

TRIAD God Church Family

Central Congregational Church, UCC

115 Commonwealth Avenue P.O. Box 1319 Attleboro Falls, MA 02763

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



Worship on Sunday mornings at 10:00am In-person and Online

February 19, 2023

Transfiguration Sunday

Worship at **10:00am** in-person
in the Sanctuary and Online by Zoom.

Sermon: "The Gate to Lent"

Scripture: Matthew 17:1-9

Fellowship Hour: *Pete Riendeau
for the CE Committee*

****No Sunday School Classes Today****

February 14, 2023

Volume 52 Issue 04



**Is it nothing?
To all you who pass by?**

February 26, 2023

First Sunday in Lent

Worship at **10:00am** in-person
in the Sanctuary and Online by Zoom.

Fellowship Hour: *Mission Committee*

9:45am Sunday School Meets—Hall

From the Future of Our Church Leadership Team

During our first 'Future of Our Church' congregational meeting lead by Rev. Don Remick on Saturday evening, January 21st, as we were gathered in small groups, Rev. Don asked us to individually respond to the question: "Our Church is like..." Each group had opportunity to share their responses around their table and then with everyone. One response was: "***Our Church is like an oasis. When daily life feels like a walk through the desert, a service can be like a fresh drink of water.***" We thank Martha McHatton for her inspirational response that resonated with all of us.

Here are a few other responses that were expressed to the same statement, "Our Church is like..."

...family with support available to all

...yoga – flexible, meditative, it connects me to my inner self and to others around me. Gives me peace, relieves any stress I may be holding in. I always want to return.

...a family where everyone can be themselves without being judged and can come together to worship and serve God.

... A peaceful safe haven.

If you could not attend this initial meeting, give some thought to what your response would be to this statement.

Leadership team: *Our next group meeting is being determined!*

The Future of Our Church Initiative is about coming together as church members to seek God's guidance and to understand and discern His vision for growing and transforming our church, so we will become more relevant in meeting the needs of people in our community.

Central Church Calendar

Tuesday, February 14th

7:00pm Deacons meet in Vestry & by Zoom. (YES, on Valentine's Day!)

Thursday, February 16th

7:00pm Choir Rehearsal/Sanctuary

Sunday, February 19th

TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY

No Sunday School Today.

10:00am Worship in the Sanctuary and by Zoom

Fellowship Hr: *Host Wanted.*

Contact Church Office if interested.

Monday, February 20th

PRESIDENTS' DAY

Tuesday, February 21st

TRIAD DEADLINE

7:00pm Trustees meet in Vestry & by Zoom

Wednesday, February 22nd

ASH WEDNESDAY—LENT BEGINS

Thursday, February 23rd

7:00pm Choir Rehearsal/Sanctuary

Sunday, February 26th

1st Sunday in Lent

LAST SUNDAY to purchase tickets for the Annual Corned Beef Dinner/Vestry

9:45am Sunday School/Hall

10:00am Worship in the Sanctuary and by Zoom

Fellowship Hr: *Mission*

Tuesday, February 28th

NEW MISSION MEETING DAY—

7:00pm Mission meets in Vestry & by Zoom

Wednesday, March 1st

7:00pm Executive Council meets in Vestry & by Zoom.

Thursday, March 2nd

LAST DAY to purchase tickets to the 13th Annual O'Congregational Corned Beef Dinner from the church office.

7:00pm Choir/Sanctuary

Friday, March 3rd

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER.

Sunday, March 5th

2nd Sunday in Lent

LAST DAY to purchase tickets to the 13th Annual O'Congregational Corned Beef Dinner from the Vestry.

9:45am Sunday School/Hall

10:00am Worship in person in the Sanctuary & by Zoom

Fellowship Hr: Trustees

11:00am Sunday School Meeting/Hall

Monday, March 6th

7:00pm PARENT GROUP Meeting/3rd Flr—Daggett Lounge

Tuesday, March 7th

7:00pm CE Meets in Vestry & by Zoom

Wednesday, March 8th

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

Thursday, March 9th

6:00pm Memorial Gifts/Vestry & Zoom

7:00pm Choir Rehearsal/Sanctuary

Friday, March 10th

5pm—9pm HALL & KITCHEN RESERVED for set-up—Corned Beef Dinner.

Our Parish Register

At Home Jen DiSalvio, Roberta Bumpus, Loretta Lomov, Richard Lamoureux, Ed Dyer, Ben, Eamon (Jan Meierdiercks' Grandson) Nancy Kelly (Kathy Trowbridge's Mom), Sandy Thibodeau.

In the Hospital...

Paul Homer is at the Veteran's Hospital in Boston. Cards may be sent to him at home: 100 Taunton St. B120 Plainville, MA 02762

Residing in Elder Care...

Carolyn Farrell

The Falls at Cordingly Dam
2300 Washington St.

Newton Lower-Falls, MA 02462

In a Rehab Facility...

Donna Schumm is at the Branches in No. Attleboro. Check with Bob prior to visiting. Cards may be sent to her home: 21 Kennedy Dr. Attleboro, MA 02703

Our Sympathy to...

Deb Trowbridge on the death of her husband of nearly 30 years,

Robert J. Krajewski on Dec 29th.

Cards may be sent to Deb at:
16 Poppasquash Rd.

No. Attleboro, MA 02760



Our Sympathy to...

Melissa Glass and Jillian (Boraski) Georgio on the passing of their mother and Grandmother, and our Deacon Emeritus, **Jacquelyn "Jackie" Glass** on Jan 27th.

A service was held on 02/03 here at our church.

Cards may be sent to:

Ms. Melissa Glass

80 Broadway Unit 54

No. Attleboro, MA 02760

TRIAD DEADLINES to submit information:

**Tuesdays—
February 21st
March 7th & 21st**

February Birthdays



01 Andrew McCally

11 Cailey Alexandre

16 Gene Saltis

03 Camryn King

13 Pete Lavoie

16 Bob Schumm

06 Sylvia Kelly

15 CJ Peterson

20 Susan Dunbar

Committee Corner

From the Board of Deacons

Our next meeting will be held on
Tuesday, February 14, 2023
at 7:00pm Vestry & Zoom.

To Join us in Zoom Worship:

(Please sign in a few minutes early to check your audio and video)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/2148198082>

Meeting ID: 214 819 8082

From the Board of Trustees

Our next meeting will be held on
Tuesday, February 21, 2023
at 7:00pm Vestry & Zoom.

From the Christian Education Committee

Our next meeting will be held on
Tuesday, February 7th at 7:00pm
in the Vestry and by Zoom.

◆ **Sunday School Kids Care Mission**

During the month of **February** we will be collecting **lunch** food items to donate to Lenore's Pantry. Suggested items include: Canned tuna, canned chicken, peanut butter, jelly, fluff, Spaghetti-O's, raviolis, apple sauce, canned fruit.

◆ **Parent Support Group**

Parent Support Group - 1st Monday of the month

Feeling alone living with a teen struggling with mental health issues? The Parent Support Group is an opportunity for parents and caregivers of children/teens dealing with mental health and behavioral challenges, such as anxiety, depression challenges, such as anxiety, depression and/or substance abuse to meet with other parents dealing with similar experiences. The group meets once a month on the first Monday of the month. **The next meeting is March 6th at 7:00 pm in the Daggett Lounge.**

If you have any questions, you can contact Sharilyn Hepburn at sharilyn.hepburn@gmail.com

◆ **Youth Group – SAVE THE DATE**

Our next Youth Group event will be on **Sunday, March 5th at 1:00 pm. Details to follow.**

Questions on Sunday School or Youth Group? Interested in being added to the Sunday School and Youth Group Facebook groups? Contact Sharilyn Hepburn at 781-704-5454, sharilyn.hepburn@gmail.com or message on Facebook.

From the Memorial Gifts Committee

Our next meeting will be held on
Thursday, March 9th
at 6:00pm in the Vestry & by Zoom.

From the Executive Council

Our next meeting will be held on
Wednesday, March 1st at 7:00pm
in the Vestry and by Zoom.

This gives the Boards and Committees a chance to meet and organize prior to an Exec Council meeting.

From the Stewardship Committee



Ash Wednesday's wake-up call

"Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

With these words from Genesis 3:19 and the swipe of a dirty thumb across our foreheads, Ash Wednesday propels us into Lent with the proper context to understand our lives as stewards of all that God entrusts to us.

Ash Wednesday, which falls on Feb. 22, teaches us that we are mortals, after all. It crushes our ego, dispels our pretensions and drives us deep into God's mysteries: Why are we here? What are our lives all about? What's *really* important? Pray over these questions and profound insights emerge.

We are dust. Yes, but we are God's dust. Our body consists of trillions of atoms, each a speck of "dust" created by God billions of years ago. God put us together from the

stuff of the universe.

Therefore, we are quite literally "earthy" beings, made of the same material as air, water, soil and stone. As part of creation, we work to preserve, protect and sustain creation.

Therefore, we have reverence for our bodies, expressed through healthy living.

We are breath. We are "dust" into which God has "breathed the Holy breath of life" (Genesis 2:7).

Therefore, every breath we take is holy, reminding us of God's life force in us.

Therefore, we look to God to align our lives with God's holy realities of peace, love, joy, justice and truth.

Our time is brief. Our "dust" will return to the earth someday. We are mortal.

Therefore, every hour, every second is sacred. We spend our time wisely, carefully, prayerfully.

Therefore, we do not cling to possessions, knowing that we hold onto them only for a little while.

Therefore, we fill our lives with treasures of lasting value – friendships, trust, love, joy, service, generosity and harmony.

This Lent, spend time in prayer, with openness and honesty. See how God will turn your heart and mind, transforming you into the person you were created to be. Reflect each day on Ash Wednesday. "Remember you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

--Rob Blezard

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As a reminder...

We have the option of using our online giving app through the church's website: [Home | Central Congregational Church of Attleboro Falls \(myvanco.com\)](http://Home|CentralCongregationalChurchofAttleboroFalls(myvanco.com)) or by scanning the QR Code:



Please remember Central Congregational Church in your will and trusts.

From the Mission Committee

Effectively immediately our meetings will be held on the 4th Tuesday of the month. Our next meeting is scheduled at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, February 28, 2023.

In the Vestry & by 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

“May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father encourage you and strengthen you in every good thing you do and say.” 2 Thessalonians 2:16 (New Century Version)

February Mission – Ukraine Emergency and Turkey/Syria Earthquake Appeals Ukrainian Emergency Appeal

The United Church of Christ has collected almost \$3 million through an emergency appeal for the people of Ukraine. On Jan. 27, 2023, almost a year after the Russian invasion displaced 13 million, church executives are traveling to the region to see what their needs are and how faith partners are responding using UCC gifts. The UCC delegation, led by Associate General Minister the Rev. Karen Georgia Thompson, will spend 14 days abroad. Much of that time will be with historic partners and churches in Hungary, Greece and the Transcarpathia region in southwest Ukraine. The group will also spend three days in Moldova as a partner of Church World Service. (UCC Report received February 2, 2023)



(Picture: Activities at the refugee point in Barabás, a small Hungarian village at the border of Ukraine. ACT Alliance member Hungarian Inter-church Aid offers food, drinks and hygiene items for people fleeing the Ukraine war. HIA photo, used with permission.)

Unfortunately, as the war continues and peace appears not to be near, the Mission Committee felt the need to provide additional financial support through the UCC Emergency Appeal as the number of refugees and suffering of those remaining in the country increases daily. To gain more insight regarding the impact on the Ukrainian people and

how they are dealing with the war and its impact on their daily lives we encourage you to take time to listen to the videos below. Use the link below or type in the link address on your computer to access.

The *NFL 360 documentary* is focused upon three Ukrainian men, and their families.

These men who play in the Ukrainian football league responded to the call for soldiers to fight the war – “Who if not Us”.

You’ll see and hear interviews with these men from their battle locations as well as meet their wives and children. The video is 50 minutes long and was originally shown on the NFL Network in December. A direct link is below. However, you can also type in your search bar **NFL 360: Who If Not US** to find the video.

[NFL 360: WHO IF NOT US | Ukrainian League of American Football](https://www.nfl.com/news/nfl-360-who-if-not-us-ukrainian-league-of-american-football)

A seven-minute video is also available on the Scripture Union USA website. It’s an interview with a woman working for Scripture Union in Ukraine and her experience, impact on their ministry to the children, and reliance on God through prayer and His word. (If you can’t use the link below type in **ScriptureUnion.org**, then choose the home page and scroll down to the title ‘Prayer for Ukraine’. You’ll find the video below the title. Just click on it.)



Turkey and Syria Earthquake Appeal

The news continues to unfold about the devastating earthquake on the border of Turkey and Syria. The death toll continues to rise – numbers are pointing to over 11,000 – depending on the source. This is shattering news and adds to the challenges of the war in this area for over a decade.

Immediately after the earthquake, the UCC posted a prayer and short statement in response to this crisis. While the earthquake was on the border, the tremors were felt as far away as Lebanon and Cyprus. At this time, we are issuing an appeal to help recovery efforts in Turkey and Syria. It is hard to tell what other areas are affected or

the extent of the damage from this seismic event.

Amid this current uncertainty, you can be certain that with your financial support the United Church of Christ will be there helping those in need. Give generously. Your generous financial support will be used by our partners in the areas of greatest need, for relief and long-term recovery. (Released 2/7/2023 by Kent Siladi, UCC Director of Philanthropy)

When giving to our February Mission please be sure to note “Emergency Appeal Ukraine/Turkey” in the memo line on your check.

UPDATES & OUTCOMES

January Mission – Give the Gift of Warmth

There is still time to contribute to the Massachusetts Good Neighbor Energy Fund. Financial assistance is available to any Massachusetts resident who, because of temporary financial difficulty, cannot meet a month’s energy expense and is not eligible for state or federal emergency assistance due to their income which must fall below 60% of the state’s median income level. To receive a grant from GNEF, income must fall between 60% and 80% of the state’s median income levels. **Such a household may qualify for up to \$500 in assistance.** Participating energy companies, like North Attleboro Electric Company, assist those in need and encourage their customers to contribute to the **Massachusetts Good Neighbor Energy Fund.**

When donating, please write GNEF on the memo line of your check. More info is available online at: <http://magoodneighbor.org>

Year-Round Missions

Keep supporting **Lenore’s Pantry** - Thanks for your frequent donations. Drop off your food donations by placing in bins provided in the CE building or the Vestry. Direct drop off of food donations at North Attleboro Town Hall, Lower Level, Board of Health, is available weekdays. Donation by check to the church please write Lenore’s Pantry on the memo line.

Our **Shriner’s Hospital** Aluminum Tab Collection continues. Join our regular contributors by saving the tabs from beverage cans and dropping them into the collection containers located in the vestry, found on the table under the Mission bulletin board, or the container on the counter outside the church office in the CE building



February 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
<p>**Tickets go on Sale Feb 12th for the 13th Annual O'Congregational Corned Beef Dinner!**</p>			1 No Exec Council this month.	2 7pm Mission Committee—Vestry & Zoom. 7:00pm CHOIR/Sanctuary	3	4 9-11am Attleboro Cheer Breakfast/Hall
<p>5 Holy Communion 9:45am Sunday School/Hall 10:00am Worship In-Person & Zoom. Fellowship HR: Kathy Dolley 1-3pm Youth Group/CE Kitchen</p>	<p>6 7:00PM PARENT MEETING Daggett Lounge</p>	<p>7 TRIAD DEADLINE 7pm CE Committee -Vestry & Zoom</p>	<p>8 12noon Women's Christian Fellowship Luncheon. <i>Location—TBA</i></p>	<p>9 7:00pm CHOIR/Sanctuary</p>	10	11
<p>12 9:45am Sunday School/Hall 10:00am Worship In-Person & Zoom. Fellowship HR: Deacons BAKE SALE TODAY in Vestry during Fellowship Hr.</p>	13	<p>14 VALENTINE'S DAY 7:00pm Deacons—Vestry & Zoom</p>	15	<p>16 6:00pm FUTURE OF OUR CHURCH LEADERSHIP MEETING/ VESTRY & ZOOM 7:00pm CHOIR/Sanctuary</p>	17	18
<p>19 Transfiguration Sunday NO SUNDAY SCHOOL TODAY 10:00am Worship In-Person & Zoom. Fellowship HR: Seeking a Host—call church office if interested.</p>	<p>20 PRESIDENTS' DAY</p>	<p>21 TRIAD DEADLINE 7:00pm Trustees—Vestry & Zoom</p>	<p>22 ASH WEDNESDAY—LENT BEGINS 7pm Ashes & Communion Service at Centenary UM Church Attleboro, MA</p>	<p>23 7:00pm CHOIR/Sanctuary</p>	24	25
<p>26 1st SUNDAY IN LENT 10:00am Worship In-Person & Zoom. Fellowship Hr: Mission</p>	27	28				<p>REVISED 02/14/2023</p>

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Services of: February 19 & 26, 2023

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PASTOR – *The Rev. Carole L. Baker*
ORGANIST/CHOIR DIRECTOR – *Dave Valerio*
SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT – *Heather Bonfilio*
SECRETARY – *Kathy Trowbridge*

Church Office Hours

Tuesday & Thursday - 8:30am—4:30pm