

CENTRE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
193 Main Street Brattleboro, Vermont 05301  
centrechurch@centrechurchvt.org  
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**CENTRE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
193 Main Street, Brattleboro, VT 05301-2842  
Office Hours: M - F / 8:30am - 12:30pm  
Church Office: (802) 254-4730 / admin@centrechurchvt.org  
Website: www.centrechurchvt.org  
Facebook: Centre Congregational Church-Brattleboro VT  
Instagram: @centrechurchvt  
Current news/information in the larger UCC Community:  
VT Conference: [www.vtcucc.org](http://www.vtcucc.org) / National: [www.ucc.org](http://www.ucc.org)  
**CHURCH STAFF AND LEADERSHIP**  
Minister and Teacher: The Rev. Dr. Scott Couper: 786.622.8473 (cell)  
centrepastor@centrechurchvt.org  
Music Director: Mary Milky-May: music@centrechurchvt.org  
Administrator: Bruce Landenberger: admin@centrechurchvt.org  
Financial Secretary: Christine Yost: finance@centrechurchvt.org  
Council Chair: William McCarty  
Treasurer: Arne Fecto  
Clerk: Jeannushka Fishell  
Custodian: John Bertolini

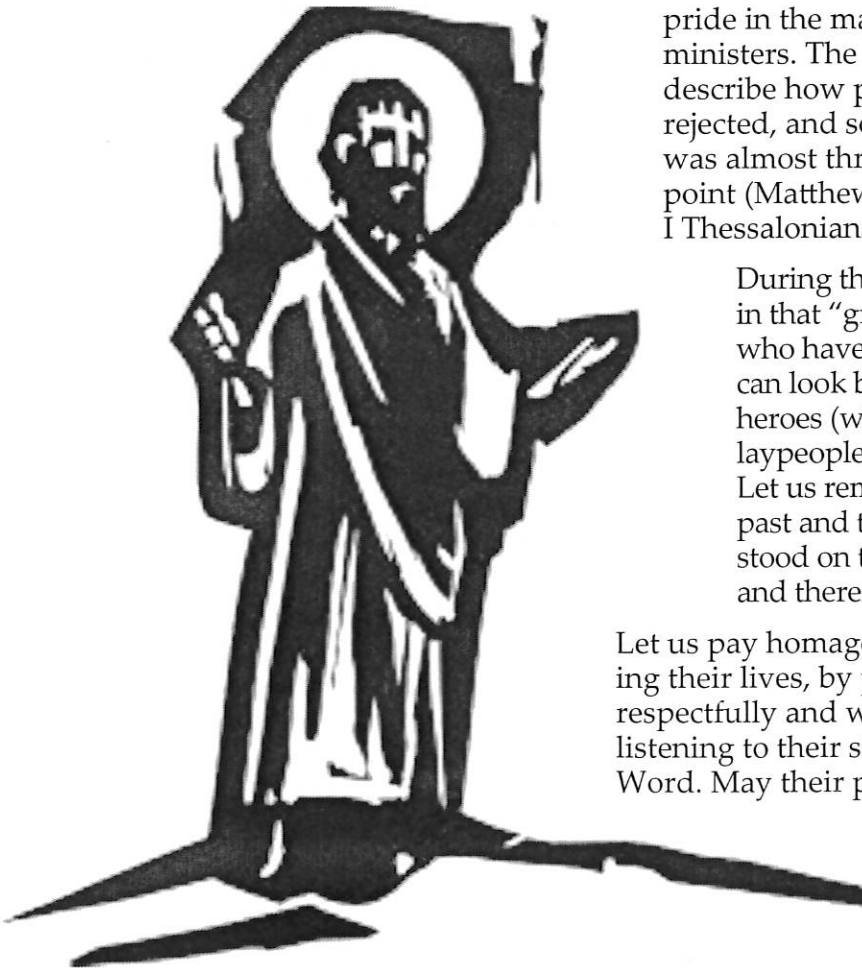
## MINISTER'S COLUMN, Scott Couper

Dear Friends in Christ:

As we are now ensconced in July, I am cognizant that this month marks one year since Centre Congregational Church called me to be its teacher and minister and my response in the affirmative. I am deeply thankful for the trust placed in me and I am more than pleased with our mutual decision. I deeply love this congregation and I pray I never disappoint you.

In order to celebrate our one year together, I thought we would indulge in another sermon series, this time, for three weeks (7, 14 and 21 July). On anniversaries, one is to reminisce on the past. In doing so, we mourn, we celebrate, and we discern so as to learn from that which has occurred. On anniversaries, we examine the present. Again, in doing so, we mourn, we celebrate, and we discern what to do in our current context. On anniversaries, one is to dream about the future. In doing so, we use the past and the present as our foundation that guides and inspires us towards a faithful and promising future.

Our sermon series in July entitled "Our Local Prophets" will examine three former ministers of this church who held a prophetic stand on a given issue and perhaps paid a price for their faithful witness. The former ministers of our church held controversial stands on Unitarian views (Wells), on temperance (Walker), contemporary theology (Clapp, Martin, and Day), love (Mighill), pacifism (Czatt), Vietnam and racism (Vander Meulen), international peace and justice (Bixby), and gay/lesbian equality (Edmonds and McFadden). As one reviews the history of Centre Congregational Church, one notices that more often than not, its ministerial leadership preached 'ahead' of a more conservative congregation and as a result of those stances (of course, as well as other unrelated factors) were frequently felt led to resign.



I believe Centre Congregational Church should take pride in the many prophetic stances of its former ministers. The Hebrew and Christian scriptures describe how prophets had always been criticized, rejected, and sometimes killed. Most notably, Jesus was almost thrown off a cliff for making that same point (Matthew 23:34-37, Luke 13:34, John 15:18-21, I Thessalonians 2:15)!

During this sermon series, I pray we can take pride in that "great cloud of witnesses" (Hebrews 12:1) who have gone before us. I believe this month we can look back and remember our local church heroes (who I suspect more often than not included laypeople) in parallel with our biblical prophets. Let us remind ourselves of the controversies of the past and those men and women of courage who stood on the right side of the gospel of Jesus Christ and therefore on the right side of history.

Let us pay homage to our former faith leaders by honoring their lives, by presenting their images and biographies respectfully and with honor in the Heritage Room, and by listening to their stories through the preaching of the Word. May their prophetic examples guide us forward.

## Council Chair, BILL McCARTY

A welcome to summer! Spring wasn't much, but we can look forward to a warm and active summer and a new Centre Church year after our Annual Meeting. Much has happened and even more is occurring and being planned.

The Church Vitality Team has been very active and is now under the aegis of Church Council. Monthly, and more frequent, reports of the Team's activities and plans will be made to Council and the church in general through *Centre Bells* and *eNews*. If interested in participating, contact a member, Scott or me.

After several attempts and changes, the monthly Board meetings are now back to being scheduled by each Board or Committee. Scheduling was a problem and Council decided that it easier and more efficient that each Board operate its own schedule. The only requirement being that meetings and minutes are to be completed by the second Tuesday of the month so that they are filed with the Church office and available for Council's review prior to Council's meeting on the third Tuesday.

Speaking of Council Meetings, they are on the third Tuesday of every month. Everyone is invited to attend and participate. Council operates as a Vermont town meeting - everyone can participate and be heard!

Interest was expressed at the Annual Meeting to investigate our organization and possible joining with other like churches from the area. Council, if necessary, will appoint a special committee to investigate the matter and update the prior reports and recommendations. If you have a comment or wish to participate on this committee, please contact Scott or me.

Two new door bells have been installed at the doors to ring in the Memorial Hall area and on the Main floor near the office. For more information see a Buildings & Grounds member.

There are still vacancies on the Boards of Deacons, Building & Grounds and Mission & Service. Your participation in church activities is needed and necessary. If interested in participating in Centre Church life, please contact Carlene McCarty of the Nominating Committee or a member of the specific board or committee.

We are all looking forward to the summer sun and warm weather. Enjoy the time and I'll see you in church!

## From Music Director, MARY MILKEY-MAY

On Sunday, June 9, the Children's Choir culminated their singing season by singing an Introit as well as two anthems, ending with a jazzy version of *Didn't My Lord Deliver Daniel!* It was wonderful to have all of the kids present for this last Sunday. Sadly, we will not have Lily and Ben singing with us next year as they are moving to France, but we are hoping to have them join us again when they return! We will begin anew in September.

We have begun our summer music transition and have enjoyed Jeanushka Fishell singing and Alison Hale playing flute during June. We look forward to having Stephanie Ducharme subbing for me on July 7 when she will sing as well as play. Other folks will also be participating throughout July and August until the choirs resume in September. I really appreciate how folks have stepped up to fill in these slots. There are still a couple of open Sundays so please let me know if you are interested.

## DEACONS

### **Windham Union UCC Summer Services 2019**

**July 28:** Dummerston Congregational Church

**August 25:** Centre Congregational Church

All services begin at 10:00am.

**Lynn Herzog** is Deacon of the Month for July.

**Wendy Randall** will be leaving the Board of Deacons. We all thank her for all her hard work the last few years!

**Joy Everett** announced she will be back as a Deacon in July. Many thanks, Joy!

Margo Neal is having new name tags made up. If you have lost yours or are a new member, please let her know. It's important to wear your name tags.

-Carlene McCarty, chair

## PASTORAL RELATIONS

The Pastoral Relations Committee (Margo Neale, Judy Palmer, and Ron Svec) reminds the congregation that we are here and will lend an attentive ear to any affirmations or concerns you might have about our minister, the Rev. Dr. Couper or ministry in general.

**CENTRE BELLS-July 2019**

The newsletter of

**Centre Congregational Church, UCC**

## BUILDING & GROUNDS



### News from the Grounds to the Building - Lower, Middle, and Upper Levels

The Building & Grounds Board has been both addressing and praising the many projects, both outside and inside, from the bottom to the top.

The Ad Hoc Space Envisioning Team (Margo N., Bonnie G., Marion A. and Scott C.), along with the outstanding and supportive help from our Sexton, John Bertolini, has worked with the various groups and committees to relocate, consolidate, and more clearly define who we are and what we do. Thanks to everyone for cooperating on creating new, cleaner spaces as we move forward with more significant improvements.

**-Outside:** Hedges, gardens, shrubs have refreshed several areas just in time for parades and Gallery Walks. Please thank Bonnie, Margo, Heidi Mario, and John Bertolini (and others you may know) who have spent hours digging in the soil, planting, weeding, trimming hedges, and mowing our lawn.

**-Inside, Middle Level:** Rooms have been relocated, mainly in the Wells Wing. Give yourself a tour to see Faith in Action, Finance, Heritage, Nursery, Music, and Chapel. If you enter through our building's back entrance, you will admire the colorful Centre for Children mural, with its caterpillar logo. Tiptoe around the corner on the Lower Level and view the hand print flower creations as Terry Sylvester, the muralist, had the BCC's children assist her in the garden scene. All of this eye catching art was accomplished through the generosity of a bequest from Cynthia Terzariol and her daughter, Lisa Terzariol.

**-Upper Level:** Here, two therapists have been our longstanding tenants along with Olivier Lefebvre, who has an office where he monitors cooking stoves in developing countries. Sadly, he, Logan, and their children will be departing town to live in France for a couple of years. Olivier's office will soon be available for rent. If you know of anyone who may be interested in this office, the middle-east room, please let Marion Abell know.

An AA group holds daily meetings in the large room at the end of the Upper Level corridor and is making good use of this space.

Most exciting news - We are happy to welcome our new tenant, Gabriella Martin, a young artist who is locating her studio in the south-east office space.

Our Sexton, John Bertolini, has been most helpful in moving furniture, cleaning light fixtures, and waxing the floor to bring our Upper Level into a space of which we can be proud.

**-Lower Level:** The Space Envisioning Team will be focusing on seeking improvements on our Lower Level spaces - Memorial Hall, the stage, kitchen, and storage areas. Much of what happens here is our church's mission work - Loaves & Fishes, Alcoholics Anonymous, and Carry Me Home. We are seeking suggestions from you and support in accomplishing a few miracles here in the coming months. Let's continue to make Centre Church a warm and welcoming place for everyone.

**-Security:** In recent months some individuals have helped themselves to church members' belongings. Video footage was taken and the police were notified each time. Some discussion has taken place about locking the church doors on Sunday mornings shortly after our worship begins, but this has its downsides. Some churches, however, are choosing to do this to help with both safety and security concerns. If you have opinions about this, please share your thoughts with Building & Grounds people or the church Council.

-Marion Abell

#### **We Are Climbing Jacob's Ladder**

Last year our congregation voted to borrow \$40,000 from ourselves (our Endowment fund) to pay for the needed repairs and painting of our steeple. It has stood as a centerpiece not only of Centre Church but of Brattleboro for over two hundred years. That's history! It reminds many people to look upward to the mountains and heavens and blue skies serving as an inspiration.

In the past few months, more people have contributed to our obligation to repay what we borrowed, and the most recent amounts bring the current total to \$28,500. This includes a \$3,000 anonymous matching amount. It should be noted that 70% of that amount has come from three families. So, we have climbed a few more rungs on our repayment ladder. Let's continue up to the top of the steeple, rung by rung, higher and higher, and celebrate - soon!

## FAITH FORMATION

Greetings, friends in the congregation. As we come into the spring and summer months where the congregation gets a little leaner, I wanted to bring to your attention that Haley Marcil will be taking some time off from providing child care during service. Kate Maisner will still contribute, but not on a consistent basis. We are looking for volunteers from the congregation to help with child care as needed. This is not part of the church school curriculum, just simply watching over the children: coloring, reading, playing out on the playground, etc. We currently have a lead on a replacement for Kate when she can't be there, so there would always be two people in the nursery (the volunteer and either Kate or her replacement). Some parents will be in the rotation, but Kate and Haley feel from experience that this is sometimes a disservice because that parent often becomes distracted by their own and can't help other children in the room. Over the summer months, there are several Sundays where no children attend church that day. Yet, in the event a new family shows up, we would have the volunteer signed up to provide the needed child care in the nursery.

For more information, contact James Cera:  
413.336.7788 / [jmcera@msn.com](mailto:jmcera@msn.com)

## **SUMMER SALAD SUPPER**

**Friday, July 19, 6:00pm**

*Centre Church will hold this popular annual fundraising event featuring: corn-on-the-cob, strawberry short-cake, iced tea, lemonade, and a myriad of great salads.*

**\$10 / Adults,  
\$5 / children under 12  
Free for kids under 5  
All Welcome!**

## **WOMEN'S SPIRIT**



Women's Spirit is still discussing *Women Rowing North*. The next book will be *The Second Mountain* by David Brooks

Everyone is welcome to join us from 4:30-5:30pm on Thursdays.

## MEMBER CARE

We were pleased that in a rainy June, the Sunday of the All Church Picnic was a fantastically beautiful day. The weatherman said it was the first non-snow or rain week-end since St. Patrick's Day in March! About 50 people, according to an unofficial count by Jackson Grobe, attended the event. We in Member Care arrived at the Kiwanis shelter early to set up, as did Steve Fecto and James Cera, our grill masters. It was a FUN non-fundraising event that we hold every year.

It was brought to the Board's attention that there is a need for drivers to bring others to church. A couple of members on Member Care don't drive themselves. If you can provide rides on some Sundays please contact Marion Daley:  
802.387.5822 / [medaley2@myfairpoint.net](mailto:medaley2@myfairpoint.net).

Starting in July 'Coffee Hour' turns to lemonade time. It used to have the alliterative title 'Lemonade-on-the-Lawn', but carting tables, chairs, and refreshments out the front door and down the ramp has become too challenging for many of us. So, look for cool drinks and simple snacks in the parlor. See you after worship.

-Marion Daley



Everyone is invited to take a  
***MOMENT for PEACE***

Friday, July 5 • 5:30-6:00pm

Anja Daniel is going to lead us into a couple of slow moving Sacred Circle dances which draw from different traditions and go along with life music. Open for all ages.

## NEW MEMBERS CLASS

Considering becoming a member of Centre Congregational Church? A new member class series will be offered this later this Summer. Four classes will be held on **Sundays, August 18 and 25, and September 1 and 15**, at 12:00pm following fellowship hour, and concluding at 1:00pm. New members will join the church during the worship service on **September 22**.

Each meeting will focus on an aspect of the Centre Church and our denomination, the United Church of Christ. We will answer your questions and you can meet some of the other folk who are joining the church as well. I intend the class to be informal and relaxed.



## CHURCH VITALITY TEAM

I attended the team call-in at 7pm on June 4. The next team call-in will be August 6 at 7pm. Other team members were busy and unable to call in. The Vermont Conference teams are now divided into two teams. Our group includes West Dover, Barre, Williston, and Morrisville.

After Coach Nickerson's welcome and brief check-in, each church shared their current vitality activities and Nickerson shared a summary of best practices.

I shared the following things Centre Church is doing that hold a possibility of involving new people. These include the climate change sermon series and its companion film series, Shiva's book study group, our food sales at the Strolling of Heifers Parade, and the church garden now under development.

See accompanying article, *Part Two: The First Steps Toward Vitality*

## Part Two: The First Steps Toward Vitality

In last week's newsletter, I looked at some of the signs of slow decline in our churches. I encouraged you to have an honest discussion with leadership to see if your church was trending in a downward direction. If the answer to some of those questions was "yes", then below are some initial steps to begin to move in a healthier direction.

1. Clarify your central purpose: I ask churches I am working with "what business are you in?" "Why do you exist as a church?" Often I get a lot of blank stares. Growing churches are clear that they are in the disciple-making/spreading the Good News business. Get clear on your purpose and help leaders to be able to say that purpose in one sentence.
2. Review the activities of your church for the year ahead: Based on a clarified purpose, take a look at the next church year. **Stop** doing events and programs that are off-purpose. I hear many churches say they would love to reach new people, but they are just "so busy". "So busy" at what? Eliminate or at least take a sabbatical for a year from activities that no longer serve the central purpose of the church.
3. Get out of the church and into the community: Take prayer walks around your neighborhoods and see the community with fresh eyes. Interview key community leaders such as police, fire, school, town government, etc. Discover the "pulse" of your town and the way God is calling you to serve. When we take the focus off ourselves and look toward the needs of others, we get healthier.
4. Pray a lot: As my colleague Jim Griffith (Griffithcoaching.com), says, "We are not starting Subway franchises; this is Kingdom work". If we want our church to move in a new direction, we need to pray fervently for God to open our hearts, deepen our faith and nudge us out of our church buildings and out into the marketplaces of our community. Read the Book of Acts; it's all about faithful Christians meeting people where they lived and worked. We can do the same.

Yes, the majority of churches in this country are in decline. But there are also churches that are growing, reaching new people and seeing God's Kingdom grow. Be one of those churches that is making a difference. Pray hard and work hard and you can have wonderful impact.

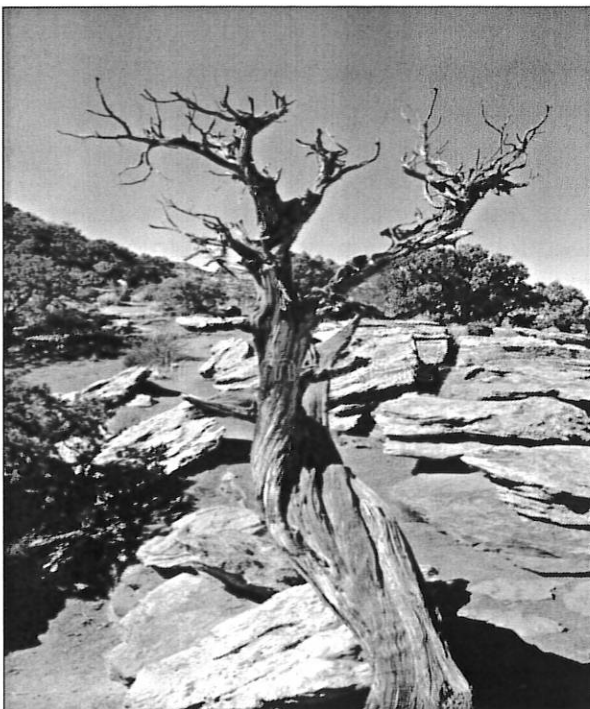
## BROWN BAG LUNCH GROUP

The Brown Bag Lunch group has decided to not meet in July or August. Please plan to join us when we resume meeting on September 4. For any questions, comments, or concerns, please contact Laura Slate: 802.254.5887 / [tjllslate@comcast.net](mailto:tjllslate@comcast.net).

## BRATTLEBORO CENTRE for CHILDREN

The Brattleboro Centre for Children would like to extend our thanks and gratitude to everyone who helped make the bake sale at the Strolling of the Heifers a success again this year! This event is a wonderful partnership between the Centre and the Church and we had a lot of fun doing it. We made over \$460! It takes a lot of planning and organization, and huge thanks to Anne Doesburg for all she did in that department! We could not have pulled it all together without her thoughtful planning and organization. More shout-outs to all those behind the scenes: Becky Day, James Cera, Tony Grobe, Anne and Steve Fecto, Terry Briggs, as well as to Heidi Mario, Jenoushka Fishell, Jennifer Ambler, (bakers) Amy Balin, Priscilla Svec, Carlene McCarty, Joanne Clark, Margit Brosnan, Gisela Robeck, and parents/staff of the Centre for Children. Thanks also to cash donations from the Harrimans and Marion Daley. If I've left anyone out, it's my fault, and I thank you all sincerely and with the deepest gratitude! Looking forward to next year!

-Nan Mann, director, BCC



## PEOPLE



A word of good cheer would be warmly received by members and friends of our church who are in nursing homes, assisted living centers, or are housebound as of March 26.

**The Rev. David Cutting**—Pine Heights #406  
187 Oak Grove Ave., Brattleboro, VT 05301

**Fran Burrows**—Langdon Place  
136A Arch St. #150, Keene, NH 03431

**Jeanne Rueter**—Thompson House  
80 Maple St., Brattleboro, VT  
254-4977

**Nancy Clarke**—Holton Home  
158 Western Ave, Brattleboro, VT  
254-4155

**Wanda Godfrey**—Vernon Hall  
13 Greenway Dr., Vernon, VT  
254-2444

**Phyllis Hickok**  
1520 Little Blue Stem Ct., Ames, IA 50014  
515-337-1956

**Jane Reed**—Valley Cares  
461 Grafton Rd., #101, Townshend, VT  
802-221-4213

**Karen Getty Peter**—Pine Rock Manor  
3 Denny Hill Rd., Warner, NH 03278

*Please let the Administrator know  
if we've missed someone.*

## NEW CONTACT INFORMATION

**Nan Mann:** [nanmann17@gmail.com](mailto:nanmann17@gmail.com)

**Joanne MacLean:**

American House  
197 Water St. #MB1  
Keene, NH 03431  
603.352.7394 / 603.313.6904 (c)

## BIRTHDAYS

2 Lisa Terzariol  
3 Anne Fecto  
5 Darlene LaPlante  
April Harkness  
7 Dwight Henry  
13 Lisa Vose  
Florence Storey  
14 Jane Reed  
16 Dennis Newman



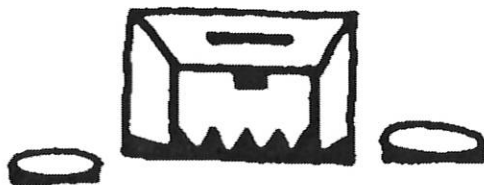
19 Dee Keller  
Bill Pearson  
26 Bob Pu  
27 Sheila Pinkney  
29 Seth Marcil

# JULY 2019

\*\*Holy Communion  
celebrated

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	<b>1</b> 8 <sup>45</sup> Devotional 1 <sup>00</sup> Prayer Shawl 4 <sup>00</sup> BCC Board <b>Scott on leave</b>	<b>2</b> 8 <sup>45</sup> Devotional 11 <sup>30</sup> Loaves & Fishes 5 <sup>00</sup> Book study 6 <sup>00</sup> AA Meeting <b>Scott on leave</b>	<b>3</b> 8 <sup>45</sup> Devotional 12 <sup>00</sup> Brown Bag Lunch 5 <sup>30</sup> AA Meeting <b>Scott on leave</b>	<b>4 INDEPENDENCE DAY OFFICE CLOSED</b>	<b>5</b> 11 <sup>30</sup> Loaves & Fishes 5 <sup>30</sup> Moment for Peace 7 <sup>30</sup> AA Meeting	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> 9 <sup>00</sup> Book Study 10 <sup>00</sup> Worship** 10 <sup>00</sup> AA Meeting 6 <sup>00</sup> AA Meeting	<b>8</b> 8 <sup>45</sup> Devotional 1 <sup>00</sup> Prayer Shawl 6 <sup>30</sup> AA District 8	<b>9</b> 8 <sup>45</sup> Devotional 11 <sup>30</sup> Loaves & Fishes 5 <sup>00</sup> Book study 6 <sup>00</sup> AA Meeting 6 <sup>00</sup> Pastoral Relations	<b>10</b> 8 <sup>45</sup> Devotional 5 <sup>30</sup> AA Meeting	<b>11</b> 8 <sup>45</sup> Devotional 1 <sup>30</sup> Quilting Ministry 4 <sup>30</sup> Women's Spirit	<b>12 CB DEADLINE</b> 11 <sup>30</sup> Loaves & Fishes 7 <sup>30</sup> AA Meeting	<b>13</b> 11 <sup>00</sup> Writing Workshop
<b>14</b> 9 <sup>00</sup> Book Study 10 <sup>00</sup> Worship/FIA 10 <sup>00</sup> AA Meeting 6 <sup>00</sup> AA Meeting	<b>15</b> 8 <sup>45</sup> Devotional 1 <sup>00</sup> Prayer Shawl 1 <sup>30</sup> Compassionate Brattleboro	<b>16</b> 8 <sup>45</sup> Devotional 11 <sup>30</sup> Loaves & Fishes 5 <sup>00</sup> Book study 6 <sup>00</sup> Church Council 6 <sup>00</sup> AA Meeting	<b>17</b> 8 <sup>45</sup> Devotional 5 <sup>30</sup> AA Meeting 6 <sup>00</sup> Finance Committee	<b>18</b> 8 <sup>45</sup> Devotional 1 <sup>30</sup> Quilting Ministry 4 <sup>30</sup> Women's Spirit	<b>19</b> 11 <sup>30</sup> Loaves & Fishes 6 <sup>00</sup> Summer Salad Supper 7 <sup>30</sup> AA Meeting	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> 9 <sup>00</sup> Book Study 10 <sup>00</sup> Worship/FIA 10 <sup>00</sup> AA Meeting 6 <sup>00</sup> AA Meeting	<b>22</b> 8 <sup>45</sup> Devotional 1 <sup>00</sup> Prayer Shawl	<b>23</b> 8 <sup>45</sup> Devotional 11 <sup>30</sup> Loaves & Fishes 5 <sup>00</sup> Book study 6 <sup>00</sup> AA Meeting	<b>24 MAIL CB</b> 8 <sup>45</sup> Devotional 5 <sup>30</sup> AA Meeting	<b>25</b> 8 <sup>45</sup> Devotional 1 <sup>30</sup> Quilting Ministry 4 <sup>30</sup> Women's Spirit 6 <sup>00</sup> Peacebuilders film	<b>26</b> 11 <sup>30</sup> Loaves & Fishes 7 <sup>30</sup> AA Meeting	<b>27</b> 11 <sup>00</sup> Writing Workshop
<b>28</b> 9 <sup>00</sup> Book Study 10 <sup>00</sup> Worship/FIA 10 <sup>00</sup> AA Meeting 6 <sup>00</sup> AA Meeting	<b>29</b> 8 <sup>45</sup> Devotional 1 <sup>00</sup> Prayer Shawl <b>Scott on leave</b>	<b>30</b> 8 <sup>45</sup> Devotional 11 <sup>30</sup> Loaves & Fishes 5 <sup>00</sup> Book study 6 <sup>00</sup> AA Meeting <b>Scott on leave</b>	<b>31</b> 8 <sup>45</sup> Devotional 5 <sup>30</sup> AA Meeting <b>Scott on leave</b>			

SCOTT'S SERMONS can be accessed at the church website: [www.centrechurchvermont.org](http://www.centrechurchvermont.org) -or-  
facebook page: <http://www.centrechurchvermont.org/audio--video.html> -or-  
[https://www.facebook.com/pg/Centre-Congregational-Church-Brattleboro-VT-632678343519640/notes/?ref=page\\_internal](https://www.facebook.com/pg/Centre-Congregational-Church-Brattleboro-VT-632678343519640/notes/?ref=page_internal) -or-  
From the website *Welcome* page, click *Audio & Video* in the top list (or click *More* or *Other* on the top right).



## Why I Fill The Alms Plate

*It is the modern church  
where the disenfranchised find sanctuary.  
The foundation upon which goodness will rise.  
Where holiness is found in soup kitchens.  
Where the faithful gather to join picket lines.  
Though I live in a state where few are religious,  
and most liturgy does leave me empty,  
each Sunday, when possible, I sit in a pew  
and double my contribution to a cause,  
because my mother repeatedly told me  
that the greatest sin is to have and not give,  
and it is in the houses of God  
where social obligation should first begin*

-Tom Harriman [part of Vol. VII]

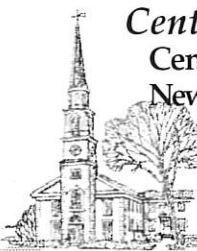
## JULY LECTIONARY TEXTS

**Sunday, July 7**— 4th Sunday after Pentecost  
2 Kings 5:1-14 and Ps 30 or Isa 66:10-14 and Ps 66:1-9;  
Gal 6: (1-6), 7-16; Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

**Sunday, July 14**— 5th Sunday after Pentecost  
Amos 7:7-17 and Ps 82 or Deut 30:9-14 and Ps 25:1-10;  
Col 1:1-14; **Luke 10:25-37**

**Sunday, July 21**— 6th Sunday after Pentecost  
Amos 8:1-12 and Ps 52 or Gen 18:1-10a and Ps 15;  
Col 1:15-28; **Luke 10:38-42**

**Sunday, July 28**— 7th Sunday after Pentecost  
Hos 1:2-10 and Ps 85 or Gen 18:20-32 and Ps 138;  
Col 2:6-15; **Luke 11:1-13**



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