Base Salary	66,131.00	7,630.50	49,598.24	50,901.02	77%
5010 Housing Allowance	32,679.00	3,770.67	24,509.25	25,122.40	77%
5020 Auto Allowance	1,000.00	0.00	750.01	227.20	23%
5030 Retirement Annuity	13,833.00	1,152.79	10,374.75	12,718.87	92%
5040 Health Care Allowance	21,132.00	2,438.31	15,849.00	16,287.25	77%
5050 Life/Disability Insurance	1,482.00	123.52	1,111.50	1,247.04	84%

Monthly Comparison Detail

		FY 2023-2024 Budget	March Actual	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	Annual % of Budget
5060	FICA Adjustment	9,176.00	1,058.76	6,881.99	7,064.38	77%
5070	Continuing Education	250.00	0.00	187.51	45.99	18%
5080	Professional Expenses	500.00	0.00	374.99	183.56	37%
5090	Pulpit Supply	500.00	2,100.00	374.99	2,900.00	580%
Minister Total		146,683.00	18,274.55	110,012.23	116,697.71	80%
Other staff						
5100	Music Director/Organist	28,134.00	3,246.24	21,100.50	21,654.80	77%
5110	Substitute Organist	300.00	0.00	225.00	150.00	50%
5120	SS Coordinator	0.00	400.00	0.00	3,000.00	0%
5130	Custodian	23,547.00	2,716.95	17,660.25	18,124.04	77%
5140	Office Administrator	27,000.00	3,115.38	20,250.00	20,769.20	77%
5145	Office Vacation Coverage	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0%
Other staff Total		78,981.00	9,478.57	59,235.75	63,698.04	81%
Payroll Expenses						
5150	SS/Medicare Taxes	6,019.00	694.50	4,514.26	4,631.86	77%
5160	ADP Payroll Expenses	2,000.00	153.21	1,499.99	1,021.77	51%
Payroll Expenses Total		8,019.00	847.71	6,014.25	5,653.63	71%
Personnel Total		233,683.00	28,600.83	175,262.23	186,049.38	80%
Administration						
5200	Office Supplies	1,800.00	223.59	1,350.00	1,197.89	67%
5210	Postage	1,000.00	68.78	750.01	522.37	52%
5220	Copier Maintenance	4,500.00	264.00	3,375.00	3,520.83	78%
5230	Software Renewal (Office 365 & Z...	1,050.00	269.89	787.50	722.87	69%
5240	CDM+ support & data hosting	600.00	0.00	450.00	0.00	0%
Administration Total		8,950.00	826.26	6,712.51	5,963.96	67%
Property						
<Accounts Without Sub-Categories>						
5300	Annual Inspections	2,500.00	1,115.00	1,875.01	1,966.98	79%
5340	Snow Plowing/Sanding	3,500.00	453.00	2,624.99	4,249.00	121%
5370	Transfer to Maintenance Special ...	5,760.00	680.75	4,320.00	4,231.75	73%
<Accounts Without Sub-Categories> Total		11,760.00	2,248.75	8,820.00	10,447.73	89%
Church Utilities						
5310	1 & 9 Worthen Electricity	750.00	0.00	562.50	1,667.43	222%
5311	Electricity Generated	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0%
5312	1 Worthen Gas	11,000.00	1,723.31	8,249.99	7,752.03	70%
5313	1 Worthen Water	1,200.00	0.00	900.00	969.18	81%
5314	Telephone/Internet	2,550.00	209.58	1,912.50	1,866.16	73%
5315	Sewer Assessment/Stormwater	3,700.00	1,681.32	2,775.01	3,303.75	89%
5316	Trash Service	2,275.00	206.00	1,706.26	1,818.00	80%
5317	Elevator Permit	400.00	0.00	300.01	315.00	79%
Church Utilities Total		21,875.00	3,820.21	16,406.27	17,691.55	81%
Church Repairs/Supplies						
5320	Custodial Supplies	1,200.00	219.16	900.00	1,348.82	112%
5321	Kitchen Supplies	300.00	0.00	225.00	30.42	10%

Monthly Comparison Detail

		FY 2023-2024 Budget	March Actual	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	Annual % of Budget
5322	Boiler Maintenance	1,100.00	0.00	824.99	0.00	0%
5323	Lawn Care	1,000.00	0.00	750.01	350.00	35%
Church Repairs/Supplies Total		3,600.00	219.16	2,700.00	1,729.24	48%
Insurances						
5330	Church Commercial Package	10,000.00	0.00	7,500.01	11,144.00	111%
5331	Workman's Compensation	2,300.00	0.00	1,724.99	2,376.00	103%
Insurances Total		12,300.00	0.00	9,225.00	13,520.00	110%
Church Gardens incl Carson Park						
5350	Garden/Park Maintenance	15,500.00	0.00	11,624.99	9,655.00	62%
5351	Water	400.00	0.00	300.01	567.20	142%
Church Gardens incl Carson Park Total		15,900.00	0.00	11,925.00	10,222.20	64%
9 Worthen Property						
5361	9 Worthen - Gas	1,100.00	138.93	824.99	725.01	66%
5362	9 Worthen - Sewer	350.00	202.43	262.49	391.80	112%
9 Worthen Property Total		1,450.00	341.36	1,087.48	1,116.81	77%
Property Total		66,885.00	6,629.48	50,163.75	54,727.53	82%
Committees						
5400	Christian Education	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0%
5410	Communication	100.00	0.00	75.01	0.00	0%
5420	CORI Safe Church Cks/Training	300.00	0.00	225.00	373.45	124%
5430	ONA Ministry	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0%
5440	Prayer Shawl Ministry	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0%
5450	Stewardship	250.00	152.02	187.51	152.02	61%
5460	Technology	100.00	0.00	75.01	0.00	0%
Committees Total		750.00	152.02	562.53	525.47	70%
Worship						
<Accounts Without Sub-Categories>						
5500	Child Care	1,200.00	0.00	900.00	697.50	58%
5510	Diaconate	200.00	0.00	149.99	0.00	0%
5530	Sanctuary	2,600.00	200.00	1,949.99	1,875.43	72%
<Accounts Without Sub-Categories> Total		4,000.00	200.00	2,999.98	2,572.93	64%
Music						
5520	Bell Choir Supplies	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0%
5521	Equipment Maintenance	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0%
5522	Music Supplies	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0%
5523	Sonlight	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0%
Music Total		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0%
Worship Total		4,000.00	200.00	2,999.98	2,572.93	64%
Outreach						
SAM Budgeted Expenses						

**Monthly Comparison
Detail**

		FY 2023-2024 Budget	March Actual	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	Annual % of Budget
5610	SAM - Mission Fund	5,347.00	1,000.00	4,010.26	3,000.00	56%
5615	SAM - Christmas Eve Offering	2,400.00	0.00	1,800.00	2,329.56	97%
SAM Budgeted Expenses Total		7,747.00	1,000.00	5,810.26	5,329.56	69%
Church Outreach						
5620	NEA Dues	400.00	0.00	300.01	400.00	100%
5630	Southern New England Conference	7,000.00	0.00	5,250.01	3,500.00	50%
Church Outreach Total		7,400.00	0.00	5,550.02	3,900.00	53%
Outreach Total		15,147.00	1,000.00	11,360.28	9,229.56	61%
Miscellaneous						
<Accounts Without Sub-Categories>						
5700	Bank Service Fees	30.00	0.00	22.50	0.00	0%
5710	Vanco Fees	325.00	30.75	243.76	296.47	91%
5715	Paypal Fees	125.00	8.94	93.74	115.15	92%
5730	Mass Conf/Assn Delegate Exp	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0%
5740	Unbudgeted Expenditures	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0%
<Accounts Without Sub-Categories> Total		480.00	39.69	360.00	411.62	86%
Fundraisers						
5720	Christmas Tree Expense	17,000.00	0.00	12,749.99	16,289.79	96%
5721	Fair Expense	500.00	0.00	374.99	620.57	124%
Fundraisers Total		17,500.00	0.00	13,124.98	16,910.36	97%
Miscellaneous Total		17,980.00	39.69	13,484.98	17,321.98	96%
Total Expenditures						
		347,395.00	37,448.28	260,546.26	276,390.81	80%

Balance Sheet as of March 31, 2024

Balance Sheet
Central Congregational Church
(United Church of Christ)
One Worthen St, PO Box 339
Chelmsford MA 01824

Mar 31 2024

<u>ASSETS</u>			
Cash Accounts			
1000	NB&T Checking Account	10,329.78	
1100	NB&T Savings	50,147.69	
1200	Workers Credit Union	127,902.05	
1300	Fidelity	313.03	
Cash Accounts Total			188,692.55
Fixed Assets			
1500	1 Worthen Building	4,800,000.00	
1600	9 Worthen Building	350,000.00	
1700	Furnishings - Church & 9 Worthen	350,000.00	
Fixed Assets Total			5,500,000.00
Investments			
1800	Investments	584,202.63	
Investments Total			584,202.63
TOTAL ASSETS			<u><u>6,272,895.18</u></u>
<u>LIABILITIES AND FUNDS</u>			
FUND BALANCES			
Fixed Assets			
3020	Property Equity Fund	5,500,000.00	
Fixed Assets Total			5,500,000.00
Undesignated Funds			
3000	General Fund	6,765.72	
3010	Carryover Account	6,405.23	
Undesignated Funds Total			13,170.95
Designated Funds			
<Accounts Without Sub-Categories>			
2000	Capital Campaign	64,208.26	
3100	Adult Fellowship	1,301.55	
3110	Benevolent Beaders	123.79	
3120	Berg Fund transactions	3,695.87	
3130	Bob Hall Memorial	0.00	
3140	Bob Moore Memorial	1,907.00	
3150	Carson Park	(14,464.02)	
3160	Christ Care Special Acct	934.89	
3170	Christian Education Special Account	11,931.19	
3180	Church School Collection	1,084.20	
3190	Coffee Hour Special Acct	470.92	
3200	Collation Special Acct	2,713.86	
3210	Confirmation Class Special Acct	2.87	
3220	COVID-19 Special Acct	0.00	
3230	Crafter Special Acct	55.12	

Mar 31 2024

3240	Diaconate - Communion & Good Samaritan	3,023.39
3250	Endowment Fund	0.00
3260	Family Ministry Special Acct	867.00
3265	Grant Fund	0.00
3270	Junior High Group Special Acct	402.50
3275	Lewis Mem. CE Fund	10,112.54
3277	Lewis Mem. Scholarship Fund	1,689.73
3280	Lewis Community Garden	423.26
3285	Lilly Grant Fund	(52.49)
3290	Lubec (DEMM) Special Acct	7,642.30
3300	Maintenance Special Acct	4,138.10
3310	Make a Difference Week Program	2.38
3320	Men's Breakfast Special Acct	0.00
3330	Music Special Account	25,071.97
3335	Other Missions	50.00
3340	Parking Lot Maintenance Special Acct	2,757.00
3350	Pastor Discretionary Fund	0.64
3360	Prayer Shawl Ministry Special Acct	358.71
3370	Remembrance Fund	3,212.89
3380	Senior High Group Special Acct	5,203.16
3390	Staff Gift Special Acct	0.00
3400	Trustee Discretionary Fund	28,038.48
3410	Ramps for Neighbors Special Acct	503.38
3420	Women's Retreats Special Acct	869.29
3430	Passthrough (In & Out)	119.81
<Accounts Without Sub-Categories> Total		168,399.54
SAM Designated		
3500	Alternative House Special Acct	2.00
3505	Capital Campaign: SAM	4,666.00
3510	Christmas Fund - UCC	0.00
3520	Circle Home Special Acct	0.00
3530	Community Teamwork Shelters Special Acct	0.00
3540	CTI Emergency Special Acct	0.00
3550	Disaster Relief Special Acct	0.00
3560	Habitat For Humanity Special Acct	0.00
3570	House of Hope Special Acct	0.00
3575	Jean Neal SAM Speciall Acct	1,100.00
3580	Lowell Community Health Center Special Acct	0.00
3590	Lowell Tranistional Living Center Special Acct	20.00
3600	Neighbors in Need Special Acct	0.00
3610	One Great Hour of Sharing - UCC	446.00
3620	Open Pantry of Greater Lowell	100.00
3630	SAM Discretionary Special Acct	788.06
3640	Secret Santa Special Acct	0.00
3650	Spread the Love - UCC	0.00
3660	St. Paul's Soup Kitchen Special Acct	0.00
3670	Wish Project Special Acct	0.00
SAM Designated Total		7,122.06
Designated Funds Total		175,521.60
Investments		
3800	Berg Fund	18,079.98

Mar 31 2024

3810	Carson Park Fund	29,779.57	
3820	CE Fund	14,690.93	
3830	Endowment	441,732.52	
3850	Hamilton Fund	5,614.90	
3860	Lewis Memorial CE Fund	66,830.94	
3870	Lewis Memorial Scholarship Fund	6,350.79	
3880	Winn Fund	1,123.00	
Investments Total			584,202.63
TOTAL FUNDS			<u>6,272,895.18</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUNDS			<u>6,272,895.18</u>
Difference			0.00