

TRIAD God Church Family

Central Congregational Church, UCC

115 Commonwealth Avenue Attleboro Falls, MA 02763
Telephone (508) 699-7700

E-Mail Address: centralucc@verizon.net

Website: <https://www.attleborofallschurch.org>



Worship Sunday's at 10:00am in-person and Online

February 15, 2026

TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY

Worship at 10:00am

in-person/Sanctuary & by Zoom

Sermon: "Blessed Love"

Scripture: Matthew 5:21-26, 38-48, and
2 Peter 1:16-21

Fellowship Hr: *Deacon, Pam Morse*

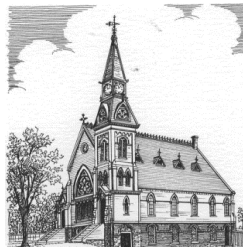
No Sunday School Today.

**See you next Sunday for Family Sunday and
back again for classes on March 1st**

**151st ANNUAL MEETING TAKES PLACE
TODAY/After Worship/Vestry**

February 10, 2026

Volume 56 Issue 03



February 22, 2026

First Sunday in Lent

FAMILY SUNDAY

Worship at 10:00am

in-person/Sanctuary & by Zoom

Sermon: "The Prophet's Pit Stop"

Scripture: Exodus 14:10-16, 21-29

Fellowship Hr:

The Mission Committee

The Sunday presents

"Travels Down Rt 66".

**Join us for a multi-generational service
at 10am today.**



ASH WEDNESDAY – FEBRUARY 11TH – LENT BEGINS

Ash Wednesday begins the Lenten season in the church's year. It is a moment to reflect on our human nature and remember who and whose we are with humble honesty. Many folks mark the day with the imposing of ashes on their foreheads or hands.

Our church has not typically offered an Ash Wednesday service. However, last year we began an experiment that we are continuing this year. We provided a small bag of ashes and a take home prayer service that folks could use as part of their own spiritual journey. This year we are updating that service and offering it again.

We'll have the prayer service and ashes in church on Sunday mornings if you want to pick them up. While the ashes typically are made from the burning of previous year's Palm Sunday palms, there is nothing sacred about those ashes. If you can't get to church you can find a link to the service here: <https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/laurwk7eazup1jupiv146/ASH-WEDNESDAY-PRAYER-AND-REFLECTION-HOME-SERVICE-2026.docx?rlkey=38wt6uguxwy0z48kjr233oej&dl=0> And you can use any ashes that you feel comfortable using, or, as an alternative you can use oil or water as part of the service.

We can also mail or email you the service if you contact Kathy at our church office by 12noon on Tuesday, February 10th. May it be a blessing to you as we journey together towards Easter's rebirth.

Pastor's Ponderings

Persevere

Margaret Wheatley in her book, *PERSEVERANCE*, writes:

"The word 'perseverance' in Latin means, 'one who sees through to the end,' 'one who doesn't yield.' In English, it describes how we maintain our activity in spite of difficulties. Tenacity, steadfastness, persistence, doggedness—these are all common synonyms.

Human experience is the story of perseverance. Throughout space and time, humans have always persevered. We wouldn't be here without them.

Think of all the people you know—family, friends, strangers—who have just kept going, who didn't yield, who were tenacious, steadfast, patient." (pg 3)

Throughout Lent we'll be exploring the concepts in this book as we look at ourselves, our faith, our relationships, our country and our world. In all of that we'll be discovering how to build our capacity to faithfully persevere in such a time as this. It's a skill, it's a capacity, it is innate in our temperament, it is essential to our faith. Bring a friend and journey together. And, one day, people will tell of your story of perseverance.

You can also pick up the book at a local bookstore or online if you would like to read along with our worship themes. The book is divided up into 5 sections; one for each week of our Lenten series. Since we can't cover everything from each section in any one service, you may enjoy reading the book for all of its insights.

MARDI GRAS AND BIRTHDAY SUNDAY

Lent has long been a season of sacrifice. Folks 'give up' something during the 40 days that lead up to Easter. It spiritual practice traditions this was intended to deepen our ability to deny ourselves as Christ denied himself in order for us to be more fully alive and faithful. Part of this was to build our inner 'muscle' for sacrificing for others. Part of this was to let the experience of that sacrifice each day become a daily reminder to pause in prayer and openness to God's Spirit. It was not a duty or obligation, nor was it trite. Instead it was an opportunity to deepen our faith.

Mardi Gras emerged as a time of indulgence before the time of sacrifice. As if we needed an excuse to give in to our hungers. It too, originally, was a spiritual practice of gratitude for the abundance of God available to us.

We are planning to reconnect with that spiritual practice of gratitude on Sunday February 15 at our coffee hour. It is the last Sunday before we begin the Lenten season. Just before we hold our Annual Meeting we will have 12 cakes, one for each month of the year. So you can gather with folks who share the same birthday month (or with folks who like the same kind of cake as you). It is a time of fellowship and celebration as we prepare for Lent's austerity. We are looking for folks who would like to claim a month and/or provide a cake.

If you would be willing to bake (or buy) a cake for any particular month, let Rev. Don know ASAP.

OUR ASSOCIATE CONFERENCE MINISTER IS RETIRING

Our Associate Conference Minister is the person from our Conference staff who offers support and resources and guidance to churches and clergy in a region of our Conference. The Rev Patty Kogut has served our region here in southeastern Massachusetts and Rhode Island for the past several years. She offered support to our church as it considered visioning. She provided resources to the church during Rev Carole's illness. She's helped the church as it began the search for the interim. And she has coached our Local Church Profile Writing Team this past year. And those are only a few of the points of direct contact she has had with our church. Her ministry role is both broader and deeper than that and has impacted us in many less seen ways.

Patty is retiring this spring. She'll be exploring all the ministry and personal opportunities that retirement brings. Her time serving our region comes to an end as Easter approaches this year. Our Conference will be letting us know who will fill in for Patty as our Conference's engages in its own search for the next regional ACM.

There will be a retirement and ministry celebration for Patty on March 8th here in Attleboro at the Second Congregational church at 2:30pm. You are welcome to join us for this time of memory and release.

Save the Date!

Celebration of Ministry & Service of Release for Rev Dr. Patty Kogut

Sunday, March 8, 2:30pm

Second Congregational Church, Attleboro, MA
Reception to follow

CENTRAL CHURCH CALENDAR

Tuesday, February 10th

TRIAD DEADLINE to submit news and information.

Wednesday, Feb 11th

7pm Deacons/Vestry & Zoom

Thursday, February 12th

7:00pm Choir Rehearsal/Vestry

Sunday, February 15th No Sunday School Today.

10:00am Worship/Sanctuary & Zoom

151ST ANNUAL MEETING/VESTRY

MARDI GRAS & BIRTHDAY SUNDAY!

Fellowship Hr: Pam Morse, Deacon Co-Chair

Monday, February 16th

PRESIDENTS' DAY

Tuesday, February 17th

7:00pm Trustees meet/Vestry & Zoom

Wednesday, February 18th

ASH WEDNESDAY – LENT BEGINS

Thursday, February 19th

7:00pm Choir Rehearsal/Vestry. All Welcome!

Sunday, February 22nd

First Sunday in Lent

FAMILY SUNDAY

10:00am Worship/Sanctuary & Zoom

Fellowship Hr: The Mission Committee

Monday, February 23rd

6:30pm Prayer Group meets online via ZOOM (only). All welcome to join in at any time during the year – use the same Zoom link you would for Worship.

Tuesday, February 24th

7:00pm Mission Committee meets/Vestry & Zoom

Wednesday, February 25th

7:0pm CE Committee meets/Vestry & Zoom

Thursday, February 26th

7:00pm Choir Rehearsal/Vestry. All Welcome!

Sunday, March 1st

9:45am Sunday School/Daggett Lounge

10:00am Worship/Sanctuary & Zoom

Fellowship Hr: Trustees – TBA

Tuesday, March 3rd

TRIAD DEADLINE to submit news and information

Wednesday, March 4th

7:00pm Executive Council/Vestry & Zoom

Thursday, March 5th

7:00pm Choir Rehearsal/Vestry

Friday, March 6th

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Many Thanks... If you had the chance to join us for the Rev. Dr Martin Luther King, Jr. celebration at our church you are probably still glowing from the experience. The music, the words, the prayers, the dance was all so deeply moving.

The appreciation I heard was universal in its enthusiasm. And I think we all recognized how much we needed to hear a message of hope and challenge in such a time as this.

I am also so appreciative of everyone who helped out with hospitality. The room looked wonderful. The food was plentiful and delicious. And the warm greeting you all shared with our visitors was so representative of our Oasis of Caring and Joy; you truly and fully embodied that.

Thanks to all of you who helped host that day. And to all of you who donated baked goods. And to those who set up tables and put them away. For those who handed out bulletins and helped people with the elevator. For those who offered coffee and snacks so that the joy of worship upstairs could continue in the caring of fellowship downstairs. For those who removed the trash. And those who cleared the snow. (And a particular note to Martha who was the hub of coordination and to Dave who handled the sound system elegantly.)

THANK YOU!

Rev Don

Our Parish Register

Please submit names for the March Prayer List by 02/24/2026

Rev Carole, Ed, Jen, Mark, Madi, Jeannine, Richard, Judy, Rich, Carmen, Karen, Suzanne, Laurie, Heather-Ann, Helen, Franny, Tracey, Sandi, Martha., Gretchen, Lee Ross, Mo, Damian, Brooklyn, Eric.

TRIAD DEADLINES

to submit news and information:

Tuesdays, February 17 and March 3, 17 & 31

**ZOOM LINK FOR WORSHIP
AND MEETINGS
AS OF 03/2023**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2148198082?pwd=b2krNFNOODRTQjVuWVZSDJTVnc5dz09>

**Meeting ID: 214 819 8082
Passcode: 1234**



February Birthdays

01 Andrew McCally 06 Sylvia Kelly
11 Cailey Alexandre 13 Pete Lavoie
16 Bob Schumm 20 Sue Dunbar

COMMITTEE CORNER

From the Board of Deacons

Our next meeting will be held
Wednesday, February 11, 2026
at 7:00pm / Vestry and by Zoom.

LITURGISTS – We are seeking People who would like to read the announcements in Church on Sunday mornings. Occasionally, you may be reading the Scripture lesson, as well. The announcements and any other readings are prepared for you and sent to you ahead of time by email. *Please speak with Martha McHatton if you'd like more information.*

ELEVATOR OPERATORS – We are seeking several people who would like to be part of our Hospitality Team by providing a lift in our elevator from the Vestry to the Sanctuary, and back down again, on Sunday mornings. This can be on a scheduled rotating basis, according to your availability. If you have weekday availability, we have the occasional funeral to provide elevator service for. We also have evening services a few times a year. *Please speak with Martha McHatton if you'd like more information.*

From the Profile Writing Team

Notes and Request from our Profile Writing Team

Our next meeting will be held on
Wednesday, February 18th
At 7:00pm in the Vestry

Our team has been working steadily these last several months gathering the foundational data and information for our Local Church Profile. This profile is the key story of our church that we want to present for our search for our next settled pastor. In the meantime, our Profile invites us to provide 2-4 pictures that capture the life, vibrancy and ministry of our church. *****If you have any photos (digital version) that might be helpful please email them to our church office so we can see which ones will help us tell our story. *****

From the Board of Trustees

Our next meeting will be held on
Tuesday, February 17th, 2026 at 7:00pm /
Vestry & Zoom.

From the Christian Education Committee

The Christian Education Committee has been hard at work planning for a meaningful and engaging spring season in our church's faith formation programs.

Quarterly Meeting Schedule Begins

To better support long-range planning and reduce scheduling strain, the committee voted to shift from monthly meetings to a quarterly rhythm.

Our next meeting will take place
Wednesday, March 25 at 7:00 pm.

March Mission Focus: Heifer International

This spring, our Sunday School children will take part in a special **one-month Heifer International fundraiser**. Instead of stretching the project across the full year, the committee chose a focused March campaign to help kids see the impact of their giving more immediately. Funds raised will support the purchase of an animal gift through Heifer's catalogue—an opportunity for our children to help families around the world build sustainable livelihoods. To build excitement and momentum, the fundraiser will officially launch during **Family Sunday in late February**. The church family will be invited to join the kids in the Heifer Fundraiser.

From the Executive Council

Our next meeting will be held on
Wednesday, March 4, 2026 at 7pm/Vestry & Zoom

From the Memorial Gifts Committee

Our next meeting will be held on
Thursday, March 12th at 6:00pm/Vestry & Zoom
An upcoming and ongoing project for our committee will be working on taking an inventory of current memorial gift plaques and those that are still needed. Another ongoing project is the updating of our Memorial Book in the Narthex of the Church. We will go back to using the old Memorial book whose entries were handwritten. We are in search of a volunteer who has calligraphy skills or excellent handwriting. Please contact Kathy in the Church office or any member of the committee (*Rich and Julie Goss, Jan Bisio, Heather Bonfilio, Bruce Carpenter, Judy Holland and Keith Darling*). Please let us know if you have suggestions for a new Remembrance Project!

From the Prayer Fellowship Group

"Prayer Fellowship—Refreshing Moments with God!"

Dates: Monday's: February 23rd, March 9th & 23rd, April 13th & 27th, May 11th.

Containers for leaving Prayer Requests are found on the table in the Sanctuary Narthex & on the Vestry table under the Mission bulletin board. Index cards and pens are next to the containers. Requests are shared with Prayer Fellowship participants. You may also continue to send a prayer request in an email to the church office at centralucc@verizon.net or call the church office at 508-699-7700.

Everyone is welcome to participate in Prayer Fellowship! Together we celebrate the Lord's blessings with thanksgiving! We pray for the 'concerns of our church' and any concern on our minds. Silent prayer is always an option. It's a wonderful way to wind down after a busy day! You'll be refreshed! Jesus said, "Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, there I am among them." Matthew 18: 19-20 ESV

Use the same zoom link as used for Sunday worship. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2148198082?pwd=b2krNFNOODRTQjVuWVRZSDJTVnc5dz09>

From the Mission Committee

Our next meeting will be held on

Tuesday, February 24, 2026 at 7:00pm/Vestry & Zoom.

"The purpose of the Mission Committee is to enable Central Congregational Church to fulfill its calling – to go out into the world and minister to those in need."

– CCC By Laws

February's Mission Project 2026

The Attleboro Warming Center is open on Monday, Thursday, & Friday nights when temperatures are 25 degrees or lower. **The Faith Alliance Church at 833 Pleasant Street is graciously hosting the temporary shelter. There is a big need for volunteers!!!**

Shifts are: 6:30 p.m. - 10:30 p.m.; 10:30 p.m. - 3:00 a.m.; and 3:00 a.m. – 7 a.m.

In addition, they have asked for donations of wool socks, waterproof mittens/gloves, thick sweatshirts, individual bottles of water and real juice, protein bars, and snacks. You may bring these donations to the Vestry on Sundays or to the Church Office during Office Hours. Look for the specially marked Bins.

People who would like to help out should contact Sheyenne at 401 428-6181 who is doing the scheduling, Or Pam Tarallo at 508-971-2931. The list of shift duties is posted on the Mission bulletin board in the Vestry.

We contacted Pam Tarallo, to inquire if there is a need for blankets to be given to homeless individuals whether visiting the Warming Center or outdoors. The need exists

and the committee plans to purchase CWS BLANKETS with the donations we received in January. IF still planning to give, PLEASE DO SO ASAP AS THE NEED IS NOW! Write your check payable to Central Congregational Church. Please be sure to note "CWS Blanket" in the memo section of your check.

March Mission: One Great Hour of Sharing! Annual Lenten Season Giving.

Plan ahead!

UPDATES & OUTCOMES

January Mission Project – Church World Services - Blankets

"Blanket the World in Love" "And when we take your gifts to those who need them, they will thank God." 2 Corinthians 9:11

Our Mission project goal: Join other generous donors and share tangible expressions of love with people world-wide in need. \$10 – provides a CWS Blanket! Let's be the hands and feet of Christ in our community and the world through your contributions. Write your check payable to Central Congregational Church ASAP! Please be sure to note "CWS Blanket" in the memo section of your check.

'THE HEARTBEAT INITIATIVE' – First Event – Huge SUCCESS!

Allison Darling and Keith have returned from Kisumu, Kenya! Allison, the founder of the Initiative, and her father served as members of the training team.

On Sunday, Keith reflected about their journey! The Heartbeat Initiative goal was achieved! 420 health professionals were trained in CPR and the Heimlich maneuver, both new to them. Throughout the event and during the final meeting people expressed that their presence and the training provided was truly sent to them from the Lord! Before Keith and Allison returned home, three lives had already been saved by newly trained staff. Our response was praising the Lord! Another Heartbeat Initiative event is planned for next year.

By way of background, through her college work, last year (2025), Allison was able to provide volunteer service in Kisumu, Kenya at several community health centers and hospital. During her work she realized that across Kenya, police officers, firefighters, and community health providers are often the first to arrive at emergency scenes, yet few have access to CPR training. Without these lifesaving skills preventable deaths occur every day. To address this concern, Allison created **The Heartbeat Initiative** to address the need. Allison, as founder of the Initiative, raised funding for this event. Thanks for supporting this new mission initiative in Kisumu Kenya. **Pray for Allison as she works to fulfill "The**

Heartbeat Initiative” goal of achieving ‘Non-Profit Organization’ status.

YEAR-ROUND MISSIONS

Lenore’s Pantry – Thank-you for continued food donations and please continue to give. Place purchased items in the marked bins located in the vestry or in the hallway of the CE building outside the church office. **We also gratefully receive your financial donations.** Be sure to write Lenore’s Pantry on the memo line of your check.

Lenore’s Pantry NEW ‘Wish List’: *Cereal, Condiments (ketchup, mustard, salad dressing, BBQ sauce), Tuna Fish, Pasta, Pasta Sauce, Individual bags of chips, individual bags of cookies, Ramen noodles, Progresso Soup.*

“Please keep in mind anything you have in your cupboards would be appreciated in our pantry!” Steve Berdos, Lenore’s Pantry

Our Shriner’s Hospital Aluminum Tab Collection - If you’re not involved, join our regular contributors by saving the tabs from beverage cans and dropping them into the labeled round containers on the counter outside the church office or the container on the windowsill in the entry to the CE building. There is also a container in the Vestry located on the table under the Mission bulletin board.

UCC Disaster Ministries

The United Church of Christ Disaster Ministries supports long-term recovery and spiritual care initiatives after disasters made possible by contributions from the wider church. To contribute, write a check to Central Congregational Church and on the memo line write Storm Relief or the name of the storm or disaster.

Red Cross Blood Drives

The Red Cross states, “Every day, blood donors help patients of all ages: accident and burn victims, heart surgery, and organ transplant patients, and those battling cancer. In fact, in every two seconds, someone in the United States need bloods”. To support Red Cross Blood Drives a [web link](#) is provided so you can quickly review a list of nearby blood drive locations. Eligibility to participate as a blood donor is also provided. [Schedule a Blood, Platelet or Plasma Donation | American Red Cross](#)

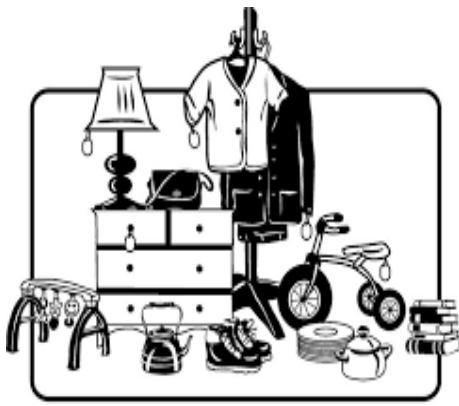
INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN’S SPONSORSHIP PROGRAMS

Tibetan Refugee Self Help Center, Darjeeling, India

Since March 2025 we have been sponsoring through UCC Global Ministries Child & Elder Sponsorship Program **TENZIN YANGZOM**. Tenzin is 9 years of age. Letters and drawings received from Tenzin are posted on the mission bulletin board in the Vestry. This rehabilitation organization trains adults in handicraft arts to support their families while children are provided free education, in both Hindu and English. Textbooks and school supplies are provided. Please pray for Tenzin, her family and all of the families and children at the center.

The Reverend Jean Parisot Foundation - St. Claire School, Jacmel, Haiti

An updated overview of recent completed and new proposed projects was recently received and is posted on the mission bulletin board. The sole focus of the Foundation is the operation of a liberal arts and vocational school. Currently the Foundation is running a grammar school for 125 children in preschool through eighth grade. Every child receives a nutritious meal in addition to a free education. Please pray for the school, its leadership, teachers, and students! **Please feel free, anytime throughout the year, to send a donation for the school.** **Make your check payable to Central Congregational Church** and add “**Haiti School**” in the memo line. Thanks for supporting and praying for the children of Haiti.



ANNUAL SPRING RUMMAGE SALE 2026

Central Congregational Church
115 Commonwealth Ave. Attleboro Falls, MA

Please note: We cannot accept early donations due to lack of storage space. We appreciate your anticipated cooperation.

Drop off your donations -

Sunday, March 15th between 11:15am-2pm/Hall

** No early birds, please – Sunday School takes place earlier in the morning.*

Donations also accepted and Volunteers are needed:

Monday, March 16th thru Wednesday, March 18th

From 1pm-4pm and 6pm-8pm

Items to donate include: craft items, kids toys, games, books, DVD's, CD's, kitchen wares, small household items, seasonal decorations, knick-knacks, baby items, Men's, Women's and Children's Spring & Summer clothing, and shoes in **good wearable condition**.

****Please note that we cannot accept:***

Lrg Appliances, Bikes, Car Seats, Computers, Printers, TV's, Furniture, Stuffed Animals, Microwave Ovens, Or Strollers.

~ SALE DATES ~

Thursday, March 19th from 9am-6pm

Friday, March 20th from 10am – 3pm

Saturday, March 21st from 9am – 1pm

*****Please see Cheryl Peterson if you can lend a hand—
help is needed to sort and fold the clothing
during the week and on Sale days.***



February 2026

SUN	MON	TUES	WEDS	THURS	FRI	SAT
01 THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION 9:45am SUNDAY SCHOOL 10am Worship/ Sanct & Zoom Fellowship Hr: <i>Trustees – Heather Bonfilio</i> “Coffee Hour Conversations” Gathering during Fellowship Hr Today/Vestry. PLEASE STAY!	02	03 TRIAD DEADLINE	04 7:00pm Exec Council /Vestry & Zoom	05 7:00pm CHOIR REHEARSAL/ VESTRY	06	07
08 9:45am SUNDAY SCHOOL 10am Worship/ Sanct & Zoom Fellowship Hr: <i>Deacons - Cheryl Rogers and Judy Holland</i>	09 6:30PM PRAYER GROUP/ ONLINE ONLY	10	11 7:00pm Deacons/Vestry & Zoom	12 6:00pm Memorial Gifts/Vestry 7:00pm CHOIR REHEARSAL/ VESTRY	13	14
15 TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY 151st ANNUAL MEETING TODAY! No SUNDAY SCHOOL Today. 10:00am Worship/Sanct & Zoom Fellowship Hr: <i>Pam Morse</i>	16 PRESIDENTS' DAY	17 TRIAD DEADLINE 7pm Trustees /Vestry & Zoom	18 ASH WEDNESDAY 7:00pm Profile Team meets /Vestry	19 7:00pm CHOIR REHEARSAL/ VESTRY	20	21
22 1st Sunday in Lent FAMILY SUNDAY 10:00am Worship/Sanct & Zoom Fellowship Hr: <i>Mission Committee</i>	23 6:30PM PRAYER GROUP/ ONLINE ONLY	24 7:00pm Mission Committee /Vestry & Zoom	25 No CE Meeting Tonight – read more under Committee Corner.	26 7:00pm CHOIR REHEARSAL/ VESTRY	27	28 REVISED 02/10/2026

**Central Congregational Church, UCC
115 Commonwealth Avenue
Attleboro Falls, MA 02763**

Services of: February 15 & 22, 2026

**Central Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
ONA – *An Open & Affirming Congregation*
115 Commonwealth Avenue
Attleboro Falls, MA 02763**

**Phone: 508 699 7700
Email Address centralucc@verizon.net
Website: attleborofallschurch.org**

***INTERIM PASTOR - Rev. Don Remick
MUSIC DIRECTOR – Dave Valerio
CHURCH SECRETARY – Kathy Trowbridge***

**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:
Tuesday & Thursday – 8:30am – 4:30pm**