

CENTRE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Brattleboro, Vermont 05301 193 Main Street centrechurch@centrechurchvt.org

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

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 / National: 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 Milkey-May: music@centrechurchvt.org Administrator: Bruce Landenberger: admin@centrechurchvt.org Financial Secretary: Christine Yost: finance@centrechurchvt.org Custodian: Emelio McCalla Council Chair: William McCarty

Treasurer: Anne Fecto

Clerk: Connie Bresnahan

MINISTER'S COLUMN, Scott Couper

COVID and CLIMATE

There is a Greek word that kinda means 'window of opportunity': kairos. Windows can be open, and they can close. The word kairos is used in Luke 19:44 when Jesus warns the religious authorities in Jerusalem that dire circumstances are approaching if they "do not recognize the time of God's coming to you". Therefore, theologically, the word kairos kinda means "God-given window of opportunity". It is a moment of truth. It is a crisis.

I recently learned from Bill McKibbon that South Korea and the United States reported their first respective cases of the corona virus on the same day – January 21.² From that date, the countries' two responses were radically different. South Korea leapt into action. The United States did virtually nothing until well into March, wasting nearly the entire month of February and thus rendering itself guilty of 'culpable inertia'. South Korea began testing immediately and shut-down nearly every activity in the country.

To date, South Korea has had only 11,947 cases and 276 deaths.³ To date, the United States has had 2,084,370 cases with and has suffered a gobsmacking 115,911 deaths.⁴ No population size or density comparison excuses the massive disparity between how the two countries have fared since January 21.

Timing is everything when it comes to pandemics. February was the *kairos* moment when it came to fighting the virus. Because the United States did virtually nothing until March, we may have 200,000 die by September despite devastating our economy by shutting-down in April and May.

Timing is also everything when it comes to climate change. Those of the same ilk who put their head in the sand with the pandemic also are putting their head in the sand with climate change. Guess what?! When you wait for irrefutable proof that a disaster is coming, it is too darn late! Many of those who denied COVID-19 was a threat also deny climate change is a threat. As a nation we will endure far more suffering due to inaction on climate change than we are enduring with COVID-19.

What COVID-19 teaches us is that political leaders need to trust scientists (models) and they need to act before, rather react after, a disaster strikes. With COVID-19, the United States lost a month. With climate change, we have lost thirty years! And with the current administration, we have lost at least four more years.

As a leader of a faith community and the minister of Centre Congregational Church (United Church of Christ), arguing about climate change is not political discourse. Absolutely not! Advocacy for the Earth is fundamentally *theological*, and thus it is 'Creation Justice' discourse. And I know it is for my Congregational, Unitarian, Episcopalian, and Jewish colleagues in Brattleboro. We are in a *kairos* moment, a 'God-given window of opportunity'. If we do not take it, well, then God help us!

-The Rev. Dr. Scott Everett Couper

CENTRE BELLS—July 2020

The newsletter of

Centre Congregational Church, United Church of Christ

¹The Kairos Document: Challenge to the Church, Institute of Contextual Theology, 1986.

²Randolf Holhut, "Slow Living Conference Keynoter Urges Faster Climate Response", The Commons, A1-A2.

³Worldometer, June 11,2020, https://www.worldometers.info/coronavirus/country/south-korea/, accessed June 11, 2020.

⁴Worldometer, June 11, 2020, https://www.worldometers.info/coronavirus/country/us/, accessed June 11, 2020.

⁵Bill McKibbon quoted by Randolf Holhut in "Slow Living Conference Keynoter Urges Faster Climate Response", *The Commons*, A2.

Council Chair, BILL McCARTY

Well, it is another month and we all are still 'hunkered down' in our own small, parochial areas. It is a trying period and I am sure you all are tired of hearing it – I am. I look forward to getting out and doing something different - anything! But then, I recognize how lucky we are to not be in a large city with its close confines and many people. In spite of things, we are lucky - lucky to be here in the Brattleboro area; to be healthy, to be able to walk outside in the fresh air, AND to be a member or friend of Centre Congregational Church! You may say it is a little maudlin, but I do believe I am lucky - especially when I think of my friends and family who are elsewhere.

Back to relevant things: What is going on at Centre Church and in Council?

Council is busy, as usual. We are still attempting to schedule the overdue Annual Program Meeting. The Executive committee is hoping to make a decision and arrangements for a time and location soon. Scheduling has been difficult and uncertain given our situation. We will notify all in the near future of an acceptable time and place so that all can participate in a safe and constructive manner.

Centre Church's long-term planning is again under way and several avenues and methods are being reviewed. Margo Neale and her group, 2P2 will be keeping us informed as matters develop.

With the Annual Program Meeting finally approaching, this is a time for new officers and Board members to assume office. New 'young blood' is necessary for a fresh and viable organization; Centre Church is no different. We need new vitality and members in our governing boards. The older members move on and are replaced by newer members with fresh ideas and perspectives.

To be a viable church, all should engage and participate in any way in Centre Church activities. If you are too busy for a full Board or committee commitment, then become an *ad hoc* member. All are welcome.

It is difficult to meet, plan, and decide future Centre Church activities remotely! The ZOOM meeting format has helped greatly, yet there is nothing better than a real meeting, with real people present! Council doubts that we can meet soon in our sanctuary for Sunday services. In the meantime, we will confer in our Annual Program Meeting to determine the future of Centre Church.

I hope to see you all soon at the Annual Program Meeting!!

Bill McCarty, Council Chair



From Music Director, MARY MILKEY-MAY

Ordinarily at this time of year I would be looking for folks to fill in some summer music slots for the anthems and offertory. However, this summer looks quite different. Although there may be some opportunities for recording folks at a distance, we are still playing it safe in the music world at Centre Church. Hopefully by Fall we will be able to incorporate some solos during services.

About this time of year, the choir would be finishing up and preparing for a summer break. We would be celebrating a season of hard work and dedication by dining out at the Marina. Unfortunately, that tradition is on hold. However, I would still like to thank all the choir members for their hard work and dedication from September through March of this year. Although the singing season was cut short, we managed to have a presence every Sunday (except for the Sunday after Christmas) until the shutdown. 'Shout outs' also go to the children who participated in the Children's Choir. This group sang at least once a month, every month, and added several new anthems to their repertoire! I look forward with great anticipation to the day when these groups can resume.

Though recording the music each week with Jenifer Ambler and Matt Kennedy at the helm has been enjoyable, we are all eagerly awaiting the return to the sanctuary with LIVE music!

DEACONS

Some big news from the Deacons!

Mary Bristol, who has been with Centre Church since 1960, is resigning her duties due to health issues. Mary has served on numerous Centre Church boards and, as a long-time member of Deacons, she was made an Honorary Deacon for 'All Eternity'!

Carlene McCarty is also resigning from the Deacons. Carlene will be spending additional days to care for her mom in Mont Vernon, NH.

Exciting news is the Deacons are welcoming back Holly Kennedy as a Deacon once again. Holly will be a great addition to this hard-working board.

The Deacon of the month for July is Lynn Herzog.

This month's Union Service will be held on Sunday, July 28, hosted by First Congregational Church in West Brattleboro. On August 30, Centre Church will host the Union Service at Centre Church or on ZOOM. Watch *eNews* for details in the present ever-changing climate.

There has been some discussion about live-streaming services when we resume worship in the sanctuary. Rev. Scott proposed that we might use Facebook Watch Party during the service in the sanctuary, then have ZOOM set up during coffee hour in the parlor so that our Centre Church family and friends can still be with us where ever they live. That made everyone happy!

Blessing to all!

Carlene McCarty, Chair

QUILTING MINISTRY

Our projects for 2020 include making baby quilts for baptisms and for new infant enrollees at the Brattleboro Centre for Children, making items to sell at the December craft show, and making a raffle quilt. This year's raffle quilt is red and white. It will be a queen/double-size when finished. Many thanks to Patti Reardon, Joanne Clark, Karen Rydant, Dawn Chattin, and Heidi Mario for cutting red fabric. We have a long way to go because the pattern calls for 240 red fabrics. Can you help? I have kits with fabric and measurements ready for pick-up. Call Anne Doesburg: 802.490.2075 for directions and to pick-up the kit.

-Respectfully, Anne Doesburg



BUILDING & GROUNDS

Busy Bees and Builders

The Building & Grounds Board has been busy during these past spring months addressing a variety of projects, both small and large, while the building is not having its usual volume of activity. Sand piles, bales of hay, and stacks of bricks have drawn much attention to the front of our building. Joe Dever, of Tomorrow's Builders, has begun improving the outside stairs leading from the front of the building to Memorial Hall. He has also created a system to divert water that has accumulated near our front entrance and occasionally flooded our lower level during heavy rainstorms. Of interest, he has installed an attractive circular pattern of paving bricks in this location to assist with drainage.

Several volunteer gardeners have beautified our grounds, weeding the flower beds, trimming the hedges, and planting three little trees that someday will further enhance our front lawn. A ZOOM sign invites people to join us for Sunday worship.

Emelio McCalla, our sexton, has been tackling projects throughout the building, bringing back cleanliness and shine to the floor in Memorial Hall, painting Scott's office, and addressing the peeling paint on the ceiling in the sanctuary under the balconyies. A volunteer paint crew refreshed and brightened the center hallway on our main level.

The kitchen has a new air-conditioner to cool our cooks who blessedly prepare take-out meals for Loaves & Fishes and food that is delivered to the Groundworks shelter currently housed at the Quality Inn. Over 220 meals are prepared every Tuesday and Friday!

Thanks, everyone, for pitching in to spruce up our jewel on Main Street and continuing to support our missions and our church through these challenging times.

NEW CENTRE CHURCH DEVOTIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

THURSDAY MORNINGS:

So that our church continues to be a 'house of prayer' during COVID-19 in the absence of Sunday worship gathered in our sanctuary, once a week on **Thursdays at 10:00am** we will open the chapel and for 20 minutes read and reflect upon a devotion sourced from the United Church of Christ's *Still Speaking* series (see Jim Bedard's promotion of the on-line devotional in this accompanying article below). Please wear your face coverings. We will sit at least six feet apart. There will be no singing. The gathering will be short and sweet. In my absence, Jim will host.

Please come!

THURSDAY AFTERNOONS:

Once a week on **Thursdays at 4:00pm**, Jacob Anderson and Rev. Scott will host a **Centre Church devotional 5 km run** beginning and ending at the church. For those who would like walk/run, that is fine too! And for those who would just like to walk, that is wonderful. At the beginning of each run/walk, we will read one verse from scripture and set-off. During the walk/run we can *casually* discuss, or *not discuss* the verse for the day, with whomever we are alongside. After one hour, we will conclude with a short prayer together and depart. In my absence, Jacob will host. Please come!

Scott has noticed I've posted a devotional or two in **Friends of Centre Church.** He asked if I would write a paragraph or so telling what reading these devotionals has meant for me.

To begin with, I have started out my mornings reading devotionals for as long as I can remember. Since I have retired, I can spend more time doing that. They are part of my prayer time I use to start the day. I find that the inspirations and reflections put me in a positive, pensive, and an aware mood to make each day more productive and meaningful to me.

One of favorite devotionals comes from The UCC Still Speaking Writers Group. Here is what they subscribe to:

- God is all-loving and inclusive
- the Church of Jesus Christ welcomes and accepts everyone as they are
- your mind is nourished as much as your soul
- Jesus the healer meets Jesus the revolutionary
- together we grow a just and peaceful world.

Sometimes when I read the message, I'm sure it was meant just for me. For example, almost two years ago I was a few hours away from when I would have to do a eulogy for one of my long-time friends. I just couldn't come up with an appropriate ending. That morning I read a devotional from Vicki Kemper, a UCC minister in Amherst, Massachusetts. It was about her thinking of what happens when you die. I couldn't believe the timing. I borrowed her thoughts and my eulogy was complete. I later emailed her thanking her. She sent back a very nice response.

In today's Still Speaking, Molly Baskette, a UCC minister in Berkley, CA, wrote about churches opening up too early because of the pandemic. She said her church never closed – just like ours! Here's Molly -

My church has a virtual worship service every Sunday, filmed from our worship leaders' living rooms, patios, and even bathrooms. We have an All Ages ZOOM Story Hour at which bonus grandparents read to the children of exhausted parents, a ZOOM Afterparty with special attention to newcomers, a ZOOM Bible study and office hours and prayer team. And you know what? In many ways, this incarnation of Church is better than ever.

So, there you have it. Check out Still Speaking and The UCC Still Speaking Writers Group: https://www.ucc.org/daily_devotional. Scroll down a little bit and you'll find the dated devotionals. You can sign up to have it delivered to your email inbox every day if you'd like.

Best, Jim Bedard

MISSION & SERVICE

We would like to start this article with WONDERFUL news - Emelio's youngest son is due to immigrate to the USA from Jamaica on June 30! They are so looking forward to this, of course. And they have also purchased a house, so their family will be together in their own home. News of their older son's arrival is still unknown, but they are hoping that it will also be soon. We continue to pray for Emelio and Tamara as they begin the next chapter of their lives as a family together here in the Brattleboro community. Please keep their family in your prayers.

During this very unusual time for all of us as individuals, and as a church, Mission & Service continues to be proactive in our community. The past two months we supported Groundworks three times by bringing dinner for the 70+people who are sheltered at the Quality Inn. At this date, Groundworks is establishing a connection with an organization that will help fund meals from five local restaurants. This system will be helpful to the restaurants as well as the community at Quality Inn. We want to extend a Big THANK YOU to all who have helped prepare, deliver, serve, and clean up when needed during this extended SOS season:

Marion Abell
Jenifer Ambler
Scott Couper
Dart & Joy Everett
Anne & Steve Fecto
Tony & Dawn Grobe
Alison Hale
Meg Harriman
Abi Healey

Lynn Herzog Heidi & Michael Mario Carlene McCarthy Roger & Judi Miller Margo Neale Dennis Newman Sue Rowell Priscilla Svec

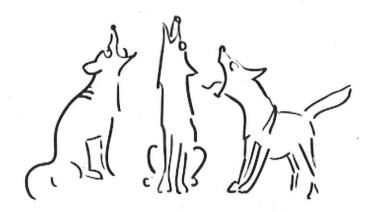
This coming month's Second Sunday Offering is the Partners in Service (PINS) program, which supports Department of Children and Families (DCF) and their work with local children and families (see accompanying article). We hope to have more about this in the coming weeks in the *eNews* and during church. In June the Brattleboro Centre for Children (BCC) was the recipient, and as they just reopened, much education and MUCH daily and hourly cleaning must be done. Thank you for your contributions. In past months, One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) received \$640. Thank you to all who gave so generously.

Loaves & Fishes continues to crank out the meals, over 400 weekly. Can you help? Baking, making coleslaw, be present on Tuesday or Friday to help

deliver meals or clean-up after, and many other ways you can participate. Contact Ruth Tilghman at rtilgh09@aol.com if you want to learn more. Tuesday help is especially needed.

Cabinitas was spared in the recent flooding that damaged so much of El Salvador. As in Vermont, they too are on lockdown due to COVID 19, forcing the children to be learning remotely. This is difficult for many of our Vermont children who have spotty WiFi, but now imagine the extremely poor internet access in El Salvador and lack of computers. Perhaps in the near future, we can have a computer drive to provide more children with much needed technology.

Thank you for staying involved in the missions of Centre Church. We can be of service during



JULY SECOND SUNDAY OFFERING

The Second Sunday Offering for July is *Part*ners In Service (PINS), which directly assists the local Department of Children and Families (DCF) office with supplies to care for foster children. Often (and sadly) children are picked up on an emergency basis with barely even the clothes on their backs; sometimes a baby will be picked up only in a diaper! Funding from us and other private sources help mostly to provide safe car seats, diapers, blankets, snacks, and toys for children waiting in the DCF office while their cases are processed. We hear about the increasing opioid epidemic; this is one small way we can help the innocent children stuck in unfortunate situations. Whether you give online or by mailing a check, please specify it's for PINS or Second Sunday Offering

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

MASK PROJECT: The original plan was to have a progressive dinner in May. COVID-19 created the need to self-isolate in March, April, and May for safety's sake and to postpone indefinitely all meetings and gettogethers. Like many of you, I started making masks for family and friends. Tom Harriman asked for two masks and recommended accepting donations. Thus we have our first fundraiser for the year – and it is a success. People can call Anne Doesburg for masks, directions, and pick-up times. I put a grocery bag with the masks inside outside my front door at the arranged time. You pick up the masks and leave a donation, which benefits the church and, in turn, its people and charities. This fundraiser will go on indefinitely as long as there is a need for masks. Many thanks to Joanne Clark, who has made and donated 95 masks to the cause. So far, the masks I have made have reached Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, and Florida. They have earned \$200 to date. The materials include cotton fabric, elastic, thread, and flower tie-up wire or pipe cleaners. I have donated all materials to the fundraiser. Please stay well!

Best wishes to all, Anne Doesburg (802.490.2075 - for a mask, please leave name, phone number, and a brief message)

NON-WELCOME CENTER FUNDRAISER:

The Fundraising Committee invites you all to be part of our Non-Welcome Center Fundraiser!

During this year, especially with the existing pandemic, this is the only safe way to hold our annual fundraising event. We ask you to send in a donation to Centre Church. This would be in the amount of what you might have donated or spent if we were at the Welcome Center. Please be sure to mark the donation on your check to the Fundraising Committee. We will have an article in *Centre Bells* and *eNews* as a reminder.

We hope you will all participate if you can. We do appreciate the generosity of Centre Church members and friends.

The Fundraising Committee thanks you for your support!

MEMBER CARE

It was a new experience for me - maybe not for many of you reading this column. I had my first Holy Communion at home. Because of two long stretches of time at Pine Heights, I had not been to church to be a part of the communion service held on the first Sunday of every month.

After we viewed the Space-X Dragon rocket takeoff that Saturday, Rev Scott pulled out the bread he had brought, the wine, and the little traveling communion set. I had never seen one and was surprised at how small it was. The minister read the words of serving communion and we partook of the bread and the wine.

I remembered going to an Episcopal church in Anchorage, Alaska many years ago. I was the only person there that evening. I learned that in the Episcopal Church communion can be served with only one recipient there. In the Roman Catholic Church, even if no one is present the priest may conduct the Mass. If you would like Holy Communion at your home, our minister would be pleased to visit you.

Since I cannot drive myself to the hospital (because of not yet being able to lift my walker in and out of my car) I am reliant on the transportation service offered by Current Transportation. You must be 65 years old or over to get this free transport. You can be driven to the hospital, to a doctor, or to a dentist with a maximum of four rides per month. They serve not only Brattleboro Memorial Hospital (BMH), but also Keene and Dartmouth Hitchcock. I don't know if this is a service in all of Vermot, but it is for us in Windham County. The telephone number is 1.888.869.6287. The reservation must be made at least two days in advance.

-Marion Daley, chair





PASTORAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

We believe in Centre Church as one body, tolerant of a variety of UCC Christian perspectives and respectful of different voices. We believe that you, our congregants, do too. All of us charge our Centre Church ministers with carrying out the church goals articulated in the most recent church profile and by the Search Committee, under the ongoing guidance of our Church Council.

From time to time a congregant may differ in views with our minister or our Council's direction. We have in place constructive mechanisms for expressing such differences, namely the Pastoral Relations Committee (currently comprised of Jim Bedard, Margo Neale, Judy Palmer, and Ron Svec) and the Church Council (currently Bill McCarty, Margo Neale, Anne Fecto, Jenifer Ambler, Marion Abell, Priscilla Svec, Roger Brown, and others).

We can only question the motivation of individuals who send negative emails to our minister, with copies to a select few. We oppose any such action that divides us as a church body. If you have been party to private grumblings or disagreements that do not use our existing open venues, we ask you to remind the complainant of the appropriate channels.

But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love. [Ephesians 4:15-16.]

In Faith,

Your Pastoral Relations Committee

COMMUNICATION from the WIDER UCC COMMUNITY

From our Vermont Associate Conference Minister, Paul Sangree

This week during our Conference Clergy Zoom call, someone made a really good point about the use of the phrase "church reopening." They said that this is a phrase that governments use to talk about us and the date we gather together again in person in the sanctuary, but we should not use it about ourselves. Because we are already open! We are the Church right now during this Pandemic time! We may be worshipping together online, we may be distributing sermons to mailboxes, we may be keeping in touch through the telephone-however we are being the church of Jesus Christ right now, we are open!

We are proclaiming that Black Lives Matter – We are Open! We are participating in rallies and vigils – We are Open! We are calling out White Privilege – We are Open! We are proclaiming that "Whoever you are or wherever you are on life's journey, You are Welcome Here" – We are Open! We are testifying to and proclaiming the power of faith in these times of crisis and pain – We are Open! We are standing together with others in Jesus' name, and inviting others to join us – We are Open! May we be the Church Open and Deployed during these tumultuous and challenging times.

Openly yours! Paul

BRATTLEBORO CENTRE for CHILDREN

The Brattleboro Centre for Children re-opened fully in June, in compliance with the governor's guidance for child care centers. We had a 'soft' re-opening, going from a small group of children of essential workers with a limited staff to fully staffed and about half the children for two weeks. At that time we welcomed back all other students who were available and enrolled two more brand new students. The Center received a couple of grants from the state, earmarked to help purchase supplies to aid in reopening while following new health and safety procedures, which involve purchasing PPE and cleaning and disinfecting supplies. Our hours are shortened by one hour at the end of the day to facilitate daily, deep cleaning.

The Center also was granted a loan from the Small Business Administration to support payroll during closure and reopening. This loan ensured all our staff were able to come back fully paid and ready to work. It is our plan and hope that this loan will be forgiven and we will not have to repay any of it. The challenges of doing this particular kind of work during the pandemic have been great, but we are weathering them as best we can. We are still here and happy to be so. Thanks to all the members of our Board of Directors, James Cera, Jim Bedard, Becky Day, Jack Bixby, Lynn Herzog, Nancy DiMauro, Scott Couper, and Lynn Ethier for their support of the administrative staff's work throughout this period of time and the many church members who have donated to our cause. We are grateful.

-Nan Mann, Director



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.

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

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Phyllis Hickok

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Jane Reed—Pine Heights 187 Oak Grove Ave., Brattleboro, VT 05301 802.257.0307

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

The Rev. Allen Vander Meulen

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Alta Barber

13223 N 3937 Dr., Bartlesville, OK 74003

Pat Neer—Thompson House 80 Maple St., Brattleboro, VT 05301

Bob & Dee Keller

153 Spruce St., Brattleboro, VT 05301 802.257.4588

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

PEOPLE

CENTRE CHURCH LEADERSHIP

The following changes have been made in the Board of Deacons, effective now until the next Annual Program Meeting:

- Carlene McCarty is stepping down from the Board.
- Holly Kennedy and Wayne Randall are joining the Board.
- Mary Bristol will remain as a Lifetime Honorary Deacon.

BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Lisa Terzariol
- 3 Anne Fecto
- 5 Darlene LaPlante April Harkness
- 6 Heidi Mario
- 7 Dwight Henry Lisa Jonnson
- 13 Florence Storey
- 14 Jane Reed
- **15** Scott Hoese
- 16 Dennis Newman

- 19 William Pearson Dee Keller
- 24 Susan Gray
- 26 Robert Pu
- 27 Sheila Pinkney
- 29 Seth Marcil

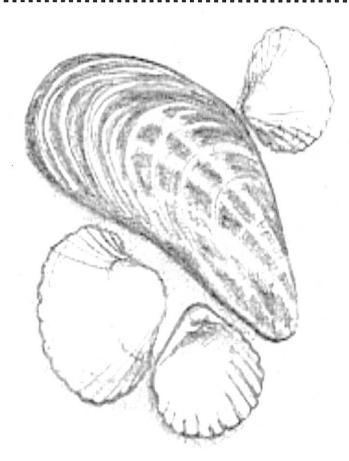


JULY 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			845 Staff Meeting	2 10 ⁰⁰ Chapel Devotional 4 ⁰⁰ 5k Devotional 7 ⁰⁰ Worship Team	3 OFFICE CLOSED 11 ³⁰ Loaves & Fishes 7 ⁰⁰ Racism Forum	4 INDEPENDENCE DAY
5 10 ⁰⁰ Worship** 12 ⁰⁰ Deacons 7 ⁰⁰ Worship Team	6 4 [∞] BCC Board	7 11 ³⁰ Loaves & Fishes	8 8 ⁴⁵ Staff Meeting	9 10 ⁰⁰ Chapel Devotional 4 ⁰⁰ 5k Devotional 7 ⁰⁰ Worship Team	10 11 ³⁰ Loaves & Fishes	11
12 10 ⁰⁰ Worship 7 ⁰⁰ Worship Team	13	11 ³⁰ Loaves & Fishes 6 ⁰⁰ Mission & Service	15 8 ⁴⁵ Staff Meeting	16 10 ⁰⁰ Chapel Devotional 4 ⁰⁰ 5k Devotional 7 ⁰⁰ Worship Team	17 CB DEADLINE 1130 Loaves & Fishes	18
19 10 [∞] Worship 7 [∞] Worship Team	130 Compassionate Brattleboro	21 11 ³⁰ Loaves & Fishes 6 ⁰⁰ Church Council	22 8 ⁴⁵ Staff Meeting	23 10 ⁰⁰ Chapel Devotional 4 ⁰⁰ 5k Devotional 7 ⁰⁰ Worship Team	24 11 ³⁰ Loaves & Fishes	25
26 10 [∞] Worship Union Service - Dummerston 7 [∞] Worship Team	27	28 11 ³⁰ Loaves & Fishes	29 MAIL CB 8 ⁴⁵ Staff Meeting	30 10 ^{oo} Chapel Devotional 4 ^{oo} 5k Devotional 7 ^{oo} Worship Team	31 11 ³⁰ Loaves & Fishes	

SCOTT'S SERMONS can be accessed at the church website: 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 -or-From the website *Welcome* page, click *Audio & Video* in the top list (or click *More* or *Other* on the top right).



JULY LECTIONARY TEXTS

Sunday, July 5, Fifth Sunday after Pentecost Gen 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67 and Ps 45:10-17 or Song of Sol 2:8-13; Zech 9:9-12 and Ps 145:8-14; Rom 7:15-25a; **Matt 11:16-19, 25-30**

Sunday, July 12, Sixth Sunday after Pentecost Gen 25:19-34 and Ps 119:105-112; Isa 55:10-13 and Ps 65:(1-8), 9-13; Rom 8:1-11; **Matt 13:1-9, 18-23**

Sunday, July 19, Seventh Sunday after Pentecost Gen 28:10-19a and Ps 139:1-12, 23-24; Wisdom of Sol 12:13, 16-19 or Isa 44:6-8 and Ps 86:11-17; Rom 8:12-25; **Matt 13:24-30, 36-43**

Sunday, July 26, Eighth Sunday after Pentecost Gen 29:15-28 and Ps 105:1-11, 45b or Ps 128; 1 Kings 3:5-12 and Ps 119:129-136; Rom 8:26-39; Matt 13:31-33, 44-52

> Centre Bells is published monthly by Centre Congregational Church, UCC News items, articles, address changes, and

requests to be added or removed from the *Centre Bells* mailing list should be submitted to the church office:

802.254.4730 / admin@centrechurch.torg