

# TOWER NOTES

Centre Congregational Church (United Church of Christ)

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The Rev. Dr. Dennis C. Bailey, Pastor, Pastor@Centre-Church.org

The Rev. Mark Freeman Strickland, Pastor Emeritus

Jill Couillard & Barbara Langill, Co-Directors of Christian Ed & Youth, ChristianEd@Centre-Church.org

Douglas W. Hodgkins, Organist/Choir Director

Sally MacDonald, Director of Tower Day School

Susan Spear, Secretary

We Welcome Everyone: An "Open and Affirming" Church

June 9, 2010

## \*\*\*\*\*Please Return Your Pledge Card\*\*\*\*\*

All returns are very important

as we consider the budget for our new fiscal year  
which begins on July 1.

If you have misplaced the card that was sent to you,  
please call the church office at 781-334-3050  
and a new one will be sent.

\*\*\*\*Your immediate response is appreciated!\*\*\*\*

## Foundations

The theme of "foundations" is frequently found in the Hebrew scriptures (the Old Testament).

The people of God gather for worship to lay a solid foundation in their lives. Symbolic of this quest it is not unusual for a special cornerstone to be laid as part of the construction of a temple and/or church's construction. In the book of Ezra note is made of *"When the builders laid the foundation of the temple of the LORD, the priests in their vestments and with trumpets, and the Levites with cymbals, took their places to praise the LORD, as prescribed by David, King of Israel. With praise and thanksgiving they sang to the LORD."* (Ezra 3:10-11)

Foundations are to be laid with great care. If the foundation is laid correctly, accurately, then the rest of the house, building, church, temple can be more safely built, lasting for generations to come, withstanding the torments of weather and shaking earth.

Frequently through scripture we are reminded of how important it is for us to remember and base our lives on the Lord's teachings:

*"For the foundations of the earth are the LORD's...."* (1 Samuel 2:8 and Psalm 104:5)

And in Job, the LORD asks, *"Where were you when I laid the earth's foundations?"* (38:4)

Who knows better than God what kind of foundations we need for our lives? Do we wish to build buildings, lives, and the lives of others on solid foundations that will withstand the torments of challenges, loss, temptation, suffering, and tragedy? If so, then we need to take great care in how we build our lives and how we establish the lives of our children.

It is like learning to play a sport or an instrument to the best of your ability. The most important part of

learning is the practicing, the training, and repetition. We don't like the practicing, the repetition, over and over again. We would like to find shortcuts. But, if we want to lay a solid foundation for what we plan to do and to be, a lot of care needs to be taken to prepare something solid upon which to build.

What kind of foundation does the Lord, our God build? We find some good clues in the following scriptures: *"Righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne...."* (Psalm 89:14). The LORD lays a foundation upon which all people are treated fairly, with respect, honesty, and equally. The LORD encourages us to build our relationships with each other in the same manner. If we build our ties with others in that way then we will have friends who will bless our lives with mutual companionship throughout our lives so that we are never alone in our joys and sorrows.

*"He (the LORD) will be the sure foundation for your times...."* (Isaiah 33:6). Things in our lives will change. They change every day. When the big changes and challenges come our way, we will be prepared

## June Worship Services

### June 13, 2010 – 10:00 a.m. – Sanctuary

*Matthew 22:15-22*

Sermon by the Rev. Dr. Dennis C. Bailey

"What Do We Owe?"

Followed by Congregational Meeting  
and Bread and Roses Meeting

### June 20, 2010 – 9:00 a.m. – Chapel

*Luke 12:13-21*

Sermon by the Rev. Dr. Dennis C. Bailey

"When Is Enough Enough?"

### June 27, 2010 – 9:00 a.m. – Chapel

*Matthew 25:1-13*

Sermon by the Rev. Dr. Dennis C. Bailey

"The Parable of the Ten Bridesmaids"

Sacrament of Baptism

because we will be strong enough in faith to endure the winds and quakes of difficulty if our life has included a practice of faith in God and worship of God, who was laying solid foundations long before we were ever conceived.

Remember your foundation in the love and work of the Lord, our God. It will not fail you.

As is written: (Psalm 46)

*God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging.*

*Nations are in uproar, kingdoms fall;...*

*The LORD Almighty ...makes wars cease to the ends of the earth; he breaks the bow and shatters the spear, he burns the shields with fire.*

*The LORD says to us: "Be still, and know that I am God...."*

*The LORD Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.*

Remember your solid foundation in the LORD, and be thankful!

Yours in Christ, Dennis

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**Congregational Meeting – June 13, 2010**  
**Immediately following 10:00 a.m.**  
**Worship Service**

Items to be considered:

1. Proposed Budget for the 2010-2011 Fiscal Year
1. Ratify extending the term of the Officers until the Annual Meeting in September.
2. Ratify a resolution of signature authority on deposit accounts at the Bank.

Christopher Parker, Moderator

**Bread and Roses**

**Bread & Roses** is a soup kitchen in Lawrence, MA with a strong and rich tradition of being a center of hope and caring to the hundreds of people in the Merrimack Valley who are struggling for survival. Founded in 1980, Bread & Roses' primary purpose is to ease the hunger of people by providing a well-balanced, nutritious evening meal for approximately 150 people. Centre Church has been providing an evening meal once a month for over 20 years. Those who wish to continue to support this program are invited to join us for a meeting about the future of the Bread and Roses program in the Library on Sunday, June 13th, immediately following the Church's Business Meeting. For more information, please contact Rev. Bailey.

**Vacation Bible School**

We are accepting registrations for Vacation Bible School – Beach Trek through June 11<sup>th</sup>. Registration forms are available in the church office. This program is open to our church families as well as the community. If your child (age 4-10) and a friend would like to attend, call Jill Couillard or Barbara Langill for a registration form. Vacation Bible School will run from June 28 – July 1

**Rotation Sensation**

What a wonderful year we had of delving into the Bible through our Rotation Sensation units. This year we learned about: Daniel and the Lion's Den, Zaccheus, The Jesse Tree, The Prodigal Son, Holy Week and Fruits of the Spirit. We also had time each month to learn about the liturgical year and saw that come to life this past Sunday during the Children's Service. What a great way to celebrate the Seasons of the Church Year! Special thanks to all of the children and youth who participated. You truly made it a wonderful, memorable service.

Thank you to our great group of Leaders and Shepherds for working with the children and youth throughout the year. If anyone would like to sign up to be a leader or shepherd next season, please call Jill or Barbara in the church office. They will be happy to provide you with specific information about the responsibilities of the positions. We all have wonderful gifts to offer. If yours is working with children and youth, please call Jill Couillard or Barbara Langill today.

Thank you to our Nursery staff for providing care each week to our little ones here at the church. The nursery will not be staffed throughout the summer, but our volunteers will return in the fall.

**Car Wash**

The High School Youth Group will be holding a Car Wash in the church parking lot on Saturday, June 12 from 1-3:00 p.m. All proceeds will go toward the New Orleans Mission Trip.

**Work Day at Church June 19<sup>th</sup>**

Before we all depart for well earned summer vacations can you lend some sweat equity to help with some indoor and outdoor projects at church? I've scheduled Saturday June 19<sup>th</sup> from 8 AM to 12 noon. Among the projects we need to accomplish include weeding some garden beds, painting the lower kitchen cabinets, other small painting projects, removing more trash from the basement due to the floods, minor carpentry projects and whatever else I can think of between now and the 19<sup>th</sup>. Come for an hour or all 4. All help will be appreciated. For information contact me at [pcjohnson@meei.harvard.edu](mailto:pcjohnson@meei.harvard.edu) or at 781-598-5678. - Phil Johnson, Chair, Finance Ministries

## **News From Around the Parish**

We extend our love and sympathy to Bo and Kathi Martin and their family upon the death of Kathi's mother, Jean Spencer of Wakefield on May 20.

We offer our love and sympathy to Dana and Ginny Richardson upon the recent death of Dana's brother, Donald William Richardson of Southwick, MA.

We extend our love and sympathy to Kim Morrissey and her family upon the death of her father, David "Pete" Maddison of Lynnfield on May 26.

Congratulations to Rick and Heather Lowe upon the birth of a daughter, Kylie Anne on May 27. Her proud big brothers are Dylan and Devyn.

Our best wishes to Marion Barnes who will celebrate her 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday on June 14. Her address is: Harborside: Cedar Glen, 44 Summer St., Danvers, MA 01923.

Our congratulations to the following 9<sup>th</sup> Graders who were confirmed in May: Emily Marie Couillard, Emma Rose Martin, Johnathan Patrick McCarthy, Andrew Phillip Mucci and Marissa Jade Taylor.

Kevin Hershey, who was a seminarian here during the interim pastorate of Rev. Mike Dunfee, has been called to Twelve Corners Presbyterian Church in Brighton, NY (near Rochester). He will be ordained at Burlington (MA) Presbyterian Church on June 20 at 3 p.m. All are invited.

Congratulations to Eva Nicole Palmer and Nathan Shepard Spear who were married on June 1 in Litchfield Beach, SC. They will make their home in Haverhill, MA

Congratulations to Carl and Olive Wood who recently celebrated their 67<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary, and to Jeff and Marcia Stevens who recently celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary.

## **Congratulations Graduates!**

Congratulations to our high school graduates: Mike Arsnow, Rhett Batchelder, Ross Batchelder, Andrew Crowther, Matthew Donovan, Andrew Durkee, Daniel Johnson, Emily Ladd, Carolyn LaRosa, Paul Ouellette, Abby Shove, Chris Scott, Ryan Sweezey, Trent Taylor and David Triffletti.

Congratulations to Jessica Gist, granddaughter of Bruce and Anne Gist, who earned an MA degree in Music from Carnegie Mellon in Pittsburgh.

Congratulations to Kathy Delaney who will finish the program for a Clinical Doctorate in Physical Therapy on June 13 from the Boston University College of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences: Sargent College.

## **From the Mailbox**

Dear Friends,

What a pleasant surprise to find a lovely bouquet of flowers at my door! I want to thank you so very much. They look lovely on my table. Doris Nelson

Dear Friends,

Thanks so much to Ray Aslanian for delivering flowers to me last Sunday. I was very happy to receive them. They are beautiful! - Greta Hellmer

Dear Friends,

I have missed so many church services over these past months. I wanted especially to be there the Sunday Susan Spear was honored. I am grateful to belong to such a caring church as ours. During my illness and recuperation I have had calls, notes, flowers, home-cooked meals and visits that warmed my heart. I especially treasure the morale-boosting visits of Dennis, as well as those of Shirley Orr, Charlotte Orrall, Earl and Edie Richard and Arnie and Charlie Wills. I am sure my healing was greatly aided by all the wonderful, caring people of our church family. Thank you all, Betty Conn

### **Summer Sunday Adventure: Essex River Cruise – REVISITED Sunday, August 15, 2010**

The Essex River Cruise is a narrated 1 ½ hour cruise from 35 Dodge St., Essex - the Essex Marina - down the Essex River to the ocean on a large, safe, and comfortable vessel with a restroom and bar aboard. The Cruise leaves at 4:00 PM and runs to 5:15 PM. If we get 40 people to sign up quickly, we can charter the boat and have it all to ourselves!!

**Please call NOW to sign up. Call Chuck Cotting, 781-593-3120 or Susan Spear, 781-334-3050, to make reservations for yourself and your friends!**

**I will have to collect half of the cost up front - \$10 – to cover the deposit for the cruise – as soon as you can send it in to Susan Spear at Centre Church.**

Planned cost is \$20 each for the 40 minimum, but the cost will go down the more people we have. The two boats can seat up to 90 people, so bring ALL of your friends on this adventure.

**Then:** Join up at Woodman's [just around the corner on Rt. 133] for dinner. Chris Parker's A Capella Group, *Peking and the Mystics*, will be performing at Woodman's. Dinner will be on your own, so you can pick the food you want. There is a very large tent just at the back of the restaurant that can seat up to 120 people and, hopefully, we can all eat together.

**If you need a ride, please let Chuck or Susan know!**

**Hosted By Your Membership Commission**

## *Our Opportunities*

Sat., June 12	1-3 pm	Car Wash – Parking Lot
Sun., June 13	10:00 am	Morning Worship - Sanctuary
	11:00 am	Congregational Meeting – Sanct.
	11:30 am	Bread & Roses Meeting - Library
Mon., June 14	7:00 pm	Boy Scout Troop #48 - Richards
	7:30 pm	Alanon & Alateen –FR & Libr.
Wed., June 16	7:00 pm	Women’s 12-Step Mtg. – Fireside
Fri., June 18	10:30 am	Bible Study – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor Office
Sat., June 19	8am–12 pm	Work Day
Sun., June 20	9:00 am	Morning Worship – Chapel
Mon., June 21	7:30 pm	Alanon/Alateen – Fireside & Libr.
Wed., June 23	7:00 pm	Women’s 12-Step Mtg. – Fireside
Fri., June 25	10:30 am	Bible Study – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor Office
Sun., June 27	9:00 am	Morning Worship - Chapel
Mon-Thurs.	9:30-12:00	Vacation Bible School
Mon., June 28	7:30 pm	Alanon/Alateen – FR & Libr.
Wed., June 30	7:00 pm	Women’s 12-Step Mtg. - Fireside
Fri., July 2	10:30 am	Bible Study – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor Office

Our love and prayers are with Arthur Pyburn, Rosewood, 22 Johnson St., Peabody, 01960; Ginny Davis at Country Manor Rehab. and Nursing, 180 Low Street, Newburyport, MA 01950-3519 978-465-5361; Marion Barnes, Harborside; Cedar Glen, Danvers; Barbara Bean, Emeritus at Cherry Hill, Danvers; Abbott Cofran (Annabel Aldrich’s brother), Meadow View, North Reading; Glady Davis, Haven Health Care, Derry NH; Carolyn Furey, Overlook Masonic Health Ctr., Charlton; Hal Holappa, Veterans’ Hospital, Bedford; Helen Miller, Edgewood, North Andover; Rev. Bailey’s mother, Betty Whitcraft, Manor Care South, York, PA.

### Thanks to Our Volunteers

**Sun., June 13:** Head Usher-Bruce Weaver. Greeters-Esther McGrath & Barbara O’Connell. Reader-Seavey Bowdoin. Altar Flowers-Nancy Lauzon. Coffee- Betty Hayter. Lights Out June 4-10-Charlie Wills.

**Sun., June 20: (9am-Chapel)** - Head Usher-Jeff Law. Coffee-Marion Orfeo & Frank Scott. Lights Out June 11-17-George Laing.

**Sun., June 27: (9am-Chapel)** Head Usher-Carrie Pericola. Coffee-Sue & Paul Gustavsen. Baptism of Benjamin Albert Riester. Lights Out June 18-24-Rick Carey.

**Next Tower Notes - week of June 28.**

**Summer Office Hours are 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 Noon.**

Please Return Your Pledge Card As Soon As Possible