

# TOWER NOTES

Centre Congregational Church (United Church of Christ)

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The Rev. Dr. Dennis C. Bailey, Pastor, [Pastor@Centre-Church.org](mailto:Pastor@Centre-Church.org)

The Rev. Mark Freeman Strickland, Pastor Emeritus

Barbara Langill, Director of Christian Ed & Youth Ministry, [ChristianEd@Centre-Church.org](mailto:ChristianEd@Centre-Church.org)

Douglas W. Hodgkins, Organist/Choir Director

Leah O'Brien, Director of Tower Day School

Susan Spear, Secretary

*We Welcome Everyone: An "Open and Affirming" Church*

## July 1, 2014

Ten years ago I experienced a pretty rough week in late May. In route home from a conference in Maine, and only a couple of miles from home at that, I totaled my car. Five days later when Craig was on Long Island for a class reunion, I received an early Sunday morning call that he had been rushed to a hospital late Saturday night. In about an hour I had to ask someone to lead the morning service, secured a colleague to officiate at a Monday funeral, pack, get a ride to Logan, and fly to LaGuardia. I was a wreck, not knowing just what was happening to Craig.

I recently found a list of things I'd learned from that series of events. They still hold true.

10. Just because you have one crisis doesn't mean another won't happen on top of it.

9. You can pack while distracted – ingenuity will cover the gaps till you can shop.

8. When you receive troubling news, all else fades or disappears in the moment.

7. A friend who sees your trouble and stops to help without asking intrusive questions is an incredible gift.

6. Ask for help, especially when someone is standing there hoping to be helpful.

5. When you are in pain yourself or worried about a loved one, concentration is difficult.

4. Even if you are not visibly injured, or if your loved one does well, do what you need to do for centering yourself again; exercise self-care.

3. Friends who can help you talk out decision-making in a crisis and then help implement your choices without being intrusive are priceless.

2. When you are caught up short about your own mortality or that of your loved one a whole lot else gets placed into perspective really fast.

1. The prayers and kind support of a community of faith provide immeasurable comfort whether given close at hand or over a distance.

When someone is in crisis, our ready willingness to provide practical assistance and our ongoing prayers with and for them constitute great gifts. In such compassion we show the way we live out the faith we profess.

Yours in Christ, Jamie Howard

### In the Chapel

**9:00 A.M. Holy Communion**

**July 6, 2014**

Sermon by the Rev. Jamie R. Howard  
Children may worship with their families  
for the entire service.

**9:00 A.M. Morning Worship**

**July 13, 20, and 27, 2014**

**Mission Trip Commissioning on July 13.**

Sermon by the Rev. Jamie R. Howard  
Childcare for Children 3 & Under – Room 11  
Summer Sunday Kids Camp  
for Children 4 & Up – Todd Hall

Our summer services in the air-conditioned Chapel  
are brief and informal.

They are followed by a time for  
punch and fellowship.

### **Rev. Bailey on Sabbatical**

Rev. Jamie Howard is our pastor while Rev. Bailey is on Sabbatical. Feel free to call the church office if you have any pastoral needs during this time. She will be glad to talk with you.

### **News From Around the Parish**

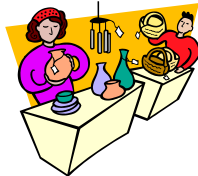
Our love and sympathy are extended to the family and friends of Nancy Chadbourne who died in mid-June. Her funeral was in South Portland, ME.

### **Summer Childcare**

This summer we will be offering childcare during our Sunday worship service for infants and children 3 and under in Room 11. Experienced staff and volunteers are on hand to welcome children for story time and play.

Also this summer, we are excited to be offering a Summer Sunday Kids Camp. Each Sunday during worship, children ages 4 and up are invited to join us downstairs in Todd Hall for Bible stories, crafts, games and snack. We hope your family will join in the faith-filled fun.

*Please note there will not be Nursery or Kid's Camp on Sunday, July 6.*



### **We Need Your Help!**

Volunteers are needed in the planning and organizing for a **Fall Church Fair on Saturday, October 18, 2014.** Fundraisers are an important part of helping to contribute to our church budget. The more successful, the fair, the more it will help.

Please consider volunteering your time and talents to the Fair Planning Committee. There are so many ways you can participate in this fun activity that will help the church!!

Contact Barbara Langill in the church office and say "Yes! I can help."

**Lights Out Volunteers:** July 4-Al Johnson. July 11-Bill Seelig. July 18-John Walsh. August 1-Bruce Weaver.

### **C.C.Cyclers Doing Reid's Ride**

Do you LIKE riding your bike? Do you HATE the fact that young people struggle with cancer? Do you LOVE hanging out with fun people while enjoying great food, music and a beautiful view? If so – we have the event for you!

Many church members participate in the Reid's Ride Bike-a-thon every 3rd Sunday in July. Some of us ride the 28 mile route from Lynnfield High School to Stage Fort Park in Gloucester, some decorate and mark the course with balloons, others work the food tables at the finish line. All of us are proud to be supporting the efforts of the Reid R. Sacco AYA Cancer Alliance which recently funded the opening of the Reid R. Sacco AYA Clinic for Cancer & Blood Diseases at Tufts Medical Center in Boston. Last year, we formed a Centre Church team: "C.C.Cyclers".

YOU are invited to ride with us, or to support those of us who are riding! Join the team or make a donation at: <http://www.firstgiving.com/team/265073>

You can also send checks made out to "Reid's Ride" to the church, Attn: C.C.Cyclers. Together, we will help to make a difference in the fight against cancers affecting Adolescents and Young Adults.

The 10th annual Reid's Ride will be happening on Sunday, July 20th, 2014. Please contact Judie Potter or Linda Ladd for more information.

### **Opportunities to Share Love:**

#### **Foster Parenting**

Foster parenting is a great way to share the love of your heart and family with children in desperate need of loving and caring homes. My own children came to me by this program and I highly recommend it.

Rev. Dr. Dennis C. Bailey

If you, or someone you know, would be interested, you may contact:

Bethany Adams, Foster Parent Recruitment,  
Lynn Dept. of Children & Families (DCF)  
978-578-4152

[youcanfostertoo@gmail.com](mailto:youcanfostertoo@gmail.com)

### **Engraved Brick Patio**

The deadline to order an engraved brick for our patio has been extended until July 31. Bricks ordered this summer will be part of the renovation and levelling of the patio which is going on now.

The small bricks are \$50 and hold up to 3 lines of 20 characters each (including spaces and punctuation.)

The large bricks are \$100 and hold up to 6 lines of 20 characters each.

Checks should be made payable to Centre Congregational Church and can be mailed to the church office.

This is a great way to honor a recent high school or college graduate, to celebrate a wedding, the birth of a child or grandchild or memorialize someone you know. Or you can use the brick to thank someone special or record an important date. You may have a favorite Bible verse or inspirational quote. Or you may just want to put your name on the brick. Anything works!

If you have any questions you can get in touch with me at 781-598-5678 or [pcjohnson@meei.harvard.edu](mailto:pcjohnson@meei.harvard.edu)

Phil Johnson

### **Our Opportunities**

|               |                         |   |
|---------------|-------------------------|---|
| Sun. July 6   | 9:00 am<br>9:00 am      | Holy Communion - Chapel<br>All Children in Church                                       |
| Mon. July 7   | 7:30 pm                 | Alanon/Alateen – Basement   |
| Wed. July 9   | 7:00 pm                 | Women's 12 Step Mtg. – Fireside   |
| Fri. July 11  | 10:30 am                | Bible Study – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor Office  |
|               |                         |   |
| Sun. July 13  | 9:00 am<br>after church | Morning Worship – Chapel, with Nursery & Kids Camp.<br>Grp leaves on Mission Trip to ME |
| Mon. July 14  | 7:30 pm                 | Alanon/Alateen – Basement   |
| Wed. July 16  | 7:00 pm                 | Women's 12 Step Mtg – Fireside  |
| Fri. July 18  | 10:30 am                | Bible Study – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor Office  |
|               |                         |   |
| Sun. July 20  | 9:00 am                 | Morning Worship – Chapel, with Nursery & Kids Camp.                                     |
| Mon. July 21  | 7:30 pm                 | Alanon/Alateen – Basement   |
| Wed. July 23  | 7:00 pm                 | Women's 12 Step Mtg. – Fireside<br>Youth Group Beach Day                                |
| Fri. July 25  | 10:30 am                | Bible Study – 2nd Floor Office  |
|               |                         |   |
| Sun. July 27  | 9:00 am                 | Morning Worship – Chapel, with Nursery & Kids Camp.                                     |
| Mon. July 28  | 7:30 pm                 | Alanon/Alateen – Basement   |
| Wed. July 30  | 7:00 pm                 | Women's 12 Step Mtg. – Fireside   |
| Fri. August 1 | 10:30 am                | Bible Study – 2nd Floor Office  |

**The next *Tower Notes* will be the week of July 28.  
Summer Office Hours: 9 am – 12 noon Monday-Friday**

Our prayers are with Jeff Langill at New England Rehab, Woburn; Edith Wendt and Doug Hodgkins recuperating at home; Dayl Hufford in rehab at Edgewood, North Andover; Edie Richard at Hunt Nursing & Rehab Center, Danvers; Rolf Owens in hospice care at Continuing Care, Brooksby Village; Barkey Gulezian, Jean Card, Harvey Card, Marion Barnes, Helen Butcher, Marge Cole, Ginny Davis, Marion Edkins, Rose Giunta, Parker Holloway, and Arliene Thorn.

We remember in our prayers William Lafferty in Afghanistan, Michael Bruce who will be in Bahrain beginning in July, and Johnathan McCarthy who is in training with the US Marines.

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