

CHURCH AT THE CENTER

OCTOBER 2017



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH "CENTER CHURCH"

United Church of Christ

One Church Street

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*ALL ARE WELCOME AT CENTER CHURCH ON THE COMMON,
AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING UCC CONGREGATION,
WHERE THE SPIRIT OF GOD STIRS US TO EMBRACE OUR DIVERSITY,
DEEPEN OUR FAITH IN JESUS, SHARE OUR TEARS AND LAUGHTER,
AND EXTEND GOD'S ABUNDANT LOVE AND JUSTICE INTO THE WORLD.*

From John 14 Jesus said, "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid."

If we are not affected by the natural disasters or tense conversations with North Korea, then we have disassociated with the world. My tummy churns whenever I give thought to those who have been displaced, those who died, who cannot be found, who are without electricity, and who have lost family, friends and valuables. What was a given, is no longer the same, except for the peace of Christ.

This week Center Church sent in over \$3500 to the National UCC for its mission work in Houston. The full dollar amount is used to support the victims-nothing on overhead or administration. The National UCC covers that expense.

We have an incredible opportunity to practice our faith as storms, quakes, fires charge at us. We can pray, donate, and actively consider how and what Center Church can continue to do to provide hope and love. I feel these calamities call us to attention to the significance of being in an intentional faith community. I need you. I need us. I need Jesus.

Peace, Lori



STEWARDSHIP ~ Visions & Fellowship

Our special **Visions & Fellowship** event is **Sunday, October 1st**, after worship The Stewardship Team is proud to host this event, offer an enhanced fellowship hour, and present a program of team vision sharing for Center Church and our future. Please join us after worship in Fellowship Hall for this short but crucial program. Our youth are invited and encouraged to attend, and extended child care will be provided up in the Promised Land for younger children. We look forward to seeing you and sharing our many visions for the future.

Time and Talent



We've updated our Time and Talent flyer! During October you will receive the flyer and will be asked to fill it out and return it. This is an opportunity for you to support the church through sharing with us your time and your talent. If you have filled out one in the past, please still fill out one this time. We hope that you will find several activities on the flyer that catch your eye and you can respond with an enthusiastic "I can help with that!" and "I'd enjoy doing that!"

If you have any questions, please ask Lori, Thia, or a member of the Membership Team.

Thank you in advance.....you truly can make a difference!

Please join us on **Sunday, October 15th at 1 P.M. for the 2017 CROP WALK**.. a CWS sponsored project to help fight hunger world wide (25 % of money raised stays local)

- Pledge forms are available at coffee hour
- Registration is from 12:30- 1 P.M.
- Gather at the Granby Town Common...plenty of parking!
- T-shirts free if you have raised \$100 or more
- The walk is off the main roads, and safety comes first
- Dogs are welcome....with a dog treat and water at the end of the walk



Let's have Center Church strongly support this South Hadley/Granby ecumenical event... and we'll walk, rain or shine; cold or hot!!!



On **October 29** we will be celebrating the **500 years of the Protestant Reformation**, singing "good ole" reformation hymns and nailing our own edicts on a door. Five hundred years ago Martin Luther nailed 95 edicts (ways in which the church should be reformed/transformed). We will write down our own edicts, whether there are ways

Center Church can be transformed/ reformed or how we, individually, can be transformed/ reformed (no names please!). We will then take them down from the door and hang them on the wire mesh in the Bock Crossway. We won't let Martin Luther have all the fun. We will also be lifting up in prayer, all the retired ordained ministers in our congregation: Don Donihue, Lorain Giles, Randy Hyvonen, Randy Purinton. Also we will lift up retired missionaries, Anna and Don Sibley. Phyllis Tickle, a church historian, wrote how every 500 years the church goes through a transformation. Are you ready!

Thank you, Membership team and Adult Christian Ed team for being our hosts at coffee hour during September. Thanks are also extended to the Children's CE team for the ice cream that they served to celebrate the opening of the Promised Land.



Coffee Fellowship

During October, the Children's Christian Education team will host coffee hours. This team is responsible for teaching and developing programs of Christian faith and practice for the children from birth to confirmation. They are also working to include the youth program with their team deliberations. The team works in conjunction with the CE director and the senior pastor. Members of the team are: Julie Burke, Kate Hoffman, Garnette Sherry, Jennifer Weeks, Helen Gage, Randy Purinton, and Sarah Smith.

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS

Situational:

The family of Ruby Carver who passed away September 16th

Fran Collins

Lesley Dunbar, Betsy Bergen's sister

Judy Hemingway

Kate Hoffman

Eunice Howes son Steve

Lucinda Kidder's son in law with cancer

Peter Kovalesky, recuperating

Sharyn Kovalesky

Janice Nelson

David Ryder Barbara Hubbard's brother with cancer

Joyce Tomlinson following back surgery

Continual:

Emily Bangs-Orsini (at Mt. St. Vincent)

Chuck Blakney

Luke Bradley

Marjorie and Carl Buschner

Karol Coffin's mother

Wayne Cowan

Daniel Dempsey

Tim Garrett's friends David Drummond & Sterling McAndrew

Muriel Graham

Lou Hamilton

Jane Hazen

Phyllis Lacoste

Hector Reyes

Anita Sarro's son Michael in need of a transplant

Jill Therrien, Linda Wolf's niece



We keep all those serving in the military in our prayers



ALL SAINTS DAY On All Saint's Day, November 5th 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 2016 through October 2017. 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/descriptions by November 1st.**

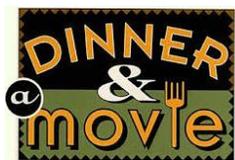
CHILDREN'S CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

In the Promised Land Sunday School we culminated our September theme of Hope with a Hope Rally outside church and got friendly waves and hopeful honks from the community. In these times, putting our hope in God will ground us in our faith and guide us to higher ground. Prayer is another cornerstone of faith. In October, our focus is the many ways we seek connection with God through prayer. There are so many ways to pray. Can we pray by carving peace signs in pumpkins or by going apple picking with friends? Or do we bow our heads and fold our hands in a quiet space to pray? At the end of October, the Promised Land will be hosting fellowship so you can all come see what we've been doing in our Sunday school classrooms! Thank you to our volunteer teachers in September - Kate Hoffman, Helen Gage, and Julie Burke (who will be our regular "Littles" teacher again this year. Thanks Julie!) ~

Living in Hope, Martha Guild,
Children's Christian Education Director



Adult Education



Dinner and a Movie -- for Free! You are invited to *Walk in the Steps of the Other*

Come for a simple supper and stay to view and talk about the film, "**Beatriz for Dinner**", **Monday, October 23, 6 pm, at the church.** Watch for more details in Sunday bulletins.

And speak to any of us of your interest: Don Donihue, Lorain Giles, Karen Hyvonen,

Randy Purinton, Anita Sarro.

Adult Ed will be hosting a **Thanksgiving Evensong Potluck November 6, 6:00 P.M.** in the Center Church Chapel. The 30 minute informal worship service will begin at 6:00

and will borrow from Anglican and Taize (French) worship formats. The theme of the service will be "Giving thanks to God for the blessings we receive." The two hymns included in the service will be "Come Ye Thankful People Come" and "Now Thank We All Our God." Hymnals provided. The chapel will be decorated to reflect the beauty and spirit of the season. **Potluck after the service.** Please bring your all-time, favorite potluck entree or side dish because dessert will be provided by the Adult Ed team. The event will conclude around 7:30.



News from the Trustees for October 2017

It can sometimes be confusing when we report financial information, because by the time you read these CAC articles, we are already into the next month. But our reports cover the previous month (that is the month just preceding our monthly meeting). Confused yet? So I can tell you that at the end of August, we should have been at 67% of the projected budget for both income and expenses. And we were pretty close - 68.2% for income and 64.62% for expenses. So in spite of being away from Center Church for the month of August, we have done well. While we have almost reached 100% of our "projected" plate income, we are still at just 69.82 % of our total projected pledge income. We know that expenses are somewhat smaller over the summer, partly because of payroll and heat expenses. But we are now back to full strength for payroll expenses and we will soon need to turn on the heat. And our building expenses don't ever take a vacation! We thank everyone who has worked very hard to keep pledge payments current, as well as those who come to church every Sunday and put money into the plate! Our endowment portfolio has also been doing very well over the summer months. We heard from Lori with great interest that there is a relatively large group of folks who are interested in joining us and we are most grateful for that. Lori also spoke about some other cool ideas which are percolating around the church. We have had visits from the building inspector as well as the folks from Simplex, the company which monitors our fire alarm system. All went well with those. We continue to work on small issues around the building. One not so small concern is the snow blower which we received several years ago from a parishioner and have been using ever since. It is felt the time has come to purchase a new one, perhaps with a bit more horsepower. While it may seem early, in the recent heat, to think about snow, but this is New England and you all know what that means. And we also have to begin the 2018 budget planning process. All in all, the trustees had a very positive meeting to begin the fall part of our church year.

Cindy Morrell, secretary

Notes from Church Council

The Council met on September 5 and was moderated by Bobbie Ayers, member of the Membership team. Rev. Lori Souder shared her ideas about engaging local people who gather around the Town Common. Through this outreach, we may draw more individuals into our congregation. She is hoping for more "vigils" seeking justice and peace, to be gathered on our front lawn, showing what we stand for. Our congregation needs to encourage and support our beliefs! Our "envisioning goals for the fall" will concentrate on: 1) our key core values in worship and in the world; 1a) by bringing community together through music and arts; 2) building community through open acceptance, kindness, love and helpfulness; and 2a) by welcoming visitors and responding to needs. Council moved, seconded and **VOTED** to provide \$50 for CROP Walk t-shirts. Stewardship is putting together the Fall pledge campaign for November 12. Outreach is inviting Mount Holyoke professor David Hernandez to speak about the immigrant situation for a future talk. Membership is working on reinstating a pamphlet with information regarding our various teams at Center Church. CE has asked and been approved to re-title the Promised Land as the Promised Land Sunday School. The Sunday School theme for September - Hope. The Sunday School nursery class has been moved to the Promised Land third floor for better continuity. Time and Talent forms will be included in the 3rd quarter pledge-report mailing. A Jazz themed benefit concert sponsored by the Stewardship team will be presented November 4, in the sanctuary from 7 - 9 p.m. The money raised will go to: Neighbors Helping Neighbors, Symphony of Saints (which provides musical instruments for deserving persons) and Center Church's Outreach team.

Center Church in Transition

Baptisms: Sept. 17, Grant Michael Holmes, son of Lisa and Jason Holmes
and great grandson of Ruth and Michael Thornton.
Sept. 24, Ella Catherine Glover, daughter of Catherine Bozek and William Glover
and grandson of Nancy and Michael Bozek.

Death: Sept. 16, Ruby Flood Carver, 89 yrs of age.

David C. Morrell, clerk

Outreach Partners of the Month

"Hearts to Hands to Hope"

CROP HUNGER WALK – ENDING HUNGER ONE STEP AT A TIME



SAVE THE DATE Sunday, October 15th
Granby Common – Registration 12:30
Walk 1:00 p.m.



Hunger is one of the greatest injustices facing our world, but it doesn't have to be this way. Ending hunger is possible, and it is possible in our lifetime. You can help make it happen.

For nearly half a century, **CROP Hunger Walks** have ensured that more people worldwide have access to nutritious, sustainable food sources. From combating droughts in Nicaragua to providing agricultural training in Indonesia to stocking shelves in hundreds of food pantries across the United States, CROP Hunger Walks help end hunger by raising funds to support local food programs and the international **anti-hunger work of Church World Service**.

Stand with neighbors in your community, who rely on food assistance programs. Partner with parents worldwide as they ensure a bright future for their children. Support those struggling in the face of grinding poverty and open up new doors of opportunity for them.

Many of us asked in light of recent hurricanes, floods, tornados in the South, "What can we do?" The answer is there is much we can do. The road to recovery for victims in Texas, Florida and surrounding areas will be long and hard. Church World Service stands with people for years helping them rebuild their homes and lives.

Let's continue to remember people who have lost so much, continue to pray for them and join the CWS CROP Walk on Sunday, October 15th in Granby.

Your Outreach Team

IMMIGRANTS - FACT SHEET

As part of our on-going interest on immigration and refugees, the Outreach Team would like to share some facts on immigrants in the United States. The following information comes from the National Immigrant Justice Center, U.S. Department of State, Pew Research, and American Progress.

IMMIGRANTS IN THE U.S.

- 42 MILLION people in the U.S. are foreign born (13%)
- 18 MILLION of those are naturalized citizens
- 13 MILLION are documented non-citizens
- 11 MILLION are undocumented immigrants



The Outreach Team is planning several opportunities over the coming year to take a closer look at why immigrants come to the U.S; where they are from; and where do they live? We look forward to hearing from people in the field and engaging in discussion with you on these topics.



THANK You to the members and friends of Center Church for your contributions to **Operation Backpack 2017**. The funds and materials which you provided have helped close to 200 South Hadley students start the academic needs with school supplies and materials they must provide for themselves. This outreach is very important for their beginnings of academic success at all grade levels

In Celebration of Our Musicians

On Sunday September 24th, we celebrated our three accomplished musicians - Larry Schipull, Organist, Cheryl Cobb, Choir Director and soloist and Cindy Morrell, Associate in Music (Summer Organist/Choir Director). We are BLESSED to have so much talent on our Staff. Thank you to each of them for their dedication to Center Church.

Below are comments from each of them with regard to their positions at Center Church:

From Cheryl: Cheryl's start date at Center Church - September 2004.

You may remember that it was (more or less) your idea (Linda Laderach, that is) that I apply for the conducting job - I was dubious but am very glad that I decided to do it! Still impersonating a conductor, but enjoying the ruse!

I have often done one or 2 solos a year - frequently a spiritual - sometimes one on Christmas Eve to give the choir a break.

Degrees from Eastman and New England Conservatory. John Moriarty, coach, diction teacher and repertoire teacher probably most influential teacher at NEC.

The choir singing at Fran Carpenters funeral was a very memorable experience. She represented what the choir has been - historically, musically, humanely - in a powerful way.

Laughter and caring: We do not take ourselves too seriously, but we really try to take the music and the caring spirit of the church seriously. The church and the choir have always been welcoming and accommodating to the quite different folks - me included!

From Larry: I've composed a handful of pieces -- mostly Introits, and there was the concertato arrangement of the original hymn tune I composed for the church's anniversary, with words by Bob Merritt. That has been the most extensive "work" so far.



My teachers were all memorable. When I started organ lessons at age 8, I stayed with the same teacher until I graduated high school. Her name was Eloise Buckner, and she really didn't play keyboards very well. (She considered herself a violinist, if pressed.). But she had a remarkable ear, and a willingness to seek out experts who had information she wanted/needed. One of the experts she took me to was Carl Staplin, head of the organ department at Drake University in Des Moines, and it seemed inevitable that I would get my undergraduate organ training with him (while also doing a piano major with Robert Shultz, another of Eloise's sources). Carl was an exponent of French music, both Baroque and Romantic/early 20th Century, and he felt that I would benefit from study in France, so after graduation I spent a semester in Paris as a student of Marie-Claire Alain, one of the most influential teachers in the 20th Century. After my French experience I went to Yale, where I was a student of the University Organist, Charles Krigbaum. At that time graduate organ study was polarized in two camps: one either played exclusively early music (with an occasional dip into the decadent music of Mendelssohn and Brahms), or one played the 19th-century repertory, and treated any earlier music in that style, as well. Charles insisted that all his students play in both styles, as is commonplace now in graduate schools everywhere.



I don't recollect a stand-out single moment during my time at Center Church. Rather, I feel that every week reaffirms why I choose to play in a church at all -- the opportunity to help unite a congregation through music is very powerful, and the organ is uniquely suited to that task. It requires a different approach from recital/concert playing, and I would not have the chance to practice those skills without playing for weekly services.

This was from Cindy In June '97 CAC: Ken (Baily) wrote that Larry would be joining us after Labor Day and handling both the choirs and the Sunday services until the end of December. The small thing for which we can thank Larry is the very thick "Stained Glass" anthem book which was purchased during that fall and which we still use today.

From Cindy.... So let's see. for singing - I started back when there was an Angel Choir and progress up thru Junior Choir and into Senior Choir. I started taking organ lessons with Susie Conant, maybe in 7th grade. I had been taking piano lessons until then. If memory serves me correctly, I played a senior recital in 1964 at the church. I did take organ at MHC with Myrtle Regier my junior and senior years. I think my first year, I had a paying organ job at St. Christopher's Episcopal Church in Fairview. When we returned from TX after David finished his Air Force stint, I played one month during the 1970 summer for Susie. That morphed into the entire 12 week summer services in 1992-99, after that although we can't find when I first got paid by the church. (Starting in 2000, we started the shared summer services). I think Susie was paying me from her salary. I have unfortunately lost my log book which covered those early years. the logbook which I do have starts in Dec 1989 but I know I was playing all those previous years. I have not gone back into my 1970ff tax files to see if I wrote down any payments from then forward. Maybe I can do that.



I was given the title Associate in Music in June 2002 after we had several discussions about summer payments or payments for accompanying choir plus summer Sundays. I had been working as a "consultant" for summers or covering for Susie until then. I know that I began accompanying rehearsals when Cheryl started in Sept 04. I did not accompany rehearsals regularly for Kevin or the MH person who preceded him. At some point, it was decided that I would accompany rehearsals pro bono but get paid for the summer Sundays. as far as hymn writeups for CAC, my alpha list starts in Oct. '04 and has continued for most CACs. (I have also been doing those bios for CAC - no connection to music - since April '05 when I started with all of our congregation's ordained ministers, then moved to staff and finally to members.) Larry and I have been doing duets since Jan '04 but did them with Susie once or twice a year since 1989. and Jane Ting and I have started doing them - at least 2, if not 3 duets, in recent years.

Almost all of my music has been done here at Center Church, except for the one year at St. Christopher's and substituting at other local churches. I have been thankful for my musical "gifts" and that I can share them with my church, which I have been doing almost all my life.



The Baptism of Ella Catherine Glover
on September 24th.
Good looking family!
Parents Cathy Bozek and Bill Glover
Grandparents Nancy and Mike Bozek
Uncle Ken Bozek



Columbus Day Fair 2017

Come one, come all...there's something for YOU!!! Maybe you can help by baking something for the homemade bake sale...or maybe you would like to work behind the scenes setting up or taking down the tag sale. Whether you want to help with the selling of the items...or if you want to browse and purchase...please plan to join us the weekend of **October 7-9** and again on Saturday, October 14th. Our annual **Columbus Day Fair** is here again! It's a major fundraiser; but with the work there are lots of laughs and wonderful fellowship to be shared. Please sign up for one job or be with us throughout the day; but **DO** join in making this the best Columbus Day Fair ever!

Schedule of Times and Events

Monday - Friday October 2 - 6 Stop in during Office hours and set out items for tag sale



Saturday, October 7th- Set-up emporium 8 A.M. until completed-

Come for an hour or Come for the day

Sunday, October 8th- After morning worship, Tag sale open for members of the Congregation ONLY UNTIL 1PM WHEN WE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC UNTIL 4:30PM.

Monday, October 9th- ALL DAY 8:30 A.M. to 3:30 P.M



**CAFÉ (GREAT FOOD)....BOOKS....TAG SALE
JEWELRY COLLECTIBLES TOYS
BAKE SALE**

Tuesday - Friday October 10 - 13 Stop in during office hours and box up leftover items that will be donated to local charities.

Saturday, October 14th- **CLEAN UP DAY!!** 8am - finished
Please help us with this *very important and necessary task*.
Many hands will make light work.

SEE YOU AT THE FAIR!



We Need YOUR Help!

Much of our success for the **Columbus Day Fair** is because so many hands help out before the fair, fair day, and after the fair!! **PLEASE help.....every person's effort is needed and appreciated!**

So...please fill out the form below.... or just speak to Karen Anderson or Bobbie Ayers, or leave your name with the church office and we'll contact you.

Thank you ahead of time!

Please sign up for MORE THAN ONE TIME - We need your support!!

Name: _____ Telephone # _____

e-mail address: _____

I will be able to help: (check ALL that apply)

- _____ Stay after Stewardship luncheon on Oct 1 and help put out folding tables (less than an hour)
- _____ Help put boxes on tables during week before the fair (Monday - Friday during office hours)
- _____ Set up on Saturday, October 7 (start at 8am)
- _____ Provide baked goods and/or fudge to be sold at the fair

Help with the emporium (tag sale and books) (Check ALL that apply)

_____ Sun Oct 8th 12:30 - 3pm _____ 2:30 - 4:30pm _____
Lunch will be provided for volunteers

_____ Mon. Oct. 9th AM 8:15 - 10:30 _____ 10:15 am - 12:30 _____
PM 12 - 2:15 _____ 2 - 3:30 _____ ALL DAY _____

_____ Help pack things back into boxes during the week after Fair (Wednesday - Friday office hours)

_____ Help with breakdown (clean up) Sat. Oct. 14th
8am - 10 am _____

(Please consider helping with this VERY important task!!!)

Help with the café:

_____ Preparation Mon. Oct 9th morning. _____ Selling Monday noon & afternoon

NOTE: THE HOURS OF THE COLUMBUS DAY FAIR ARE:

Sun. Oct. 8th 11am-1pm for members and those persons in the congregation that day;
1pm-4:30pm Open to the Public

Mon. Oct. 9th - 8:30 A.M.- 3:30 P.M. Tues - Friday Honor system shopping

Sat. Oct. 14th - Breakdown and cleanup 8am



Tell Me the Stories - October 2017

Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether (NCH 337) is also one of the choir's favorite anthems. Written by Percy Dearmer, it was originally designed to be part of another postcommunion hymn text in the 1930s. The text now stands quite on its own, still in the communion section of the NCH. Dearmer, an Englishman, graduated from Christ Church, Oxford where he received both a B.A. and an M.A. degree. He was first ordained as a deacon and then a priest in the Anglican Church and edited several important hymnals over his lifetime. The tune "Union Seminary" was composed by Harold Friedell originally as a choral anthem and ten years later was adapted into a hymn tune by Jet Turner. Friedell, an American by birth, spent his career as an organist in New York City and also taught at Union, Juilliard and Guilman Organ School. Turner was a student at Union.

Come Forth, O Love Divine (NCH 289, PH 239), aka *Come Down, O Love Divine*, came originally from an eight stanza "cento" (or a sixty-line poem) first published in 1851. The poem was written by Bianco da Siena, who was born in the late 1300s. A monk living in a religious community following St. Augustine, he lived much of his life in Venice and his hymns were not published until 400 years after his death (1434). The original text was translated by Richard Littledale, an English clergyman, in 1867. The NCH version has been updated slightly, mostly changing older pronouns. The hymn tune "Down Ampney" was composed by Ralph Vaughan Williams in 1906. Named for his birthplace in England, it might be considered "the most beautiful tune composed since "Old Hundredth." Vaughan Williams served in the medical corps in WW I and during WW II he worked on relief projects and organized concerts for service personnel. His name is affiliated with at least 20 hymns in the NCH.

In Christ There is no East or West (PH 414, NCH 395) is one of our familiar hymns. It was written by Englishman John Oxenham, AKA William Arthur Dunkerly (his real name) a successful wholesale grocer, and also as Julian Ross who wrote serial stories for the newspaper. As John, he wrote best-selling poems and hymns. Rumor has it that he published "more than forty novels and twenty other volumes of verse and prose." Apparently he had other pseudonyms as well. In spite of these various interests, he was known as a "devout and active layman in the Congregational Churches." This hymn text was first published in a book he printed himself called Bees in Amber. It was originally written as part of a libretto for a 1908 pageant at a giant missionary event in London. The hymn tune "St. Peter" was composed by Alexander R. Reinagle, an Englishman, and was originally used as a "solo setting" for Psalm 118. Reinagle was organist at St. Peter-in-the-East Church in Oxford, England. He came from a musical family and served this church for 31 years. He also published two collections of both sacred music and hymn tunes. The tune is also called "Oxford" or "Christ Church." The major difference in the wording between the two hymnals is that the NCH version directly uses words from Galatians 3:28. There is a story associated with this hymn which is most interesting. Supposedly there were two ships anchored next to each other near the end of WW II - one containing Japanese "aliens" and the other American soldiers waiting to be repatriated. They spent one entire day on their two decks glaring at each other until one of the US soldiers began singing this hymn. All of a sudden they realized that the "aliens" were singing along with them. That must have been an amazing event to witness! (originally written July/August 2007)

Cindy Morrell, associate in music

Resources used: Handbook to The Church Hymnary, ed. James Moffatt (1927); Kenneth W. Osbeck's Amazing Grace (1990), 101 Hymn Stories (1982); and The New Century Hymnal Companion, ed. Kristen Forman (1998).



CENTER CHURCH HISTORY

Members have asked for a *chronological list* of our Church's history. Read on!

- 1727 inhabitants from Hadley begin settling the South Precinct
- 1733 we gather on October 3 with the Reverend Grindall Rawson in our first meetinghouse as the Second Church of Hadley. It is now the restaurant at the head of the Town common.
- 1730s-40s we participated with Jonathan Edwards in the "Great Awakening." Our church is the main meeting place for all town government.
- 1742-1782 The Reverend John Woodbridge leads the church for 40 years!
- 1753 the village becomes the incorporated town of South Hadley.
- 1759 the church is formally incorporated as the 1st Precinct of South Hadley.
- 1761 the second meetinghouse is built housing a bell and clock tower.
- 1788 Noah Goodman, member and representative to the Massachusetts legislature, votes to ratify the Constitution of the United States of America!
- 1804 Hampshire Missionary Society founded by Center Church members.
- 1819 Center church Sunday School begins. Redesigned in the early 2000s as the "Promised Land" by Rev. Randy Purinton, CE director (2004-2007).
- 1824 we are incorporated as the 1st Parish of South Hadley.
- 1827 the church parish and the church are incorporated, becoming the First Congregational Church of South Hadley.
- 1837 Mary Lyon opens Mount Holyoke Female Seminary with generous financial assistance from Center Church spearheaded by Rev. Joseph Condit.
- 1844 the 3rd meeting house is built. It burns to the ground, January 14, 1874.
- 1868-1870 our minister John M. Greene helps to found Smith College with Sophia Smith.
- 1876 4th meetinghouse is built; it also burns to the ground on March 5, 1894.
- 1895 5th and present meetinghouse is built and dedicated January 13, 1895.
- 1921 Center Church women are allowed to vote in local and national elections!
- 1954 Center Church forms a committee and fund raises to construct an education building. Center Church joins the national United Church of Christ organization.
- 1956 the education building is completed April 29 and houses 300 Sunday School children!
- 1957 Center Church Pre-school program is started by Ruby Carver, Joy Bock & Barbara Peterson
- 1966 a choir room, youth meeting room(Rye Field), chapel and kitchenette are created in the lower level(ground floor) of the main church building.
- 1982 Rev. Carlos Avila and Rev. Gus Peterson help to create Nueva Esperanza, a vital Holyoke Hispanic organization.
- 1995 a committee is formed to fund raise and renovate/redecorate the sanctuary.
- 2000 (February 6) the renovation is complete with the new connector/elevator and is named the Bock Crossway.
- 2000 the education building is renamed the Lancaster Education Building in honor of the Rev. James L. Lancaster (1953-1969).
- 2004 Center Church votes on November 21, to allow same gender marriages in our sanctuary.
- 2008 Center Church calls our first woman senior pastor, the Reverend Lori J. Souder, a Mount Holyoke College graduate!
- 2009 we enter the "Take And Eat" initiative calling our program "Food For Friends." We also take the steps and become an "Open and Affirming" church.
- 2013 we reconfigure the space once housing the Rye Field Room on the ground floor into three administrative offices for the Pastor, CE Director and Office Manager.

HONORING LIFELONG SERVICE

HOLYOKE MEDICAL CENTER'S ACE LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS
RECOGNIZE OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS
TO THE HOSPITAL COMMUNITY.



IT'S NOT EASY TO STAND out among all those who are passionately engaged in Holyoke Medical Center's mission: to improve the health of everyone in our community. Still, each year the hospital selects two individuals to recognize for their exceptional service over two decades or more. This year's Lifetime Achievement Award winners are Esmat Ezzat and Thomas Hazen. The awards will be given at the hospital's annual ACE Awards celebration, which takes place Saturday, October 7, 2017 at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

ESMAT EZZAT began her 40-year career with Holyoke Medical Center as a speech pathologist. She played a pivotal role in the tremendous growth of the Speech and Hearing Center, a health service that was started by the Junior League of Holyoke in 1962 in response to the large number of children who developed hearing loss due to a rubella epidemic. In 1964, the program was turned over to the hospital, and Ezzat was asked to help develop it.

"The hospital gave me one room, and I started networking with physicians and others in the community, explaining the role of a speech pathologist and what I could do for patients," says Ezzat. Today, the center consists of seven therapy rooms and two audiological suites for hearing testing and the fitting of hearing aids.

Ezzat, who has a master's degree in speech pathology, developed many innovative programs and built a reputation for the center as a regional leader in speech and language therapy. A hallmark of Ezzat's philosophy is collaboration. "I never worked as a speech therapist alone," says Ezzat. "I had the opportunity to learn from a

tremendous team of physicians, dentists, physical therapists, and so many others."

In addition to running the Center, Ezzat continued to be an active speech and language therapist. "I gave therapy until my last day working there," she says. "It has been my passion." Ezzat retired from the hospital in 2007.

THOMAS HAZEN, now retired but a past partner in his family's Holyoke-based Hazen Paper Company, was on the Holyoke Medical Center Board of Directors for 11 years. He continues to serve on several committees, including the Investment Committee. His father, who also sat on the hospital's Board, and his mother were great supporters of the hospital, too. "It has been our family hospital," says Hazen. "I had my tonsils out there. That was a long time ago. I remember they used ether, the only option back then, which was quite unpleasant!"

Hazen explains his reasons for supporting Holyoke Medical Center over the years, both with time and financial contributions. "The new Emergency Department facility is critically important to people in this area," he says. "In addition, the hospital is a large employer and a major contributor to the community."

Over the course of his time working with the hospital, Hazen has found the relationships built and friendships made to be highly rewarding. "I've had a long kinship with the Holyoke community," he says. "The people I've had the pleasure of working with over the years are a distinguished group. I have many fond memories of friends who are dedicated to both the hospital and the Holyoke community, and contribute readily to the long-term well-being of both."

ACE Awards

will also be given in the categories of:
Best Physician, Best Caregiver, Best Supporting Employee and Best Leader.

This year's finalists are:

■ BEST PHYSICIAN FINALISTS

Dr. Zubena Matoon, Oncologist
Dr. Kevin Snow, Primary Care
Dr. Arthur Weinstock, Intensivist

■ BEST CAREGIVER FINALISTS

John Glogowski, Primary Care
Iris Romero, Oncology
Sara Taylor, Behavioral Health

■ BEST SUPPORTING EMPLOYEE FINALISTS

Angela Callahan, River Valley Counseling Center
Darlene Gramolini, Physician Services
Maria Young, Environmental Services

■ BEST LEADER FINALISTS

Lynn Grondin, OR and Peri-Operative Services
Vimar Lassalle-Garcia, Orthopedic Center
Kaye Van Straten, Nursing

Center Church has purchased a new snowblower and would like to offer our old one - AS IS - to the first person to request it. It is in working order as of the last snowfall! Let Thia know if you would want it. (Church office - 532-2262)



The Columbus Day Tag Sale Team will gratefully accept your donation of **bags of any sort** for use at the Tag Sale on Sunday and Monday, Oct. 8 and 9. You may leave them in Fellowship Hall or drop them by the Church Office. **Thanks so much!!!**

**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

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!



- 01 Virginia Constant
- 02 Cindy Morrell
- 04 Olivia Cordes
- 06 Kayla Narey
- 08 Lorain Giles
- 09 Shawn Hall
- 13 Nancy Hall
- 14 Jane Ting
- 17 Julie Burke
- 18 Sarah Howe
- Anna Wood
- 20 Audrey Heinrichs
- 27 Fletcher Smith



Let's Dance



Join Us!

Learn and Review Classic Social
Dance Steps!

With Jeannette LoPresti

Thursdays beginning September 21st in
Fellowship Hall

Congregational Church of South Hadley

6:30 pm to 7:30 pm \$5 per class

Couples and Singles Welcome!

Contact Corinne Chartrand for more information
413 219-6563

Bob Robertson is looking for a **place to store 2 Adult Size Tricycles**. He has recently sold his home and there is no storage available at Loomis. Please give Bob a call (532-5460) if you have space – or a suggestion for him.

South Hadley JazzFest Benefit Concert at Center Church



On Saturday, November 4th at 7 pm, Center Church will host a **benefit concert** here in the sanctuary. The concert is being presented by Music and Arts South Hadley ("MASH") and Jazz Productions, and will be facilitated by the Stewardship Committee on behalf of Center Church. The concert will feature two wonderful piano & voice duos with national and international touring schedules. All proceeds from the event will go to fund and support *Neighbors Helping Neighbors*, *A Symphony of Saints*, and *Center Church's Outreach Team*. Tickets will be sold at the door the night of the event (\$25 / \$10 students). Discounted tickets (\$20) and Patron / VIP seating packages can be purchased in advance. If you are interested in advance purchase tickets, Patron / VIP packages, or helping with the event, please see John Anz during coffee hours in Fellowship Hall during the month of October.

THE MINISTRY AT CENTER CHURCH

Ministers:	All Church Members
Senior Minister:	Rev. Lori J. Souder
Minister Emeritus:	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: Bob Farman

Daily Lectionary Scripture References October 2017 (Year A)

Sun., Oct. 1

Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Exodus 17:1-7
Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16
Philippians 2:1-13
Matthew 21:23-32

Mon., Oct. 2

Psalm 42
Exodus 18:1-12
Philippians 1:3-14

Tues., Oct. 3

Psalm 42
Exodus 18:13-27
Philippians 1:15-21

Wed., Oct. 4

Psalm 42
Exodus 19:9b-25
Matthew 9:2-8

Thurs., Oct. 5

Psalm 19
Exodus 23:1-9
Colossians 2:16-23

Fri., Oct. 6

Psalm 19
Exodus 23:14-19
Philippians 2:14-18; 3:1-4a

Sat., Oct. 7

Psalm 19
Exodus 23:10-13
John 7:40-52

Sun., Oct. 8

Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20
Psalm 19
Philippians 3:4b-14
Matthew 21:33-46

Mon., Oct. 9

Psalm 119:49-56
Deuteronomy 5:1-21
1 Peter 2:4-10

Tues., Oct. 10

Psalm 119:49-56
Deuteronomy 5:22-6:3
2 Corinthians 5:17-21

Wed., Oct. 11

Psalm 119:49-56
Deuteronomy 6:10-25
John 11:45-57

Thurs., Oct. 12

Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23
Exodus 24:1-8
1 Peter 5:1-5, 12-14

Fri., Oct. 13

Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23
Exodus 24:9-11
James 4:4-10

Sat., Oct. 14

Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23
Exodus 24:12-18
Mark 2:18-22

Sun., Oct. 15

Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Exodus 32:1-14
Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23
Philippians 4:1-9
Matthew 22:1-14

Mon., Oct. 16

Psalm 97
Exodus 32:15-35
Jude 17-25

Tues., Oct. 17

Psalm 97
Exodus 33:1-6
Philippians 3:13-4:1

Wed., Oct. 18

Psalm 97
2 Kings 17:7-20
John 6:25-35

Thurs., Oct. 19

Psalm 99
Exodus 33:7-11
3 John 9-12

Fri., Oct. 20

Psalm 99
Exodus 31:1-11
1 Peter 5:1-5

Sat., Oct. 21

Psalm 99
Exodus 39:32-43
Matthew 14:1-12

Sun., Oct. 22

Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Exodus 33:12-23
Psalm 99
1 Thessalonians 1:1-10
Matthew 22:15-22

Mon., Oct. 23

Psalm 63:1-8
Exodus 40:34-38
Revelation 18:1-10, 19-20

Tues., Oct. 24

Psalm 63:1-8
Numbers 12:1-9
Revelation 18:21-24

Wed., Oct. 25

Psalm 63:1-8
Numbers 13:1-2, 17-14:9
Matthew 17:22-27

Thurs., Oct. 26

Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17
Deuteronomy 31:14-22
Titus 1:5-16

Fri., Oct. 27

Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17
Deuteronomy 32:1-14, 18
Titus 2:7-8, 11-15

Sat., Oct. 28

Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17
Deuteronomy 32:44-47
John 5:39-47

Sun., Oct. 29

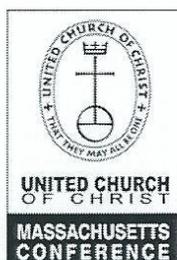
Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Deuteronomy 34:1-12
Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17
1 Thessalonians 2:1-8
Matthew 22:34-46

Mon., Oct. 30

Psalm 119:41-48
Numbers 33:38-39
James 2:8-13

Tues., Oct. 31

Psalm 119:41-48
Exodus 34:29-35
James 2:14-26



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Music and Arts South Hadley & Jazz Productions

Present

A South Hadley JAZZFEST Benefit Concert

An evening of Piano and Voice ~

In support of Mission and Music



Featuring...

Alex Brown & Lauren Henderson

Matt & Atla DeChamplain

and Matt Dwonszyk

Saturday, November 4th @ 7 pm

CENTER CHURCH ~ 1 Church Street ~ South Hadley, MA

Doors open at 6:30 pm ~ Concert at 7:00 pm

Admission: \$20 in advance / \$25 at the door / Students \$10

For advance Patron, VIP and individual ticket sales go to www.musicandartssouthhadley.org

THANK YOU to our generous sponsors and patrons...



John Scibak ~ Florence Bank ~ Lisa Longpre, Consultant (Mary Kay) ~ Ohana School of Performing Arts

All proceeds will directly benefit these local non-profit missions:

Neighbors Helping Neighbors ~ A Symphony of Saints ~ Center Church Outreach Team