

TOWER NOTES

Centre Congregational Church (United Church of Christ)

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Email: Office@Centre-Church.org Web Site: www.Centre-Church.org

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

The Rev. Mark Freeman Strickland, Pastor Emeritus

Barbara Langill, Director of Christian Ed & Youth Ministry, 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

September 8, 2010

Dear Friends,

Christ has no body now on earth but yours, no hands but yours, no feet but yours. Yours are the eyes through which Christ's compassion is to look out to the world. Yours are the feet with which Christ is to go about doing good. Yours are the hands with which Christ is to bless all people now.

-Teresa of Avila

September 12 begins an exciting new year of programming for the children and youth at Centre Church. The theme for the year for both Christian Education and Youth Ministry will be "Faith in Action." Our Church School will continue offering Rotation Sensation, with each Bible story making the connection to service and giving to others. In addition, on the first Sunday of each month, we will offer opportunities for service both during Rotation Sensation and through our Middle School and High School Youth Groups.

We feel that children and youth are empowered by their contribution to the world around them and that by serving others, they will develop compassion and establish connections with people of diverse cultures and economic situations. As Christians our belief in God, Christ and the Holy Spirit requires each of us to be involved in Christian mission and service to the world. "Love of God is always linked with

love of neighbor, a passion for justice and renewal of the life of the world."

Service both flows out of our faith and feeds our faith. Both long term or short term service and

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In the Sanctuary

September 12, 2010

10:00 A.M. Holy Communion

Psalm 24:1-6

Sermon by the Rev. Dr. Dennis C. Bailey

"Every Flower..."

Children may worship with their families before going to Rotation Sensation.

Nursery open in Room 14.

September 19, 2010

10:00 A.M. Morning Worship

Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

Sermon by the Rev. Dr. Dennis C. Bailey

"We are Commissioned"

Children may worship with their families before going to Rotation Sensation.

Nursery open in Room 14.

mission projects help form youth with the understanding that service can be done anywhere—and should be done wherever one finds oneself in day-to-day living.

With the children leading the way, we hope to use our hands and feet to work together to bless those around us.

Yours in Faith ,

Barbara Langill
Director of Christian Education
& Youth Ministry

Rotation Sensation begins On Sunday, Sept 12

Join us Sunday, Sept 12 as we kick off the year with our first Rotation, “Creation.” After briefly worshipping with their families, children in grades Pre-K through 8th will head out to participate in fun-filled activities to learn about the Bible story of Creation, and what we can all do to help protect and care for the Earth.

The nursery will be open in Room 14 each Sunday for our little ones (up to age 3) for stories and playtime.

Do You Love Babies and Toddlers?

Education Ministries would like to be able to offer Nursery Care every Sunday, including school vacations and holidays. Often, our High School caregivers are not available on these Sundays. We are looking for adult volunteers who could give just 1 Sunday a month to assist in the Nursery. If there are no children by 10:05, you would be free to attend worship.

Please contact Barbara Langill in the church office if you are interested or would like additional information.

Youth Groups “Minute to Win It” Night

All youth in Grades 5-12 and their parents are invited to attend our opening meeting on Sunday, September 19 at 6 pm in Richards Hall. We will all enjoy pizza together and learn about the exciting year ahead. Youth will head off to participate in games while parents attend an informational session. Parents should bring along their calendars, as we will be asking you to sign up to bring a meal or two throughout the year.

This year the High School Youth Group (Gr. 9-12) will be led by Carrie Pericola along with co-leaders Jeff Langill, John Sievers, and Gage & Dottie Whittier.

Barbara Langill will lead the Middle School Youth Group (Gr. 5-8) along with the help of Kathy Delaney. Please call Barbara Langill in the church office if you have any questions or concerns.

News From Around the Parish

We extend our love and sympathy to the family and friends of Marge Robins who died on August 25. A Memorial Service will be held at Centre Church on September 10 at 5:00 p.m. followed by a collation.

Our congratulations to Matthew Coonrod and Danielle Duncan who were married in Ferrisburgh, VT on August 21.

Need CD Cases for Rotation Sensation

Please bring in empty, clear CD or DVD cases for children to use in a special art project. There will be a box in the narthex for your convenience.

**Opportunity to Help Care for God's
Creation, Planet Earth**

Plum Island COASTSWEEP 2010

Sponsored by Joppa Flats
and Parker River National Wildlife Refuge
Sat, Sept. 18, 2010 - 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

COASTSWEEP is the annual statewide cleanup of Massachusetts coastal and river environments. Over more than 20 years, COASTSWEEP has engaged thousands of volunteers in cleaning hundreds of miles of shoreline and riverbanks. Our COASTSWEEP project will involve removing trash and debris from the beaches on Plum Island, including the Parker River National Wildlife Refuge, Sandy Point State Reservation, and the north end of the island. In the past three years we have collected over seven tons of debris!

This event is free, and everyone is welcome. Rain or shine. Give us a hand and help to protect the nature of Massachusetts!

http://www.massaudubon.org/catalog/listing.php?program_code=586-JF10SU1

Annual Golf Tournament

Save the date of Friday, September 24 for the 8th Annual Centre Church Golf Tournament. The net proceeds go to support our Missions Ministries program. This will be a best ball tournament with a tee time of 12:30 PM at Thomson Country Club in North Reading. The cost is \$125 per player and that includes a cookout following the tournament at the Johnson's.

Prizes and the chance to have your winning team's names engraved on "*The Unholy Grail*" are but a few of the benefits of playing in this tournament. Players of all skill levels welcomed. Please invite your friends to play, too.

Sign up with Phil Johnson at 781-598-5678 or pcjohnson@meei.harvard.edu no later than Monday September 20th. Checks should be made payable to Centre Congregational Church.

Looking Ahead

Sunday, September 26, 2010

During worship, Ms. Brittany DeSantis will share a message about her experience with the World Vision Study Tour of Bolivia.

The service will be followed by the Annual Meeting of the Congregation.

At 6:00 p.m. all are welcome to come to the Shareholders Dinner where both the Young Adult and the High School Youth Groups will share their experiences on their mission trips to New Orleans.

Engraved Brick Patio

I would like to extend the offer to anyone who would like to purchase a brick for the patio to record a special moment or remember someone. Please contact me or the church office at any time to order a brick. The small bricks are \$50 and can hold up to 3 lines of 20 characters. The large bricks are \$100 and can hold up to 6 lines of 20 characters. Checks can be made payable to Centre Congregational Church.

Phil Johnson
781-598-5678

Thanks to Our Volunteers

September 12: Head Usher: Linda Ladd. Provide Altar Flowers: Edith Wendt. Lights Out beginning September 10: Charlie Wills.

September 19: Head Usher: Jeff Law. Coffee Hour: Gage and Dotty Whittier. Provide Altar Flowers: Bruce & Anne Gist. Lights Out beginning September 17: Al Johnson.

Our Opportunities

Sun. Sept. 12	10:00 am	Holy Communion – Sanctuary
	10:00 am	Rotation Sensation/Nursery
	11:30 am	Catered Cook Out - Basement
Mon. Sept. 13	7:30 pm	Alanon & Alateen – FR & Library
Wed Sept. 15	7:00 pm	Women’s 12-Step Mtg. – Todd
	7:30 pm	Sr. Choir (not Thurs. this week)
Fri., Sept. 17	10:30 am	Bible Study – 2 nd Floor Office
Sun., Sept. 19	10:00 am	Morning Worship – Sanctuary
	10:00 am	Rotation Sensation/Nursery
	11:00 am	Youth Choir – Choir Room
	6-7:30 pm	Youth Groups (Gr. 5-12) Basement
Mon. Sept. 20	7:30 pm	Alanon/Alateen – FR & Library
Tues. Sept. 21	7:00 pm	Parish Council – Pastor’s Office
Wed. Sept. 22	7:00 pm	Women’s 12-Step Mtg. – Todd
Thur. Sept. 23	7:30 pm	Sr. Choir – Choir Room
Fri., Sept. 24	10:30 am	Bible Study – 2 nd Floor Office
	12:30 pm	Golf Tournament – Thomson Club

Our love and prayers are with Lorena McKinstry (Barbara Langill’s mother) in hospice care in Chicopee, MA; Barbara Bean at Lahey Clinic; Greta Helmer at home; Olive Wood expected home this week; Ginny Davis at home (45 Carter Road); Marion Barnes, Harborside; Cedar Glen, Danvers; Abbott Cofran (Annabel Aldrich’s brother), Meadow View, North Reading; Glady Davis, Derry Health Care, Derry NH; Carolyn Furey, Overlook Masonic Health Ctr., Charlton; Hal Holappa, Veterans’ Hospital, Bedford; Helen Miller, Edgewood, North Andover. We also remember in our prayers Allan Marshall who is serving in Afghanistan.

Next Tower Notes - week of September 20.

**Church Office Hours:
9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Monday – Friday.**
