

# CHURCH AT THE CENTER



**NOVEMBER 2016**



## FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH "CENTER CHURCH"

United Church of Christ

One Church Street

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*Welcome to Center Church where we roll up our sleeves to deepen our faith, extend God's abundant love and justice, and where laughter and tears are sacred.*

I first met Denise when I was 21 and she was 25. She oversaw the scripture readers at First Church in Cambridge MA. I held her in great respect, in awe, and was, to be frank, a bit intimidated by her because of her self-assurance. When we practiced the scripture reading for the following Sunday I did exactly what she asked: I changed my rhythm, slowed down, and enunciated!

Years, as in twenty five years later, I encountered Denise at a Hampshire Association function: still in awe of her many gifts.

Denise is sight impaired, has multiple sclerosis, and has an inoperable brain tumor...but that does not define her. Her incredible witness to church life within the UCC provided for a safe sacred home. Her intellect and global view secured numerous jobs along the way. While Denise encountered many devastating things in her life, she remains not bitter but hopeful. She's remarkably resilient. Last Monday Denise held her Ecclesiastical Council (members from area UCC churches came to ask questions about her paper in reference to her faith journey, theology, understanding of the church, and call.) She was unanimously affirmed to pursue a calling.

Why am I sharing this? In Denise I encounter what is sacred and lasting about the United Church of Christ, and about what it means to follow Jesus. May we go out of our way to ensure that Center Church is a sacred home FOR ALL as we are one in the body. Amen

*Blessings, Lori*

## PLEASE KEEP THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS:

### Situational:

Joy Bock  
Sandy Calkins  
Eunice Howes son  
Lucinda Kidder's son in law with cancer



### Continual:

Emily Bangs-Orsini (at Mt. St. Vincent)  
Chuck Blakney  
Luke Bradley  
Elinor Burnett  
Marjorie (at Loomis House) and Carl Buschner  
Joanne Crochiere  
Wayne Cowan  
Eleanor Edge  
Tim Garrett's friends David Drummond  
& Sterling McAndrew  
Gwen Glass at Loomis House  
Phyllis Lacoste  
Paul Laderach  
Kara Macdonald  
Red Roberts at Wingate  
Anita Sarro's son Michael in need of a transplant  
Jill Therrien, Linda Wolf's niece  
the Tipton family  
Marti Watson at Loomis House



*We keep all those serving in the military in our prayers*

## Advent



## Advent Candle Lighting

Are you interested in lighting the candle during Advent or on Christmas Eve? The lighting symbolizes the coming of Jesus into our midst. To sign up means lighting a candle or candles and reading a few brief words. If you or your family members have not lit the candles in the last three years and want to light/read, let Lori know. We welcome both individuals and families.

# Center Church Sunday School



**In the Promised Land Sunday School** we have been learning all about prayer -- how do other cultures pray? how and when can we pray? how do we know if God has answered our prayers? -- In November the classrooms will move forward with lessons (and projects!) on the Bible -- how to turn to scripture for everyday inspiration and to find passages that give a needed boost in times of sorrow or confusion. All of these 'Faith Life Skills' are cornerstones of religious practice. Thank you for all you do to support your children on their faith journey. Do any of you have a favorite scripture or daily devotion you would like to

share? In November we will also have a visit from Rev. Lorain Giles and her Hairy T. Bear and get busy with some outreach work! November is also the start of the Advent Season so there's plans in the works to have your children singing with the choir and also putting up a tree to decorate in the Promised Land.....! **We Are Blessed!** Many thanks to our Promised Land volunteers who helped in the classrooms in October. A big Shout Out to **Greer Clarke** and **Julie Burke** (who is now PL's new staff teacher!) Also, thank you to the **Children's Christian Education Committee** for hosting coffee hours for the month of October! And thank you, always, to our **Promised Land families** and **Youth Group partners** .

--- Martha Guild, Children's Christian Education Director

Our Center Church Little Library is open for business! Come browse our rotating collection, right by the Church St. door (near the bird feeders). Take a book, return it when you're done. There is a box for donations under the table. Thank you to everyone who worked on the library and donated books. We hope this literary outreach will be enjoyed by our church family and the neighborhood.



## NOTES FROM CHURCH COUNCIL

At the October meeting of council, we heard a treasurer's report from John Hoffman. He gave an overview of income/expenses as of August in light of the budget passed last February. Our building upkeep line is over budget at 160% and our bottom line deficit at the end of August was just over \$15,000.

John Anz, Stewardship chair, reviewed the theme of this year's Stewardship campaign and of the matching gift approach. He explained our part in this effort.

A motion was made and unanimously passed *to give \$50.00 from undesignated memorial funds to the CROP WALK to help with the purchase of t-shirts that are awarded to persons raising \$100 or more.*

### **Church in Transition-**

October 02, 2016- Richard and Susan Lovelace transfer of membership to the Newtown Congregational Church, Newtown, CT

# News from the Trustees for November 2016

Thia updated us on our current 2016 budget, stating that we stand at 75.3% for income and 76.2% for expenses (we should be at 75% at the end of September) – so that is pretty good news. So far, we are doing well but may still come in with less money than we had originally hoped when we set our budget - pledge income-wise that is. Our sincere thanks to all who have been fulfilling their pledges!! As stated before, we are continuing to look for ways to increase our non-pledge income for 2016. We have two groups who will be using the church for rehearsals or concerts before the end of December, and at least one additional new group on the horizon for 2017. And that will be part of our task again for the 2017 budget. The budget subcommittee will be meeting before our November meeting and we look forward to seeing what they have come up with. And the Stewardship team is hard at work on their plans for the 2017 budget – stay tuned on that front.

We continue to chip away at various on-going maintenance issues/items around the buildings. If you have any building concerns, please give them to Thia and she will relay them on to the Trustees. One piece of exciting news is that our rose window expert, Adam, has been freed up to get the entire outside work done on the west-facing window before winter and we are thrilled.! You have probably seen the scaffolding out in front and may have even seen him hard at work during the week. And the application process with the MA Historical Commission is proceeding with some follow-up questions/answers by Shannon Walsh, our consultant, and David Morrell, our historian. When we get the final notification from the State, then we will move the process forward to the national level.

As always at this time of year, we encourage you to think carefully (and prayerfully) about your 2017 church pledge. As members of the UCC and Center Church, we are all responsible for what goes on here, both daily/weekly/monthly happenings and financially as well. If we don't financially support this church, then we cannot do all the things that we do now both internally and externally in outreach to our local community and to the greater community, both in this country and abroad. There is much to be proud of at Center Church. We hope that you think so too and will support it with your continued involvement and with your dollars. One more special thing to keep in mind – we are extremely proud of and thankful for our dedicated staff. Why not give them a hug or tell them thanks when you see any of them next time. – Lori (our pastor); Larry, Cheryl, Cindy (our musicians); Martha and Claire (working with our children); Thia (keeping all of us sane and “together” as office manager); and Bob (keeping our church clean and inviting). The Trustees also want to thank all of you who volunteer, both seen and unseen, on a weekly basis to keep Center Church humming along! We cannot say “thank you” enough.

*Cindy Morrell for the Trustees\*\**

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# Outreach Partners of the Month

*"Hearts to Hands to Hope"*



## The Care Center - News

The Care Center is a Holyoke based nonprofit that helps young mothers earn high school diplomas with the help of on-site day care, food, counseling, and transportation. Bard Microcollege Holyoke, the nation's first college for young mothers with limited means is located at the Care Center and is now open.

Each year about 100 pregnant and parenting teens attend The Care Center's education programs. Before going to The Care Center, many of students would say that they didn't think of themselves as smart and that school was not for them. All have dropped out of school, most before getting pregnant. Most were on track for minimum wage jobs at best, with public assistance as a safety net. Yet all wanted a different life for themselves and their children.

The Care Center's mission is to help their students grasp how powerful they are, give them the tools to learn and provide them with an exciting and engaging learning environment. The results are exciting. Since 2004, an average of 75% of Care Center students who leave with their High School Equivalency go on to college!

**Here is their current wish list of items:**

**Digital Cameras**

**Laptops (in excellent condition)**

**Athletic clothing and sneakers (new only)**

**Gift Cards**

**Baby food and formula, diapers, baby wipes, baby clothes**

**Toiletries**

**Art supplies including paint, markers, canvases, paper, paintbrushes**

**Children's books**

**School supplies and book bags**



**Items can be dropped off at The Care Center at 247 Cabot Street, Holyoke, between 8:30 am and 4:00 pm on Monday-Friday.**

In October, Center Church donated over 100 children's books (selected from the books left after the Columbus Day Fair) to the Care Center day care and children's program.

There are many opportunities to volunteer at the Care Center, including as a tutor, in the day care, in the administration area, or to teach special elective class that shares your talents or experiences. Please visit [www.carecenterholyoke.org](http://www.carecenterholyoke.org) or see a member of the Outreach Team for more information.

## Louisiana Flood Relief



To date \$75 has been received to help those devastated by the August floods that were blamed for the death of nearly a dozen people, created a state of emergency in a large area of the state, and stranded over 30,000. Thank you to all who donated to this worthy cause.

## Cathedral in the Night - Donation and Hosting a Meal



*The Outreach Team is sending a donation of \$500 to Cathedral in the Night (CITN) in Northampton.*

CITN is an outdoor Christian community which seeks to create a safe place for all people: the homeless, the housed, the church-less, the churched, the student and the resident to explore, question and live out their spiritual beliefs; to gather for a meal and to empower one another to engage in issues of social justice by working to fight the causes of inequality and homelessness. Worship services are held on Sundays at 5 pm on the front steps of First Churches in Northampton (outside at 129 Church Street). Services conclude with Eucharist which then leads into a meal offered freely to all present. Congregations and restaurants prepare, donate and help serve the meals. CITN holds worship services every week; rain, snow, or shine. Pastor Stephanie Smith leads the staff of ministers and ministry student interns. Center Church has hosted the meal at several past worship services.

Center Church is planning to host the meal at a CITN service in February of 2017. Please contact Rev. Lori or Del Borah if you are interested in participating.

Church World Service is responding to the **Hurricane Matthew emergency relief** and the Outreach team is donating \$300 to the cause. We welcome all who are willing to join us in this support. Please feel free to contribute with a not designating to Hurricane Matthew relief. For questions, feel free to contact any of us on the Outreach team: Del Borah, Karen Hyvonen, Betty Innocent, John Hoffman, Elizabeth Griffin, Don Sibley, Arthur Procter"



A big and genuine word of thanks to each of you who walked/ and or contributed to our 2016 Granby/South Hadley CROP WALK that was held on October 18<sup>th</sup>. Center Church had 27 walkers and 3 well behaved dogs who took part in the 3 mile walk. It was wonderful to have young families taking part, as well as the older generation. Our children were well represented and some of them even carried the gallon jugs of water the entire way. The purpose of the water jugs is to help the carriers understand just a little better the hardship of women in many parts of Africa who tote water to their villages daily from sources many miles away. Thank you, CE team for encouraging participation in this event! **Center Church contributed \$706 to this worthy cause.** Five churches took part in our walk and we generated a total of \$1602 of which 25% stays in the local area and 75% is sent to CWS. This is one of CWS's major sponsorship programs and there are hundreds of walks all around the country who contribute to helping with awareness and programs that aid the plight of hunger.



Won't you plan to put it on your calendar and join us for next year's CROP WALK!

# Stewardship Team

## Stewardship 2017



As you may have already heard in moving *Stewardship Moments* during recent services, the Stewardship Campaign theme for this fall and the new year is **Center Church is Our Sacred Home**. We ask and hope you will explore how this is true for you, and how you can and will respond to a very special appeal and challenge to preserve, protect and provide for our sacred home, Center Church!

Full details of the appeal, the inspired challenge and "matching" opportunity, along with pledge cards will be in the mail to all the week of October 31st. Watch for your envelope that week. Then, please prayerfully consider how you can best respond, meet the challenge, and help to ensure that Center Church remains the sacred home that it is for so many of us, and those we serve.

**Stewardship Sunday ~ Pledge Sunday ~ is Sunday, November 13th!** Join us - and bring your pledge cards with you!

Peace & Blessings,

*Your Stewardship Team*



**ALL SAINTS DAY** On November 6<sup>th</sup> we will lift up the names of those who have died in the last year. In celebration of their life we read their names along with a brief description for those who have died from Nov 2015 through October 2016. If your loved one has died, please send in a few sentences about him/her to be read by Rev Souder and a deacon. In the past we have read just those who were members/friends of the church, but if you wish to include a family member or a friend, we invite you to do so.

**Please send in the names and descriptions by November 1<sup>st</sup>.**



**Coffee Hour-** **Thank you,** Children's CE for the wonderful job you did as our hosts for the month of October! Thank you for our special time of coffee hour in The Promised Land on October 30<sup>th</sup>.



The Stewardship Team will be our hosts during November. This team educates and motivates church members to be good stewards, wise stakeholders and committed disciples. They solicit pledges and raise money by planning and implementing the annual stewardship campaign. They coordinate, with the trustees, the development of the annual budget and efforts to assure the church's continuing financial integrity and viability. Members of the team are: John Anz, Don Donihue and Bob Russell.



## Getting to Know You – November 2016 Celebrating our Veterans

On November 11, the United States celebrates all of our veterans, past and present. One additional way in which veterans can be celebrated today is through the **Quilts of Valor** program which “covers service members and veterans touched by war.” It was started by Catherine Roberts of Seaford, DE in 2003, but has now spread across the U.S. and even has an international presence. The quilts are made locally, stitched by hand with “love, prayers and healing thoughts.” As you can imagine, there have been Center Church members serving in the military for many years, mostly before they came to us. The following members are just a few who have received these very special quilts since 2015. Quilts presented to our church members in November 2015, included: Eliot Chartrand, Matt Gage, Waldo Heinrichs, and Jean Lacoste. Here’s a little bit about them, gleaned from the bio stories which I have previously written.

**ELIOT** joined the Army in May 1964, attending Officer Candidate School, in artillery. In August of 1965, his unit, the famous First Infantry Division, aka “the Big Red 1,” was posted to Vietnam. The entire division took a troop train from Fort Riley to Oakland, then boarded a WW II troop ship that took them to Vietnam. The tour in Vietnam lasted one year.

**MATT**-- joined the Air Force to fly the A-10 fighter jets and took part in specific operations in 1995, '97 and 2003. He came to South Hadley so that he could work at the Barnes Air Guard base. Matt has since retired from the Air National Guard and is a pilot with American Airlines.

**WALDO** – was a member of the US Infantry (Army) from 1943-45 and served in both the European and Pacific theaters. [I hope to have more information on Waldo and Audrey in the next couple of months so stay tuned.]

**JEAN** – enlisted in the Navy after high school, where he first served three years on a destroyer, the U.S.S. K.D. Bailey (as in Kenneth) whose home port was in Brooklyn and a total of five years overall.

Our second set of veterans who received quilts in June 2016 included: Cathy Irish, Bob Merritt, David Morrell, and Bob Robertson.

**CATHY** - served in the Navy from 1974-78, as a hospital corpswave.

**BOB M.** – after graduating from high school, served in the Army for three years as a radio operator and was stationed in Europe.

**DAVID** – served in the Air Force from 1966-70. After basic training as a radar technician, he spent time in Okinawa, Japan, and Vietnam including being in country during the 1968 “TET offensive.”

**BOB R.** – after Cornell, served in the Army from 1953-55 in the signal core, as he says, fought his way up and down the East Coast, including time at Fort Devens.

These are only eight service members who have been honored so far. ***We thank all of them, and all of the other veterans in Center Church, for their service to this country.*** We are in your debt for all that you did to keep those of us at home safe.

*Cindy Morrell*



# Tell Me the Stories



[Beginning note: in checking out the hymn possibilities for this month, I did discover that we had actually sung *An Outcast among Outcasts* (NCH 201), at least once before, back in November 2010 when I chose to write it up. I said then that was definitely a new hymn for us and that Lori chose it specifically because of the connection to the sermon. ]

*Come Gather in This Special Place* (NCH 335) is one of our newer communion hymns. When Philip Porter started writing the text in 1991, he envisioned a table large enough for everyone who wanted to take communion at any given time. He also wanted to add to our selection of communion hymns. Born in Indiana in the 50s, he grew up in the Methodist Church, but in the 70s he joined a UCC church in Berkeley where he serves as "artist-in-resident." The tune "Gather" was composed by Elaine Kirkland in 1991 specifically for this text. The two of them had met at a UCC arts function in 1977. Daughter of a Methodist minister and born in Charleston, SC, she has music degrees and an M.Div. from Pacific School of Religion (CA). She is a composer, organist, teacher, and conductor. Both Porter and Kirkland have been working together since 1989.

*We Plow (Plough) the Fields and Scatter* (PH 460) is one of the songs which have been in Center Church's repertoire for many years. It focuses on the harvest, but also on the seeds and the time it takes until they can be harvested. The words were written by Matthias Claudius way back in 1782. The original was in 17 four-line stanzas followed by the refrain which was translated by Jane Campbell. It was first known as *The Peasants' Song* and came from Paul Erdman's Feast, appearing in England in 1871. German by birth, Matthias was the son of a Lutheran pastor. He had planned to study for the ministry but sidetracked by the law and languages until regaining his faith once more. He edited the Wandsbecker Bote where he lived near Hamburg, where he later died. Although he wrote no hymns as such, he did write many popular poems. An Englishwoman of the early 1800s, Campbell did a number of German to English translations. The tune "Wir Pflügen" was composed in 1800 by Johann Schulz and replaced the original air for the piece. It showed up in England in 1854.

*Let Justice Flow Like Streams* (NCH 588) was composed by Jane Parker Huber and was one of two hymns which she wrote for two special events focusing on economic justice for women in 1984. It was a very short hymn by design and based on the book of Amos. It was written for a "consultation on economic justice for women" held during the fall election campaign of 1984 in Washington DC. It was felt that the idea of economic justice was one around which all women's groups could unite. Huber has numerous hymn texts in this hymnal. Born in China, she grew up mostly at Hanover College (IN) where her father was president for many years. "St. Thomas" is the hymn tune with which it was paired. It is an anonymous tune which came out of "Holborn," a longer tune from 1763. Aaron Williams published the longer tune in 1763. He was a publisher, teacher, and music engraver in London.

*Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior* (NCH 551) actually comes with several source explanations. Fanny Crosby, who was blind at birth, was one of the best-known gospel hymn writers. She produced thousands of gospel hymn texts and is probably "the most widely sung hymnist in the world." She has four other texts in the NCH. It says she wrote this text in 1868 after visiting a NYC prison. She sent it to William Deane that evening saying she felt "completed to send him this hymn." He composed the music "Pass Me Not" that evening. They collaborated on many

other hymns as well, including three additional ones in the NCH. Deane composed more than 2,200 hymn tunes over his lifetime and published over forty collections of songs.

*Cindy Morrell, associate in music*

Resources used: Robert McCutchan's Our Hymnody (1937); Handbook to the Church Hymnary (1927), ed. James Moffatt; Robert J. Morgan's Then Sings My Soul, Book 2 (2004); Kenneth W. Osbeck's Amazing Grace (1990); Jane Stuart Smith and Betty Carlson's Great Christian Hymn Writers (1997); Ronald Thomson's Who's Who of Hymn Writers (1967); and The New Century Hymnal Companion, ed. Kristen Forman (1998);



Again this year we would like to provide

## Thanksgiving Boxes

to some of our friends who call during the year for assistance with food and Big Y gift cards.

If you would like to donate to the boxes we will be needing:

**stuffing mix, cranberry sauce, carrots bags of potatoes,  
acorn/butternut squash, canned green beans, canned crispy onions  
pumpkin cookie or muffin mixes,  
and of course TURKEYS.**

Non-perishable items may be brought to the office at anytime and if you would like to provide a turkey let Thia know and we will keep a list and let you know when would be a good time to drop it off. We would like to add a \$25 gift card to the boxes if possible so if you would like to donate one of those let Thia know that too.

**THANK YOU!!!!**



## A Christmas Concert...

presented by the  
**Western Mass Brass Ensemble**  
will be held on  
**Saturday December 10<sup>th</sup>**  
**at 3pm**

The music, in the British tradition, performed by a group of brass band enthusiasts, music majors and teachers as well as high school students, **includes a sing-along**. The concert will be held in the Sanctuary and a free will offering will be taken which is used to support the ensemble's music library.

# From our Historian

## REFUGEES AND CENTER CHURCH THE BASALLO FAMILY



*Mr. and Mrs. Juan Basallo and daughter Anna, who fled Castro's Cuba and, sponsored by the First Congregational Church, came to live in town in July 1963. The caption stated "The family felt very much at home."*

With all the political rhetoric going around about refugees, I remembered a time back in the early 1960s when Center Church stepped up to help folks during the Cuban Crisis and the hundreds of refugees fleeing Fidel Castro's communist regime. Looking through the various committee reports and *Church at the Centers* at that time, I discovered the Basallo family.

In 1962, Our Christian World Mission Committee and a newly formed Social Action Committee began devising a plan to help refugee families. The Mission Committee members were: Fronia Bates, Audrey Brooks, Charles Cohoon, Alice Crathern, Florence Fields, Lila Iverson, Betty Mitman, Edwin Warner and James White. The Social Action Committee consisted of: Peter Nash and Mary Ellen Benson (both youth members), Phyllis Brouillet, Tim Fowler, Leland Guenther, John Kohout, and John Newton, Jr. The Women's Guild helped with:

Barbara Chaffee Peterson, Eleanor Fowler, Marion Kohler, Flossie Warner and so many others including Jean and Phyllis Lacoste.

Juan Basallo was sent to jail in Cuba for being employed by the Shell Oil Company because it was US-owned. He escaped in 1961 and fled to Texas. His wife and child eventually escaped by boat and followed him there and they later moved to Miami. They took the opportunity to relocate to Massachusetts through Church World Service. Another Cuban family, the Garcias, was sponsored by the First United Church of Holyoke around the same time. The language barrier was difficult at first, but daughter Ana was a "quick study" and became the family's translator while they began English lessons through a program at Holyoke High School. The family received an American flag from President John F. Kennedy to mark his pledge that their nation of Cuba would not be abandoned.

By July 1963, with just 10 days notice, the call came to Center Church to invite us to sponsor a Cuban refugee family. Dottie Lamb, chair of the Deaconesses, accepted the responsibility. Our Associate Minister, Rev. Peter Diehl, greeted the family in Boston. The Basallos were temporarily placed in the Fowler home on Roundelay Rd., and then moved to the Chaffee home at 63 Woodbridge St. Juan, Loida and 10-year-old daughter Ana Basallo were gladly received and settled in. By March 1964, the Basallos moved into their permanent apartment at 109 College Street Apt#4. Various clubs and groups of the church helped with cleaning, painting and wallpapering. New appliances were purchased so that the family would not have to worry about repairs! Furniture and linens were donated. The family began their new life without any unnecessary bills. Edwin Warner employed Juan in the Warner's Tree Service to give the family a means of income.

The Basallos expressed their gratitude over and over. Through an Internet search, I was able to find a Juan (89yrs old) and Loida (no age given) Basallo now living in Scottsdale, AZ. Ana (63) married and is now Ana Arrazola, living in Miami, FL. It is truly a tribute to our congregation to be directly involved through such positive actions for helping the Basallos and encouraging them in becoming citizens and "new Americans"!

*David C. Morrell*, Center Church historian

## Columbus Day Fair 2016

A hearty thanks to all who contributed in some way to our very successful Columbus Day Fair. Whether you contributed items to the tag sale; decorated homemade "goodies"; helped set-up; helped to pack up; helped to sell on Sunday and Monday or supported it through purchase of items.....**thank you very, very much!**



There were approximately 82 people who actually took part .....69 members of the church and 13 friends of the church. This is apparently a very big weekend for our members to be traveling or having guests; thus, staffing the actual days of the fair was one of our most difficult tasks.

Our early set up of the tables with many opportunities to help put the items out was very successful....shown by the number of 33 members of the congregation helping in this manner. However, we only had 18 of our number who were able to help us on the actual days of the fair. By adding the 17 members who worked at every step of the way...whether tagging, arranging, selling or packing up, we were able to run the fair in a fairly smooth manner.

It was special to have 13 friends of the church taking part. They seemed to be enjoying themselves and they sure were appreciated!!

We're still getting a check here and there...and receiving a bill here or there, but at this time it looks like our gross will be \$9155 with expenses of \$846. Thus, our net will be about \$8309.

We have again made every effort to have the left-over items go to worthy organizations. The Outreach team collected some of the items...particularly linens, for the Jewish Resettlement program in Springfield. We contributed many boxes to the Salvation Army, Goodwill Industries, and Dakin Animal Shelter.

So, the Columbus Day Fair of 2016 was a very successful one...and that's wonderful. Our #1 priority continues to be that it is an opportunity and time to enjoy good Christian fellowship....and that certainly did occur!

### Columbus Day Fair Kudos

Did you happen to stop by the church on a Tuesday morning from April through the first week of October? If you did, you probably came down to Fellowship Hall and enjoyed some conversation with the women who were pricing and tagging all the items of sale. (That's 6 months of marking!) The ladies spent collectively somewhere over 720 hours organizing and pricing the items. Included in this group were:

Bobbie Ayers	Audrey Heaphy
Carolyn Baston	Grace Hooton
Lynne Bertram	Jane Ting
Eileen Halkyard	Joyce Tomlinson
Jean Hazen	Nancy Towne



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# Holiday Bazaar



December 3, 2016

9:30 – 3pm

**For your Christmas Shopping** - there will be children's and adult gift bags, pantry delights, chocolate sauce, meat lasagna and Butternut squash lasagna (for take out) and a HUGE selection of Christmas decorations (NONE were sold at the Columbus Day Fair.). We'd like to have a Cookie Sale so PLEASE sign up below to make a batch of Cookies.

Can you HELP?? We will be setting up for the Bazaar every day starting Monday November 28<sup>th</sup> – hours are flexible! What's good for you?? Let either David Morrell (532-1864) or Karen Anderson (536-0005) know. Just a couple of hours is sooooo helpful during the week or on the day of the event.

I can help with set up \_\_\_\_\_ I can work on Saturday \_\_\_\_\_

I will bake a batch of Cookies for the Cooke Sale \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_



## HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS IN AMHERST – DEC. 3rd!

Not one, but TWO fun holiday shopping events benefiting community churches PLUS 20% discounts at many local stores and restaurants! (Visit [www.amherstdowntown.com](http://www.amherstdowntown.com))

**St. Nicholas Bazaar - Grace Episcopal Church (on the Common)**  
**9am-3pm** **14 Boltwood Ave.**



Marketplace - Antiques and Collectibles, White Elephant, Toys and Games, Holiday Decorations, Baked Goods, Fresh Wreaths, Books, CDs & DVDs, Textiles, Framed Art, and Handmade gifts.

Lunch - Chili and fixings with beverage and brownie.

For more information go to [www.gracechurchamherst.org](http://www.gracechurchamherst.org) or contact [jobrien82@gmail.com](mailto:jobrien82@gmail.com)



**Stone Soup Bazaar & Cafe - Unitarian Universalist Society of Amherst**  
**10am-4pm** **121 N. Pleasant Street**

Arts and Crafts Fair - pottery, fabrics, wood, jewelry, mixed-media prints, greeting cards, photography, artisan soaps, honey, gourmet brownies and more. Parents, grandparents and people of all ages are sure to find that special something for the people on their list. Raffles - themed gift baskets and congregation made queen-size quilt. Food - homemade soups and breads.

For more information go to [www.uusocietyamherst.org](http://www.uusocietyamherst.org) or contact [sandysladden@gmail.com](mailto:sandysladden@gmail.com)

**MAKE A DAY OF IT!**



- 01 Rachel Buckley
- 04 Charlotte Buijnarowski
- 06 Wendy Williams
- 07 Jamie Morrell
- Brittany Tipton
- 11 Sarah Lovelace
- 13 Bob Hazen
- Bob Judge
- 16 Karen Anderson
- 19 Chloe Sabbs
- 21 Jeffrey Lovelace
- 30 Nancy Lutes
- Carol White



## FELLOWSHIP HALL STORE...

**OPEN YEAR ROUND FOR YOUR SHOPPING CONVENIENCE**

**CHECK OUT OUR GENTLY USED ITEMS FOR SALE**

**WE HAVE AN ASSORTMENT OF FALL AND HOLIDAY TREASURES AWAITING YOU NOW.**

**BE SURE TO CHECK OUT THE BOOKS IN THE BACK OF THE HALL!**



*Happy Thanksgiving*

### THE MINISTRY AT CENTER CHURCH



Ministers:  
Senior Minister:  
Minister Emeritus:

All Church Members  
Rev. Lori J. Souder  
Rev. Charles P. Blakney



#### Christian Education Program

Children: Martha Guild  
Youth: Claire Houston  
Adult: Randy Purinton and Betsy Bergen, Team Chairs

#### Music Program

Organist: Larry Schipull  
Choir Director: Cheryl Cobb  
Associate in Music: Cynthia Morrell

Office Administrator: Cynthia Jubinville  
Sexton: Robert Farman

Volunteer Opportunity Available with the  
WestMass ElderCare Long Term Care Ombudsman Program

Help make a difference in the lives of the residents of the WestMass ElderCare's area nursing and rest homes as a volunteer ombudsman. Training and supervision provided. Weekly nursing/rest home visits. Become a valued resident advocate! We work closely with nursing and rest home staff to work through resident concerns. Learn more about how you can become a volunteer ombudsman in this important program by contacting the Ombudsman Program Director, Bob Cochrane at 413-538-9020, ext. 331.



**centerchurchsouthhadley.org**  
Your website for all things Center Church



**On the first Sunday of each month,  
please bring any of the following items to worship:**

Canned vegetables

Canned fruits

Cereals

Soups

Dried Pastas

Rice

Canned beans

Tuna Fish

Peanut Butter

Jam/Jelly



**Food Pantry  
Ministry**

Juices

Crackers

Spaghetti sauce

Meals in a can

The monthly offering is used for direct appeals to Center Church and for donation to local food pantries.

Our gifts are extended to the hungry and the poor - those who need them most! Food offerings may be left inside the Church Street entrance at other times.

**Thank you for your compassionate response!**



**As Parents Age: The Adult Child Conundrum**  
**A Dinner Series on the**  
**Joys and Challenges of Supporting Aging Parents**  
**Loomis Village, 20 Bayon Drive, South Hadley**

**Tuesday, November 1, 5:30 pm** Your Life is Changing

Providing care for a family member is an act of kindness, love, and loyalty. It can also be overwhelming. This discussion will focus on things you can do to make the caregiving process easier and more pleasurable for both you and your loved one. Discussion led by Cynthia Jacelon, PhD, RN, University of Massachusetts College of Nursing and College of Nursing students November 8, Election Day, not scheduled, remember to vote!

**Tuesday, November 15, 5:30 pm** Navigating Shifting Roles

An adult child doesn't assume the top of the hierarchical relationship because an aging parent's needs increase. In the words of Pema Chodron, "Compassion is not a relationship between a healer and the wounded. It's a relationship between equals." Discussion will focus on navigating shifting family roles while preserving dignity and respect. Led by Cynthia Jacelon, PhD, RN

**Tuesday, November 22, 5:30 pm** What Matters in the End

Families are neither comfortable with nor used to discussing serious illness or dying. Discussion will help family members better understand importance of advanced care planning and prepare for conversations about the later stages of life. Led by Jeffrey Zesiger, MD and Raeann LeBlanc, DNP, RN

**Tuesday, November 29, 5:30 pm** Designing Your Own Later Adult Years

Aging will happen to all of us naturally, but aging well takes careful planning. Now is the time to begin to plan an enjoyable, wise, active, and fruitful later life. Such planning will also add richness to your life now. Cynthia Jacelon, PhD, RN and Barbara Perman, PhD

Talks are free and open to the public at Loomis Village, 20 Bayon Drive, South Hadley. All are welcome to attend one or the entire series. Because a caregiver's life is busy enough, buffet dinner is included beginning at 5:30 pm. Presentations will begin promptly at 5:45 pm. Please RSVP to Carol Constant, [cconstant@loomiscommunities.org](mailto:cconstant@loomiscommunities.org) or [413-588-5184](tel:413-588-5184).

**About the presenters:**

Cynthia Jacelon, PhD, RN is an Associate Professor in the School of Nursing at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. She is an advocate for promoting dignity, function, self-management of chronic health problems, and independence in older adults.

Raeann LeBlanc, DNP, RN is a Clinical Assistant Professor in the School of Nursing at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. She is a trainer through the AACN End of Life Nursing Education Consortium.

Barbara Perman, Ph.D. is President and Founder of Moving Mentor, Inc. She is a pioneer in the growing field of senior move management and co-author of the book "*No Ordinary Move, Relocating Your Aging Parents, A Guide for Boomers.*"

Jeffrey Zesiger, MD is the medical director of Palliative Care at Cooley Dickinson Hospital. Dr. Zesiger is board-certified in Internal Medicine, Palliative Care and Hospice. His is also medical director of the Cooley Dickinson VNA & Hospice.

**Carol Constant** Director of Community Engagement

246 North Main Street, South Hadley, MA 01075

[413-588-5184](tel:413-588-5184) fax [413-532-8676](tel:413-532-8676) [www.LoomisCommunities.org](http://www.LoomisCommunities.org)

# 2016 - 2017 Weekend Programs at Silverlake

Register at [www.silverlakect.org](http://www.silverlakect.org)



## Thinking About Working for God Fall Retreat October 28-30, 2016

Gather for a weekend of conversation, worship, music, and exploration of spiritual practices at our beautiful Conference Center in Sharon, CT. For youth in grades 9 through 12. Cost is \$70 per person; register online at [www.silverlakect.org](http://www.silverlakect.org). For more information, contact Debby Kirk at [debbyk@ctucc.org](mailto:debbyk@ctucc.org) or 860-761-7103.

## Christmas at the Lake December 2-4, 2016

Celebrate Christmas, Silver Lake-style! Join your friends and make new ones as we anticipate Christ's birth at Silver Lake, with or without snow! We will get busy and creative with Christmas crafts, outdoor play, baking, worship, and lots of singing of Christmas songs around the fire.



There will be two retreats this weekend: one for 5th and 6th graders and one for 7th and 8th graders. Cost is \$115 per person; register at [www.silverlakect.org](http://www.silverlakect.org). For more information, email [jenncc@ctucc.org](mailto:jenncc@ctucc.org) or call 860-364-5526.

## 2017 Counselors in Training for 15 – 16 year olds March 3-5 2017



Do you want to be a counselor for Silver Lake? Then this is the conference for you! Join us for a three-day interview and training session and become one of the future leaders of Silver Lake! You will learn how to lead games, how to quiet a roomful of conferees, how to keep them safe, and how to help God change their lives while enriching your own. You'll get all the training you need to make you a great counselor!

Successful completion of this weekend program will make you eligible to be a counselor or CIT in Summer 2017. Participants must be at least 15 years old by June 15, 2017. Register online at [www.silverlakect.org](http://www.silverlakect.org); cost is \$130 per person.

## MAPLE SUGARING *at Silver Lake* for 6th through 8th graders

MARCH 24-26, 2017



From tap to table, experience nature's renewal and its sweet gifts at Silver Lake March 24, 7 p.m., to March 26, 11 a.m. We will tap the camp's sugar maple trees, collect the sap, and boil it over a big outdoor stove as we participate in the transformation of sap into syrup. We will follow the same techniques used by Native

Americans for thousands of years. See firsthand God's gift of Resurrection in the coming Spring.

**Register at [www.silverlakect.org](http://www.silverlakect.org).** The cost for the weekend is \$115.

Whether you're a yoga devotee or a novice, a seasoned singer or shy about your voice, we have a special place for you in our circle! We'll nourish our minds, bodies, and spirits so that we may return to our lives feeling more empowered and energized. We'll share new skills and tools for use throughout our lives.

The cost for the retreat weekend is \$190, which includes materials, instruction, two nights' accommodations and four meals. Register online at [www.silverlakect.org](http://www.silverlakect.org).



December 2-4, 2016  
March 24-26 2017

WOMEN'S YOGA AND MUSIC  
SPIRIT RETREAT

## Daily Lectionary Scripture References November 2016 (Year C/A)

**Tues., Nov. 1**  
*All Saint's Day*  
Psalm 142  
Habakkuk 3:1-16  
Jude 5-21

**Wed., Nov. 2**  
Psalm 142  
Habakkuk 3:17-19  
Luke 19:11-27

**Thurs., Nov. 3**  
Psalm 145:1-5, 17-21  
Zechariah 1:1-17  
Acts 22:22-23:11

**Fri., Nov. 4**  
Psalm 145:1-5, 17-21  
Zechariah 6:9-15  
Acts 24:10-23

**Sat., Nov. 5**  
Psalm 145:1-5, 17-21  
Haggai 1:1-15a  
Luke 20:1-8

**Sun., Nov. 6**  
*Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
Haggai 1:15b-2:9  
Psalm 145:1-5, 17-21 or  
Psalm 98  
2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17  
Luke 20:27-38

**Mon., Nov. 7**  
Psalm 98  
Haggai 2:10-19  
2 Peter 1:16-21

**Tues., Nov. 8**  
Psalm 98  
Haggai 2:20-23  
2 John 1-13

**Wed., Nov. 9**  
Psalm 98  
Zechariah 8:1-17  
John 5:19-29  
Luke 17:11-29

**Thurs., Nov. 10**  
Isaiah 12  
Isaiah 57:14-21  
Romans 1:18-25

**Fri., Nov. 11**  
Isaiah 12  
Isaiah 59:1-15a  
2 Thessalonians 1:3-12

**Sat., Nov. 12**  
Isaiah 12  
Isaiah 59:15b-21  
Luke 17:20-37

**Sun., Nov. 13**  
*Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
Isaiah 65:17-25  
Isaiah 12  
2 Thessalonians 3:6-13  
Luke 21:5-19

**Mon., Nov. 14**  
Psalm 76  
Isaiah 60:17-22  
Ephesians 4:25-5:2

**Tues., Nov. 15**  
Psalm 76  
Isaiah 66:1-13  
1 Corinthians 10:23-11:1

**Wed., Nov. 16**  
Psalm 76  
Isaiah 66:14-24  
Matthew 23:37-24:14

**Thurs., Nov. 17**  
Luke 1:68-79  
Jeremiah 21:1-14  
Hebrews 9:23-28

**Fri., Nov. 18**  
Luke 1:68-79  
Jeremiah 22:1-17  
1 Peter 1:3-9

**Sat., Nov. 19**  
Luke 1:68-79  
Jeremiah 22:18-30  
Luke 18:15-17

**Sun., Nov. 20**  
*Reign of Christ*  
Jeremiah 23:1-6  
Luke 1:68-79  
Colossians 1:11-20  
Luke 23:33-43

**Mon., Nov. 21**  
Psalm 117  
Jeremiah 30:1-17  
Revelation 21:5-27

**Tues., Nov. 22**  
Psalm 117  
Jeremiah 30:18-24  
Revelation 22:8-21

**Wed., Nov. 23**  
Psalm 117  
Jeremiah 31:1-6  
Luke 1:1-4

**Thurs., Nov. 24**  
*Thanksgiving*  
Deut. 26:1-11  
Psalm 100  
Philippians 4:4-9  
John 6:25-35

**Fri., Nov. 25**  
Psalm 122  
Genesis 6:1-10  
Hebrews 11:1-7

**Sat., Nov. 26**  
Psalm 122  
Genesis 6:11-22  
Matthew 24:1-22

**Sun., Nov. 27**  
*First Sunday in Advent (Year "A")*  
Isaiah 2:1-5  
Psalm 122  
Romans 13:11-14  
Matthew 24:36-44

**Mon., Nov. 28**  
Psalm 124  
Genesis 8:1-19  
Romans 6:1-11

**Tues., Nov. 29**  
Psalm 124  
Genesis 9:1-17  
Hebrews 11:32-40

**Wed., Nov. 30**  
Psalm 124  
Isaiah 54:1-10  
Matthew 24:23-35



UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST  
MASSACHUSETTS  
CONFERENCE

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# November and December 2016 UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday November 6



## ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

\*\*\*\*\*

Sunday November 27



## FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

\*\*\*\*\*

Week of Nov 28 – December 2

## SET UP FOR THE HOLIDAY BAZAAR

\*\*\*\*\*

Saturday

December 3

9:30 am – 3 pm

*Holiday Bazaar*



\*\*\*\*\*

Saturday

December 10

3 pm

## WESTERN MA BRASS CONCERT

\*\*\*\*\*



Saturday December 24

4pm and 7:30 pm

## CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP

