

TOWER NOTES

Centre Congregational Church (United Church of Christ)

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The Rev. Nancy Rottman, Pastor

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We Welcome Everyone: An "Open and Affirming" Church

April 2022

Good Friday

As I grapple with all that has happened over the last two years, I find myself more and evermore in need of time in silent meditation. Whether that time is spent walking outside, letting nature be the song I'm hearing, or inside on my cushion meditating, I find that my ability to be present to the daily joys and sorrows is greatly enhanced by these deeply prayerful moments. And so, as I contemplated Holy Week and the opportunities we offer for our walk to the cross with Jesus, I decided that I really need Good Friday. I need time dedicated to silent prayer and reflection, and corporate worship. Maybe you do, too.

On Good Friday, April 15, our sanctuary will be open from 12:00 – 2:00 pm for prayer and meditation. There will be opportunities for ritual interaction with the story of Jesus' final hours of life. There will be a visual liturgy that will play every half hour that will lead you through a series of three anointings.

Then from 2:00 – 3:00 pm we will share a worship experience offered by the Southern New England Conference of the UCC. Good Friday: Engaging the Passion of Christ and the Environmental Crisis will be shown in the sanctuary. This program was developed by Rev. Emma Brewer-Wallin, Minister for Environmental and Economic Justice, and Rev. Liz Garrigan-Byerly, ACM for the North Central Region. It will feature music by the Willie Sordillo Ensemble.

I hope in these offerings an opportunity to connect the Passion of Christ to your life in the world today.

In the name of all that is Good Enough,

Rev. Nancy

Holy Week at Centre Church

Palm Sunday, April 10	10:00 am	Cantata "Thy Will Be Done" in worship
Tuesday, April 12	1:00 pm	Final afternoon "Good Enough" book discussion
Wednesday, April 13	6:30 pm	Final evening "Good Enough" book discussion
	7:30 – 8:30 pm	Labyrinth in the Narthex for prayer, meditation
Maundy Thursday, April 14	7:00 pm	Service of Tenebrae & Holy Communion
Good Friday, April 15	12:00 – 2:00 pm	Sanctuary Open for Stations of the Cross, Silent Prayer, and Meditation
	2:00 – 3:00 pm	Worship Service: Engaging the Passion of Christ and the Environmental Crisis



Easter Sunday, April 17

Join us for a Sunrise Service on Easter morning beginning at 5:30 am at the Newhall Park parking lot~7

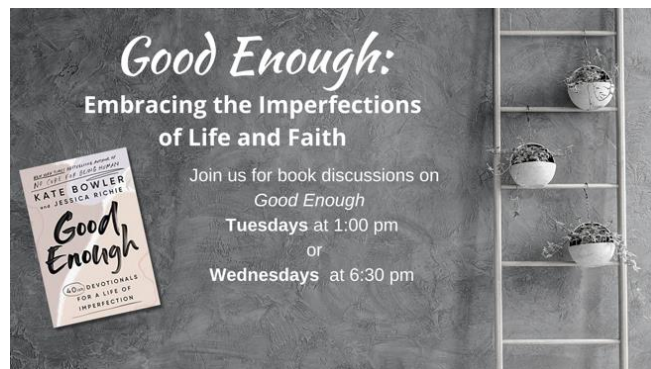
Oak Street Lynnfield. We will greet the good news of resurrection with the sunrise at 6:00 am. We will celebrate Holy Communion at this service. Be sure to dress for the weather.

Then at 10:00 am we will proclaim the Good News of Christ's resurrection in our Easter morning worship. Join us in the sanctuary or via the livestream. Hallelujah!

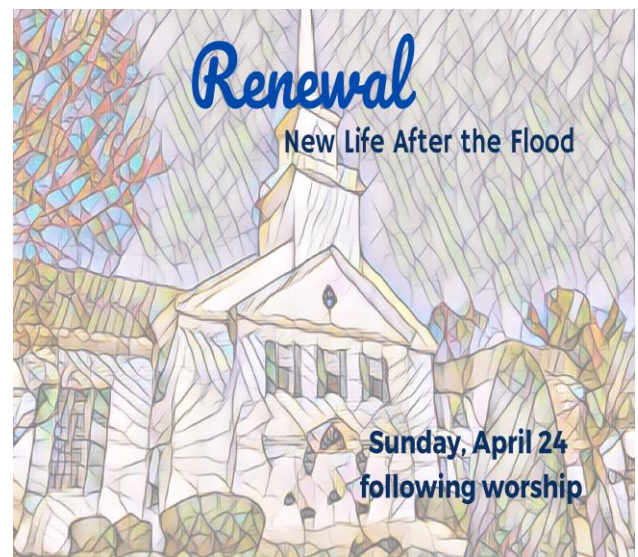


The Great Pie Challenge Has Returned!!!!

Pull out your pie recipes, the Great Pie Challenge has returned! This year we will be holding the Great Pie Challenge outside on Sunday, May 1st after the Service. Pies can be dropped off that morning. Signup via our website, or in the Narthex starting March 27th or by contacting Annmarie Pendola (617-549-9164).



All – Church Gathering



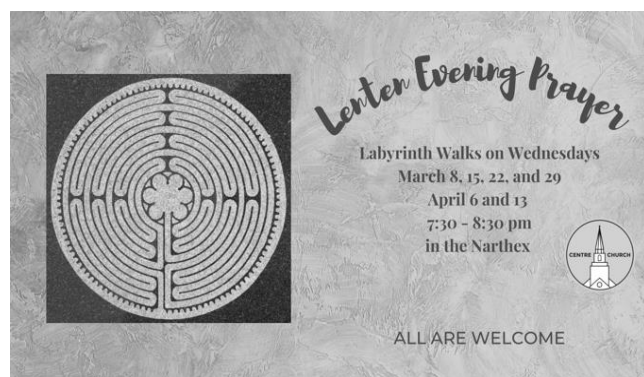
Altar Flowers



We have two dates available in May for someone to donate flowers for the altar in Worship. May 1 & May 29 ~ which is Memorial Day

weekend ~ are both available. It is a lovely way to share a memory of a loved one or celebrate a special event with the congregation. If you are interested, please email Margaret Waugh at mcwaugh@aol.com with your contact information and Margaret will get back to you. Thank you!!

It has been a long two years for the whole world. The pandemic has affected every aspect of our lives. Here at Centre Church, we have also come through the flood that caused extensive damage within our building. When the flood happened, we vowed to look for the blessings in the mess. We most surely have done that! Following worship on Sunday, April 24, EVERYONE is invited to gather in the sanctuary for a presentation and celebration of new life after pandemic and flood. Come and learn about the re-building and renovation that took place. Celebrate the renewal of the sanctuary side of our building, from attic to basement. And honor the hard work that went into our recovery from this tragedy. We have indeed been blessed in the mess! Come, see, hear, and celebrate.





Centre Church ~ All Ages Event

Come One, Come ALL to Richardson's Ice Cream in Middleton after church on April 24th for fellowship over ice cream and/or mini-golf! We will meet there after the All-Church meeting!

SAVE THE DATES!!!



**2022 Flea Market and Bake Sale
Saturday May 14th @ 9 to 1**



Centre Church is sponsoring a **Flea Market and Bake Sale** on **Saturday, May 14, 2022**. Profits will go to the Church Budget. The events will be held on the church front lawn. If we have inclement weather, we will be inside in Richards Hall. We will have more information about donating your treasures for the Flea Market and baking for the Bake Sale coming out soon.

Coffee, COVID & Climate

Join Equal Exchange Apr 7th @ 7pm for a conversation with Santiago Paz Lopez, Export Manager of Coop Norandino in Peru. Santiago will be in Boston to attend the annual (but first since 2019) gathering of the Specialty Coffee Association. He will join us via Zoom to share more about the current reality of coffee farmers who have endured the pandemic as well as ongoing challenges with the climate crisis. After this unique and timely presentation, we will open the virtual session to questions from participant. Registration required.

<https://www.info.equalexchange.coop/events/santiago-paz>

Easter Baskets for La Colaborativa



The connection between Lynnfield and Chelsea continues. Thanks to donations from many Centre Church and Tower Day School staff and families as well as from across the community of Lynnfield, a team of volunteers created hundreds of Easter baskets for the children of Chelsea. Marc Garcia from La Colaborativa came to pick up the baskets which were overflowing the coat room. And this is only the first delivery! There will be another delivery before Easter Sunday! Thank you to everyone who donated! Thank you to everyone who volunteered to assemble baskets! Thank you to Denise Weaver for continuing to nurture the connection between Lynnfield and Chelsea and thank you to Debbie Cotting for organizing such a joyful endeavor!



Mission and Outreach

An **Equal Exchange** order will be placed for delivery before Easter: Please get your order in by noon on April 8. See our order form on www.centre-church.org and find other items at <https://shop.equalexchange.coop/> Any item can be added to our stock order.

Outreach will host Fellowship on April 3rd and May 8th. Equal Exchange and Earth Breeze items will be available for sale on those days.

We'll be flying an Earth flag on the Chapel for April (Earth Month) until Easter. How do people like the flags we've been flying? Please let any member of the M&O team know. We are: Annmarie Pendola, Barbara and Jeff Langill, David and Diane Bjorkman, Frank Scott, Judy Johnson, Phil Fisher, Linda Ladd.

Volunteer opportunities

Sat. Apr 9, 10a-12pm: We've secured 5 spots to work the garden at **Newhall Fields Community Farm** which is partnering with **Haven From Hunger** to provide locally grown fresh produce for those who are food insecure. Please read more about the farm and contact Linda Ladd to join us for this workday.

<http://newhallfieldscommunityfarm.org/>

Sat. May 14, 2022: Help to sort **Stamp out Hunger** donations at Haven From Hunger. Get more information [here](#)

Boston Area Gleaner opportunities for group or individuals:

<https://www.bostonareagleaners.org/>

Flag for Earth Month:



Green Church Initiative

Zoom Fellowship will be coming to you LIVE from the church narthex on April 10 and May 8 (Mother's Day). As we did in last year's Zoom Fellowship during Earth Month, we'll have the opportunity to discuss climate concern videos some of us watch ahead of time. Here are some suggested video links and Zoom Webinar dates:

- **Naadam**: makers of the sustainably sourced \$75 cashmere sweater. <https://naadam.co/> their videos: [About Our Sustainability](#), [The Democratization of Cashmere](#)
- Thu. April 7, 7pm by Zoom: **Equal Exchange** Export Manager Santiago Paz Lopez of Coop Norandino in Peru on "Coffee, COVID & Climate". He will share the current reality for coffee farmers who have endured the pandemic as well as ongoing challenges with climate crisis. Register [here](#)
- Sat. Apr 23, 10:30am: UCC Zoom Webinar "**The Faith of Prophets: Lessons for the Climate Crisis**". Register in advance [here](#)

Have you signed up for **Black Earth composting** with Lynnfield DPW? Check this out: [Sign up for composting and maybe win a free tree! | Lynnfield MA](#)