

TOWER NOTES

Centre Congregational Church (United Church of Christ)

5 Summer Street, Lynnfield, Massachusetts 01940 Phone: 781-334-3050 Fax: 781-334-6463

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

The Rev. Nancy Rottman, Pastor

The Rev. Mark Freeman Strickland, Pastor Emeritus

Laraine Wilson, Director of Faith Formation

Douglas W. Hodgkins, Organist/Choir Director

Leah O'Brien, Director of Tower Day School

Susan Spear & Barbara Langill, Secretaries

We Welcome Everyone: An "Open and Affirming" Church

February 24, 2020



Centre Church is celebrating 300 years and everyone is invited to participate in the variety of events that are in the works for this year! We will be remembering our past, celebrating the present, and anticipating our future of being the church in the centre. This past Sunday we pledged our financial resources to support our mission and ministries in the new fiscal year which begins July 1. Now is also the time for each of us to pledge our time and talents toward making our celebrations worthy of our history, demonstrative of our present vibrancy, and hopeful for a future that lives into new ways of welcoming and loving our neighbors.

Please see our sign-up sheets in the narthex after worship to sign up to help with planning and preparing for our celebration weekend in September. Stay tuned for details about upcoming events and volunteer your time toward making them a success. As they say, "many hands make light work." But I believe that for us this year, "many hands make joyful the work of God." How will you put your hearts and hands to work this year to help us celebrate?

In the Sanctuary

March 1, 2020

Holy Communion

Nursery Care

Church School Classes

March 8, 2020

Morning Worship

Nursery Care

Church School Classes

March 15, 2020

Morning Worship

Nursery Care

Church School Classes

Stewardship



Stewardship Ministries extends a BIG thank you to all who have submitted their pledges. If you have not yet turned in your pledge card, please do so as soon as possible. We need accurate pledge data to develop the budget for our new fiscal year, which begins on July 1. If you have misplaced your pledge card, just call the church office and a new card will be mailed to you. With appreciation for your generosity,

Debbie Cotting

Mission & Outreach Ministries

Haven From Hunger

On Sunday Feb 23rd, we blessed a Green Wagon full of food. This was delivered to HFH on Monday Feb 24th when we served dinner there. Our next volunteer date is on Monday March 23 after **Green Wagon Sunday on 3/22**. Suggested donation items for March are **pasta, tomatoes and sauce**.



Fair Trade Goods

The Mission and Outreach Team will be selling a limited selection of Equal Exchange coffee, chocolate and tea when hosting fellowship on March 15th. These items will be sold at lower-than-catalog prices (\$3 candy bars, \$4 teas and \$10 coffee). The entire Equal Exchange catalog will also be available to place orders at catalog prices.

Love Packages

Bibles, other Christian books and Sunday School materials, are being collected for distribution around the globe. Items can be left in the box in the narthex marked for www.lovepackages.org.

Calling all Environmentalists

Mission and Outreach Ministries is spear-heading the creation of a congregational “**Green Team**”. This group will work towards eliminating our church’s impact on the environment and educating our congregation and community on how to do the same as individuals. The United Church of Christ encourages this initiative with ideas and certification levels to indicate a congregation’s progress towards being “green”. If you’re passionate about recycling, composting, switching to sustainable sources of energy, etc. and would like to share your ideas on these topics, please sign up! Contact Linda Ladd for more information by emailing green@centre-church.org.

2020 Trivia, Silent Auction and Raffles!

What a wonderful, enjoyable all church event on Saturday evening February 8th! We had 20 dedicated volunteers helping to set up, staff the kitchen, staff the beverage tables, selling raffle tickets, and checking people in and out, and cleaning up. **Terrific work by everyone!**

We had over 140 people attend and 17 Trivia Teams! There were **33 Silent Auction** items and **23 Raffle** prizes which included 54 individual items!

So many people donated wonderful appetizers, salads and desserts – we had plenty to eat. Centre Court Pizza gave us a 20% discount on the excellent pizzas. Many people also donated prizes for our Trivia game. **A Big Thank You to all who donated.**

Trivia Winners: The **Coffee, Coffee, Buzz, Buzz** team – The **Dianne Foulds Family** and friends - were the first place winners! The Doe and Russell team was second, just off by 2 points!

This fun event brought just over \$6,400 for our church Budget! A listing of all of the [Business Donors](#) is included in this week’s Tower Notes. Please patronize these generous Donors and thank them from Centre Church! Thank You notes were sent to all Business Donors from Annmarie and Chuck.

Holiday Craft Fair Meeting

Save the Date: After church on Sunday, March 15, we will review last year’s event and begin planning for the 2020 Fair. All are welcome to join us as we look forward to another successful fair!

Altar Flowers

There are 2 dates available to donate altar flowers this month, March 8 and March 29. If you would like to donate flowers either of these Sundays, please contact Margaret Waugh, 781-334-4031 or mcwaugh@aol.com.

Faith Formation

Next FFMT Meeting

Our next meeting is Tuesday, March 10, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. Any interested parent is welcome to join us. We typically meet on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m.

Looking Ahead/Save-The-Date!

March 1 All Ages Lenten Muffins & Learning about Heifer International



Heifer Muffins

All 5 Sundays in March!

Each Sunday during Lent, the church school children will be selling muffins after worship to help raise funds for Heifer International.

April 4th: Autism Awareness Event: Centre Church,.

April 5th: Palm Sunday - Procession from the Common, Cantata, Children in Service

April 12th: Easter, Children in Service

Children's Sunday: June 7, 2020

Meeting for Holy Land Tour Participants

We will gather after worship on **Sunday, March 8th at 11:30** in the Pastor's Outer Office. Our Tour Guide, Amir Or-ly will be joining us via Skype! We'll be checking in with each other on trip registration and travel details, making sure that everyone is all set and all of your questions are answered. **There is still room for those who are interested in joining us.** Reach out to Randy Russell at:

randallhrussell@gmail.com or Rev. Nancy at: pastor@centre-church.org if you are interested.

Lenten Wednesday Evenings

Each Wednesday evening in Lent, you are invited to gather for a simple soup supper, a screening of an environmental film/documentary, and an opportunity to pray with your feet on our labyrinth. You may participate in all three activities or just the one or two that you are interested in or have time for.

Date	6:30 pm in the Kitchen	7:00 pm in the theater (2 nd floor)	7:00 – 8:30 pm in the Narthex
3/4	Soup Supper	“Care for Creation”	Labyrinth
3/11		Selections from “Renewal”	
3/18		“Bidder 70”	
3/25		TBD	
4/1		TBD	

News From Around the Parish

Harper Scott Crosbie was born on February 4th at 7:59 am weighing 7 lbs. 15 oz.

Proud parents are Sarah and Sam Crosbie and elated big sisters are Hailey and Hannah.

Dear Members,

Chuck Cotting brightened my day this week with bright flowers from the church and a friendly visit. I'm thankful for both. A careless move on my part caused a fall that fractured my shoulder and has set me back for several weeks.

It's amazing what you can do with your unused arm when forced to. Warning: Avoid careless moves!

Thank you. Charlie Wills




Be sure to set your clocks ahead before you go to bed on Saturday, March 7.

Taking the Green Congregation Challenge - Environmental Film Screenings

Centre Church's Mission and Outreach Team is leading our congregation in taking the "Green Congregation Challenge." The Green Congregation Challenge is a way for us to set attainable goals, experience success, and build momentum around environmental protection and climate justice. We are already well on our way to achieving Level One recognition. Toward that achievement, Mission and Outreach is hosting environmental film screenings on Wednesday evenings during Lent.

Our Opportunities

Sun. March 1	10:00 am	Morning Worship– Sanctuary Nursery – Room 10 All ages Church School Heifer Muffins after Church
Mon. March 2	7:00 pm	Parish Council – Pastor’s Office
Wed. March 4	6:30 pm 7:00 pm 7-8:30 pm	Soup Supper-Kitchen Film/documentary-Movie Room Labyrinth - Narthex
Thurs. March 5	1:00 pm 7:30pm	Bible Study - Fireside Room Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room
Sun. March 8 	10:00 am 11:30am	Morning Worship – Sanctuary Nursery - Room 10 Church School Heifer Muffins after Church Holy Land Tour Mtg-Pastor’s Ofc
Tues. March 10	6:30pm	Faith Formation Ministry Team
Wed. March 11	6:30 pm 7:00 pm 7-8:30 pm	Soup Supper-Kitchen Film/documentary-Movie Room Labyrinth - Narthex
Thurs March 12	1:00 pm 7:30 pm	Bible Study – Fireside Room Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room
Sun. March 15	10:00 am 11:30am	Morning Worship - Sanctuary Nursery – Room 10 Church School Heifer Muffins after Church Craft Fair Meeting

Church Office Hours – 9am – 3pm