

TRIAD

God Church Family

Central Congregational Church, UCC

115 Commonwealth Avenue Attleboro Falls, MA 02763

Phone (508) 699-7700

E-Mail Address: centralucc@verizon.net

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



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

December 10, 2023
SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

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

Guest Preacher:

Rev. Dr. John Fisk,
Pastor Emeritus,

First Baptist Church—Attleboro

Fellowship Hour:

Wayne Nettnay for the Board of Deacons

**BUDGET MEETING TODAY FOLLOWING
WORSHIP/VESTRY**

December 5, 2023

Volume 53 Issue 23



December 17, 2023
THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

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

Guest Preacher:

Warna Reynders

Fellowship Hour:

Cheryl Peterson & Nancy Melendy for the
Women's Christian Fellowship

No Sunday School Today.
**Join us in worship for the annual
Sunday School Christmas Pageant.**

Insight - Future of Our Church Initiative

Soon members of the Leadership Team will begin the process of having brief interviews with selected community leaders as a means to better understand the changing landscape and existing or emerging needs in our surrounding communities. A list of individuals is being developed and appointments will be scheduled for short 30-minute interviews.

Two requests! First, think of an individual you personally know and have an association with at a local organization or agency, who you believe would be helpful to interview. Simply call or email the church office with the person's name and available contact information. Second, pray for the team members engaged in this process of community engagement. Pray that helpful insights will be received to guide future discussions identifying a new ministry we could do well and offer to our community.

Continue to pray for the Future of Our Church. Believe that new stories will be shared as our doors of refuge and friendship are entered by new people visiting with us. It is already happening! We are a caring and joyful people who benefit from an oasis experience as we gather together.

Church Prayer: Please God, let us be content for you to lead the way. Help us to be willing to live your plan each day. Keep us very close to you all through the coming week, and let our hearts be open wide to hear you when you speak. In Jesus' name. Amen.

If you haven't received a magnet of our church prayer, request one from the church office! We'll mail it to you! It's FREE!

NEW—Prayer Fellowship Group! ***From the Prayer Fellowship***

Monday's at 6:30 PM

Via Zoom (same as for worship) Only.

Everyone Welcomed!

Spoken or Silent Prayer!

Prayer focus upon: Future of Our Church, All Prayer Requests,

Any Concerns, Prayers of Celebration!

Send prayer requests to: Gil Reynders at

gjreynders@aol.com

Or text to 508-594-9619

Or you may send an email the church office

at centralucc@verizon.net

or call the church office at 508 699 7700 if you prefer.

Zoom Link—same as for worship
on Sundays—

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2148198082?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2148198082?pwd=b2krNFNOODRTQjVuWVRZSDJTVnc5dz09)
[pwd=b2krNFNOODRTQjVuWVRZSDJTVnc5dz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2148198082?pwd=b2krNFNOODRTQjVuWVRZSDJTVnc5dz09)

Meeting ID: 214 819 8082

Passcode: 1234 (if needed)

One tap mobile

Central Church Calendar

Tuesday, December 5th

No CE Meeting tonight.

Wednesday, December 6th

7:00pm TRI-MEETING—all Trustees, Exec Council Members and the Finance Committee meet in Vestry to review and finalize the Budget for 2024. Please send in your completed pledge card for 2024 if you have not yet done so.

Thursday, December 7th

7:00pm Choir/Sanctuary

Sunday, December 10th

SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

ADVENT READERS:

The Wilanson Family

9:45am Sunday School/Hall

10am Worship/Sanctuary & Zoom with Rev. Dr. John Fisk, Retired Baptist Minister.

Fellowship Hr: Deacon, Wayne Nettnay

1:30pm Youth & Family Christmas Event/Vestry

Monday, December 11th

6:30pm—7:30pm Prayer Fellowship meets via Zoom (only).

Tuesday, December 12th

No Deacon meeting this month.

Thursday, December 14th

No Memorial Gifts Meeting this month.

7:00pm Choir Rehearsal/Sanctuary

Sunday, December 17th

No Sunday School today. Join us during the 10am worship service for the annual Sunday School Christmas Pageant/Sanctuary.

ADVENT READERS:

Sharilyn & Charlie Hepburn

10:00am Worship/Sanctuary & Zoom

Fellowship Hr: Cheryl Peterson & Nancy Melendy for the Women's Christian Fellowship

Monday, December 18th

6:30pm—7:30pm Prayer Fellowship meets

via Zoom (only).

Tuesday, December 19th

No Trustee meeting Tonight.

Thursday, December 21st

7:00pm Choir Rehearsal/Sanctuary

Sunday, December 24th

No Sunday School Today

ADVENT READERS:

Hayley Boss with Thomas, David and Karen

10am Worship/Sanctuary & Zoom

Fellowship Hr: Kiley Macie for the Mission Committee

6:00pm Christmas Eve Worship in the Sanctuary & Zoom with Communion, Candlelight and the Choir.

CHRISTMAS EVE READERS:

Peter and Beverley Drayton

Monday, December 25th

Merry Christmas!

No Prayer Fellowship Tonight.

Our Parish Register

At Home, Hospitalized or residing in Nursing Home Care...

Please call or send an email to the church office if you wish to have your name or another person's name added to this prayer list.

In a Rehab Facility...

Rev Carole ...

All American Asstd Living

30 Ledgeview Way

Wrentham, MA 02093

ATTENTION: Rev Carole Baker

TRIAD DEADLINES

to submit information:

Tuesdays—

December 12 & 26

January 9 & 23, 2024



December Birthdays

01 Karen Burt	12 Phoebe Jones	19 Andrew Goss	24 Charlie Hepburn
01 Carl Barry	12 MaryLou Renner	19 Kyle Will	26 Ben Morse
07 Carmen Lamoureux	13 Thomas Silva	20 Stan Lockavitch	26 Nancy Shaw
08 MaryBeth Rubyck	16 Jessica MacLeod	22 Loretta Lomov	30 Danielle Pond
10 Laura Robinson	16 Tyson Bolles	23 Hannah Fish	31 Phil McCally
11 Grace Booker	18 Chris Sanders	23 Megan Spooner	

REMINDER...

Please remember to call the Church Office when a family member, church member or even when you, yourself are ill or hospitalized, or are in need of prayer.

If you cannot make the call yourself, please ask a family member to call us.

**We won't know
if you don't call us!**

We want to keep you in our prayers in your time of need.

BEGINNING MARCH 19, 2023 NEW ZOOM LINK

To join us in Worship and to join in your church meetings—
no waiting to be admitted:

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2148198082?pwd=b2krNFNOODRTQjVuWVRZSDJTVnc5dz09)

[j/2148198082?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2148198082?pwd=b2krNFNOODRTQjVuWVRZSDJTVnc5dz09)

[pwd=b2krNFNOODRTQjVuWVRZSD](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2148198082?pwd=b2krNFNOODRTQjVuWVRZSDJTVnc5dz09)

[JTVnc5dz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2148198082?pwd=b2krNFNOODRTQjVuWVRZSDJTVnc5dz09)

Meeting ID: 214 819 8082

Passcode: 1234

One tap mobile

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Committee Corner

From the Board of Deacons

Our next meeting will be held on
Tuesday, January 9, 2024
at 7:00pm Vestry & Zoom.

Summer Worship will be held on Sunday mornings at **10:00am** in person in the Sanctuary and online by Zoom.

Elevator Operators Wanted

We are seeking people willing to be trained on operating the elevator in the Sanctuary on Sunday mornings and possibly weekdays for funerals (if you're available for this).

If interested, please contact Wayne Nettay, Chairman, Board of Deacons, at wnettay@gmail.com or 508 695 6000 for more information.

Tech Team Members Wanted

We are seeking a few more people who are willing to learn how to operate Zoom online so that anyone can join us in worship on Sunday mornings from their laptop or computer. Training will be provided. This is a good Volunteer opportunity for High School Teens needing Community Service Hours!

Please contact Rich Goss at richgoss58@gmail.com or 508 243 8330 for more information.

From the Board of Trustees

Our next meeting will be held on
Wednesday, December 6th
at 7:00pm in the Vestry & Zoom.

From the Christian Education Committee

Our next meeting will be held on
Tuesday, January 2, 2024
at 7:00pm in the Vestry & Zoom.

So much is happening with the children and youth of the church...

CCC Kids' Care Mission Project

for December is gift cards for Lenore's Pantry. Lenore's Pantry is unable to store food items but the need for food for families is still great. We are asking that small amount gift cards be given for either Stop and Shop or Shaw's. Please put the card in an envelope and seal it. Thanks for helping to make someone else's a merrier Christmas.

YOUTH GROUP - The next Youth Group meeting will be held on Sunday, **December 10th** 1:30 – 3:00 pm in the Vestry. Youth Group members and their families will join together for a Christmas gathering of fun, food and memory making. It might even get a little messy". **Let Sharilyn know if you plan to attend.** We want to make sure to have enough materials and food!

Christmas is coming! The first Sunday in December (the 3rd) is the Sunday School special Christmas Event, *The Miracle of JESUS!* This year we are inviting the parents to join their children in walking through Old Bethlehem as they experience the "updated" streets and shoppes of Jesus' time, and hear the story of His amazing birth.

December 10th we will rehearse the pageant during Sunday School time and will do a walk through following the service in the sanctuary.

December 17th is our "big day". It's the day of the pageant! **Please let Sharilyn know as soon as possible if your child (ren) will be participating.**

Sunday school will start up after the holidays on Sunday, January 7th!

If you have any questions, please email cccafsundayschool@gmail.com.

From the Memorial Gifts Committee

Our next meeting will be held on
Thursday, January 11, 2024
at 6:00pm in the Vestry & Zoom.

From the Executive Council

Our next meeting will be the **Annual TRI-MEETING** held on **Wednesday, December 6th, along with the Finance Committee and the Board of Trustees** at 7:00pm in the Vestry & Zoom.

From the Stewardship Committee **Rediscover Advent for a Holy Christmas**

In accordance with Jesus' promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home. Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish. 2 Peter 3:13

With fighting in Israel and Ukraine, political gridlock in the U.S., worsening climate change around the world, and other deep problems, 2023 is ending on a sad note for humanity.

That's a good reason to rediscover Advent this year. Lost amid the nonstop commercialism of Christmas, Advent is the church's traditional season of careful preparation and waiting – two things our instant, "have-it-now" culture abhors.

If we don't prepare our hearts and minds for the miracle of Jesus – Emmanuel, God with us – how will Christmas be anything more than just another secular shopping season? How can we expect the arrival of Christ to give us strength, courage, insight and wisdom to deal with these troubled times? Embracing Advent helps us to be good stewards of the Christmas season by reminding us that it's not about Santa Clause or shopping or parties, but by the miracle of God arriving in human form to save us from ourselves.

Here are some ways to rediscover Advent:

* Find – and follow – an Advent devotional.

* Increase your disciplines of prayer, scripture reading, and worship.

* As much as possible, hold off celebrating Christmas until December 25.

* Remember we need Christ to live fully as God intended.

Advent prepares us to receive Jesus with a full and joyful heart, to live in the abundance Jesus promises.

--Rob Blezard

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Used by permission. Pastor Blezard serves part-time as web editor for the Stewardship of Life Institute and full-time as pastor of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Aberdeen, MD.

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 | Central Congregational Church of Attleboro Falls (myvanco.com))

From the Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee has begun their work for the 2024 calendar year. If you are interested in lending a hand to serve your church, please contact—**Keith Darling, Judy Holland, Kathy Dolley, Martha McHatton or Kathy Trowbridge**—to see which positions are open, and to learn more about the work the Boards and Committees do for the Church.

There are also many things that need doing for the church where you would not be elected but can jump in to lend a hand as needed. It takes many hands to do the work of the Church to keep our church functioning at a high level of success and faithfulness. Please consider your gifts and talents and jump in where you can. *Thank you!*

From the Mission Committee
From the Mission Committee

Our next regular meeting is scheduled at 7:00 PM on TUESDAY, January 23, 2024 in the Vestry and through Zoom. A short in-person tentative meeting is also scheduled for Sunday, January 7, 2024 after worship service in the vestry.

“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

“Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!” Luke 2:14 (English Standard Version)

December Mission – The Christmas Fund
– “Grace upon Grace” John 1:16

The **Christmas Fund for the Veterans of the Cross** is an annual UCC offering that expresses our thanks to retired and active UCC pastors, and lay church workers and their families facing financial need, providing direct assistance to supplement pensions, help with the cost of medical insurance, and funds to meet emergency needs. Christmas “Thank-you” gift checks are sent to our lower-income retirees each December. ***The offering received at our Christmas Eve Service will support The Christmas Fund.***

Your donation to this fund may also be mailed to the church office or by using our on

-line giving program through Vanco. If mailing a contribution to the church, please write ‘Christmas Fund’ on the memo line of your check.

UPDATES and OUTCOMES:

November Mission Project –

Christmas is For Kids

Our annual CHRISTMAS IS FOR KIDS (CIFK) ministry, supporting the program operated by the **Greater Attleboro Area Council for Children**, has once again been successfully completed on time! Thank you for your gift purchases fulfilling the ‘Santa’ requests of the six children we adopted to provide Christmas gifts. Thanks is also expressed to the CE Committee and our Sunday School children and their families who also provided new items like winter hats, scarves, gloves, a variety of toys and puzzles as well as school supplies for CIFK to use in their gift packages to other families in need. All gifts were delivered on November 30th!!!

Our International Sponsorship Programs for Children

Tibetan Refugee Self Help Center, Darjeeling, India

Pray for our ‘Godchild: Thupten Gyaltsen, Age 16 (DOB: 4/12/2006)

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

Pray for the people of Haiti and especially the children, parents, and staff of the St. Claire School which is a haven for over 125 children. Since public education is not a reality in Haiti, families must pay to send their children to school. The St. Claire School does not charge tuition. The generosity of their donors, like Central Congregational Church, allows the students the opportunity for education and food daily during the school year at no cost to their families.

The St. Claire School employs local teachers and administrators who are familiar with the people and culture of Jacmel. The Parisot Foundation’s mission is to support Jacmel through education of the children and opportunity for the community. It is important to the Foundation that independence is part of the school’s curriculum.

All building maintenance / repairs are completed by workers within the city. Presently, after several years of waiting, their vision to add a needed second floor to the school is underway! And the school is still in operation!

Anytime throughout the year please feel free to send a donation check payable to **Central Congregational Church** and add **“Haiti School”** in the memo line. Thank-you for supporting the children of Haiti.

Year-Round Missions

Lenore’s Pantry – At the present time, due to recent storms and flooding that occurred in the basement of town hall, the pantry is unable to receive donations. Renovations are underway but the completion date is projected to be the end of January. **Only monetary donations are being received at this time.** If you donate by check through the church, remember to write on the memo line - Lenore’s Pantry.

NOTE: We have been advised that if you have food donations, to take them to the Hockomock ‘Y’ located at 300 Elmwood Street in North Attleboro, until further notice.

Our **Shriner’s Hospital Aluminum Tab Collection continues.** We just delivered an amazing number of tabs that were received with smiles and much appreciation! If you’re not involved, 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.

December 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
REVISED 12/05/2024	NOTE: Budget Meeting Sunday, 12/10 Following Worship - Vestry				1	2 Sunday School event Set-up/Hall 10:00am Christmas Dinner— Food Prep/CE Kitchen
3 HOLY COMMUNION TODAY. 9:45am SUNDAY SCHOOL /Hall 10:00am Worship In-Person & Zoom. Fellowship Hr: Bob Ovoian 11:15am Set-up Christmas Dinner— HALL 4:30pm Doors open for the Christmas Dinner/Hall	4 6:30pm Prayer Fellowship/ Zoom Only	5 <i>(The Christian Ed Committee will meet next on January 2nd)</i>	6 7:00pm EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, TRUSTEES AND FINANCE COMMITTEE Meet in Vestry & by Zoom	7 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal /Sanctuary	8	9 All day Sunday School set-up/HALL 9am—5pm Vestry Rental Scrapbookers meet in Vestry
10 9:45am SUNDAY SCHOOL/ Hall 10:00am Worship In-Person & Zoom. Fellowship Hr: Wayne Nettnay 1:30pm Youth Group & Families meet /Vestry	11 6:30pm Prayer Fellowship/ Zoom Only	12 TRIAD DEADLINE <i>(Deacons will meet next on January 9th)</i>	13	14 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal /Sanctuary	15	16 PRIVATE EVENT Hall Rental 6-10pm AA Christmas Dance/HALL
17 10:00am Worship In-Person & Zoom. Sunday School pageant Today during worship—Join us! Fellowship Hr: Cheryl Peterson & Nancy Melendy	18 6:30pm Prayer Fellowship/ Zoom Only	19 <i>(Trustees will meet next on January 16th)</i>	20	21 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal /Sanctuary	22	23 PRIVATE EVENT Hall Rental 1-5pm Church of God Christmas Dinner and Party/Hall
24 NO SUNDAY SCHOOL TODAY 10:00am Worship In-Person & Zoom. Fellowship Hr: Kiley Macie for the Mission Committee CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP 6:00pm Candlelight, Choir and Communion—In-person & Zoom	25 CHRISTMAS DAY No Prayer Fellowship Gathering tonight	26 TRIAD DEADLINE <i>(Mission will meet next on January 23rd)</i>	27	28 No Choir Rehearsal Tonight & No Choir during worship on Dec 31st.	29	30
31 NO SUNDAY SCHOOL TODAY 10:00am Worship In-Person & Zoom. No Fellowship Hr.	Jan 1, 2024 NEW YEAR'S DAY Prayer Fellowship—TBD					

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

Services of: December 10 & 17, 2023

Central Congregational Church
115 Commonwealth Avenue
Attleboro Falls, MA 02763
Phone 508 699 7700

E-Mail Address: centralucc@verizon.net
Website: <https://www.attleborofallschurch.org>

PASTOR – *The Rev. Carole L. Baker*
MUSIC DIRECTOR – *Dave Valerio*
SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS—*Sharilyn Hepburn & Warna Reynders*
SECRETARY – *Kathy Trowbridge*

Church Office Hours

Tuesday & Thursday - 8:30am—4:30pm