

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. Lori Anne Wyckoff, Pastor

Laraine Wilson, Director of Faith Formation

Douglas W. Hodgkins, Organist/Choir Director

Leah O'Brien, Director of Tower Day School

Alison O'Connor, Church Administrator

We Welcome Everyone: An "Open and Affirming" Church

October 2022

Failure HAS To Be An Option

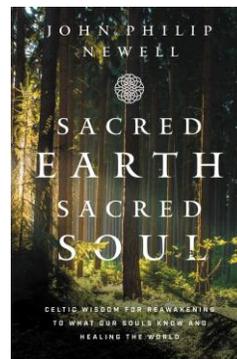
In week one of our worship series on change we learned that change happens because of crisis, chance, or choice and that of the three, we are least likely to choose change. That remains true even for us as people of faith, even though God has created us for change. Unfortunately, even in the times we choose change, we often don't have the tolerance to hang on in the inevitable discomfort so that the change we're hoping for has time to manifest. AND, in our culture, even those who press for innovation (chosen change) forget that the other side of innovation is failure. Innovation and failure hang together because we rarely get it right the first time and it takes many iterations to find our way forward. Think of a maze. It often takes many attempts to find the pathway that leads all the way through. When we come to a dead end, we back our way out to the beginning and start again, or at least backtrack to a previously navigated crossroads to build on what did work and try something new to get to our goal.

What does this have to do with Centre Church and our discipleship together? Well, we just voted on a significant and much-needed revision to our organizational structure and the bylaws that govern our work within that structure. However, even though nine months of work went into this significant change, as we begin to live into it, we have no idea what will work and what might need additional revision or reiteration. We have to walk together along the path using the guides we have laid out in good faith and be willing to assess honestly where it takes us. As

our plans are typically as imperfect as we are, we will need to accept that failure is possible AND that failure is not the end of the world nor a commentary on our worth. It is simply data that we should pay attention to as we continue to innovate, listening closely to the still, small voice of God who is ever calling us, encouraging us, and equipping us for our work in the world. Developing a tolerance for (dare I say an expectation of?) failure will serve us well as we seek to serve.

Yours in Christ,

Rev. Lori



Bible/Book Study with Rev. Lori

Bible Study/Book Group with Rev. Lori will resume on **Thursday, October 13 at 1:00 pm** in the Fireside Room. We will begin our new church year together reading *Sacred Earth, Sacred Soul: Celtic Wisdom for Reawakening to What Our Souls Know and Healing the World*, by John Philip Newell. All are welcome and encouraged to explore the book before our first meeting in October. As we discuss the book, Rev. Lori will share insights from her trip to the Emerald Isle and immersive encounters with the female archetypes of Celtic Spirituality. Hope to see you in October!



Faith Formation

Please register your child(ren) here:

[Faith Formation Registration](#)

Form 22-23

It has been 5 years since both Reverend Lori, and I came to Centre Church! I came in August, and she followed in September. In those 5 years, we have had a pandemic, a flood, many health-related issues, name changes in both of our families and so, so much more. We have had YOU and your wonderful children -- and each one of you has had many changes happen as well!

In September, we welcomed so many of you back to in-person everything and it felt wonderful! It gave me nostalgia for those first couple of years of ministry in pre-covid times. This year, I feel like we have something for everyone!

Nursery Care is available each week for ages 0-3. Christine Marshall and Raden Sorli Hawk are Nursery attendants and Raden will also occasionally work in Godly Play when needed.

Church School is still taking "Godly Play" format, but with some additions for those who loved Brick by Brick! The teachers are Allison Barbieri and Katie Swayne-Gerrish who have been with us for multiple years now. Stories in September and October tend to be from the Old Testament and coming up are the Ark and The Flood, The Great Family, The Exodus and The Ten Best Ways.

2022-2023 Special Theme

Each month we will spend some time on the theme of generosity. In October, this will take place on Sunday, October 9th when we will have a "one room schoolhouse" in Room 10. Each child will get a special box to decorate and take home as we remember that kids are contributors too!

Confirmation Class

On October 16th, there is Confirmation Class after church from 11:30 - 12:30 and lunch will be offered.

Youth Group

Youth Group (Middle School and High School) starts at 4 - Make Youth Group YOURS! Come with ideas for activities: Continue with our Kiva Micro Loans? Richardson's Ice Cream and Golf? Community Service Projects? Youth Group Takes over the Christmas Pageant? Plan a Spring Youth Group Weekend? Let us know! If you haven't registered for the 22-23 year, yet, please do so here:

[Faith Formation Registration Form 22-23](#)



Holiday Craft Fair

Plans are underway for the Centre Church Holiday Craft Fair, which is scheduled for Saturday,

November 5 from 10 AM to 3 PM. We have 25 artisans joining us, and we will have the Centre Church craft table, jewelry table, and bake table. And, of course, we will have the very popular Festival of Trees raffle. Mission and Outreach will host a table to sell Equal Exchange goodies and Earth Breeze laundry sheets. There are lots of ways you can help make this event successful. The Centre Church craft group is meeting on Tuesday nights. If you would like to participate, contact Barbara Langill at ba.langill@verizon.net.

If you are interested in decorating a tree and providing a few gifts to put under the tree for the Festival of Trees raffle, contact Margaret Waugh at mcwaugh@aol.com. Usually, a few folks team up to work on a themed tree. It really is lots of fun, and the trees are always lovely and very creative! Raffle winners receive the decorations and gifts, but not the tree itself. Perhaps you have jewelry to donate. We will place a donation box in the church office during the week and in the Narthex on Sunday mornings. Annmarie Pendola is heading up the Bake Table, and she will need volunteers to bake. We will also need folks to staff all the Centre Church tables throughout the day. Sign-up sheets will be available in the Narthex on Sunday mornings.

Thanks for considering how you can join the fun! If you have questions, please contact Debbie Cotting at cottingfamily@comcast.net, Margaret Waugh, Barbara Langill, or Annmarie Pendola at annmarie.pendola@gmail.com



A Delicious Way To Make Friends

If you are interested and available to host coffee hour after one of our Sunday services, please call or email the office (office@centre-church.org, 781-334-3050). **No experience needed and mentoring is available.** *Thank you* to our fellowship hosts: Annmarie Pendola, Nina Emery and Roy Sorli, Gary Muise and Lauren Patriquin-Muise, Ann and Dwight Decker, Perry and George Hayden, and Nancy Lauzon.



Hospice Volunteers Sought

Hospice Services of Massachusetts is looking for caring individuals to become hospice volunteers in our area. Volunteers are the heart and soul of the Hospice Program because they provide an array of services. Some provide comfort and care to patients and their families while others prefer to perform office tasks and other helpful projects. If you are interested in finding out more and learning when the next training will be, please call Juan Baez-Soto at 978-478-6109 or 617-381-7015.

Apple Pie Fundraiser Volunteers Needed!!



A team of Centre Church bakers will be making pies from Thurs Nov 17- Saturday Nov 19!! We plan to take over the

kitchen from 8-1 each day for pie prep!! We are looking for folks to volunteer helping with peeling and coring apples, making crusts, and assembling the pies. Please contact Chuck Cotting at chuck@thecottings.com to sign up and join the baking fun!



2022 APPLE PIE FUNDRAISER PLEASE GET YOUR ORDERS

by
Sunday, November 13th 2022!!

Apple, Apple Crisp and Apple Cranberry ~ **\$20.00**
Sunday November 20, 2022 Please send your orders and your checks in to the Church office! [781-334-3050], 5 Summer St, Lynnfield 01940. Or **please contact Chuck Cotting** [chuck@thecottings.com].



New Members

On October 16, we will be welcoming new members into our congregation. If you were unable to make the prospective new member dinner in September, it is not too late to speak with Rev. Lori and join on October 16. Email Rev. Lori @ lori.wyckoff@centre-church.org to ask any questions and/or indicate your interest. She will reply with answers and next steps. We look forward to growing in faith and serving together.



Flower Donations

We have dates available in October for those that are interested in donating altar flowers. October 2nd and October 30th are open. If you would like to donate altar flowers, please contact Margaret Waugh at mcwaugh@aolo.com or 617-549 0152

Thank you!
Margaret



Centre Church Schedule

**Worship services are held each Sunday at 10:00 am in the Sanctuary
After worship we gather for refreshments and fellowship.**

Sunday, Oct 2

10:00 Morning Worship – Sanctuary ~ Rev. Dr. Ciarán Osborn
11:00 Fellowship

Sunday, Oct 9

10:00 Morning Worship- Sanctuary ~ Rev. Lori Wyckoff
Communion
11:00 Fellowship

Thurs Oct 13

1:00 Book Group Fireside Room

Sunday, Oct 16

10:00 Morning Worship- Sanctuary ~ Rev. Lori Wyckoff
New Members Recognition
11:00 Fellowship
11:30 Youth Group

Thurs, Oct 20

1:00 Book Group Fireside Room

Sunday, Oct 23

10:00 Morning Worship – Sanctuary ~ Rev. Lori Wyckoff
11:00 Fellowship

Thurs Oct 27

1:00 Book Group Fireside Room

Sunday, Oct 30

10:00 Morning Worship – Sanctuary ~ Rev. Lori Wyckoff
11:00 Fellowship

Church office hours are 9am to 3 pm, Mon.-Fri.