

TRIAD God Church Family

Central Congregational Church, UCC

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

February 1, 2026

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany
THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Worship at **10:00am**
in-person/ Sanctuary & by Zoom
Sermon: "Blessed to Be"
Scripture: Matthew 5:1-12
Fellowship Hr: *Trustees - TBA*

9:45am Sunday School /Daggett Lounge

January 27, 2026

Volume 56 Issue 02



February 8, 2026

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

Worship at **10:00am**
in-person/ Sanctuary & by Zoom
Sermon: "Blessed Light"
Scripture: Matthew 5:13-20
Fellowship Hr:
Deacons, Cheryl Rogers and Judy Holland

9:45am Sunday School /Daggett Lounge

CONGREGATIONAL CONVERSATIONS FOR OUR LOCAL CHURCH PROFILE

Our Local Church Profile writing team has been quietly and persistently working all fall in the midst of the many events and activities in the life of our church. Their work continues in the New Year with a series of gatherings to seek the discernment and wisdom of our congregation to give shape and depth to the story that our profile will tell to potential candidates in our Search for a new Settled Pastor. In the weeks leading up to Lent we are scheduling a few meetings to focus on particular sections of the profile:

- **February 1st** Coffee Hour Conversation focused on our Neighbor ("Who Is Our Neighbor?"). This section of the profile explores the community around us: its dreams, challenges, demographics, and opportunities as well as our engagement with it.
- **February ?** We'll be looking for a weekend afternoon or evening when we can gather around a meal (pizza) to draw on the insights from the previous conversations as we discern God's future for our church and the kind of pastor we need to partner with us into that future.
- We'll also be exploring some possible focus groups (eg church school families) to get their insights and aspirations. This is some of our most essential interim time work and your presence and perspective is crucial to helping our church be healthy, faithful, effective and impactful into its future. We'll aim to have these sessions include ZOOM for those folks who enjoy warmer climes in our winter months.

Questions about these focus meetings? Please see Rev Don any Sunday after worship.

Pastor's Ponderings

The Sermon on the Mount

I don't know if you have ever had a chance to see the TV series "The Chosen". It is one more of many attempts to bring the Gospel and story of Jesus to life on screen. I believe they do a fairly solid job of portraying the teachings and character of Jesus. The Sermon on the Mount is featured as part of the series. And it shows Jesus wrestling, with Matthew's help, as he tries to synthesize his teachings into one succinct and powerful presentation.

The TV show does a decent job of capturing the message we find in the Gospel of Matthew. The Sermon on the Mount captures the heart of Jesus and the heart of his teachings. And the words can be challenging to us. Actually, that was the whole point. Jesus is trying to break us out of our mindsets to perceive a larger world and way of God's love; love that is both our hardest work and our deepest fulfillment.

Too often we read these words as comforting, and parts of the Beatitudes can come across that way. However, Jesus deeper message challenges us to model our lives on His.

We'll be exploring portions of this sermon as we bring the Epiphany Season to a close in the final weeks of February. You can find the whole Sermon on the Mount in Matthew 5-7.

Looking Ahead to Lent

It seems like Christmas was just yesterday. And I know if we blink it will be Easter. (And as yet another cold snap has me shivering, I am ready for the promise of warmth and rebirth). A colleague of mine recommended a book by Margaret Wheatley. It is entitled "PERSEVERANCE" Margaret Wheatley is a sociologist, historian, anthropologist and deeply appreciated speaker and author. She has particularly focused on how people and organizations can move faithfully through the challenges and opportunities of the era towards a healthier world.

An intro to this book offers: "Margaret Wheatley offers guidance to people everywhere for how to persevere through challenges in their personal lives, with their families, at their workplaces, in their communities, and in their efforts to make a better world.

Perseverance is a day-by-day decision not to give up. Wheatley does not offer the usual feel-good, rah-rah messages. Instead, she focuses on the situations, feelings, and challenges that can, over time, cause us to lose heart or lose our way. When we feel lost, overwhelmed, betrayed or exhausted, we need to know we have a choice for how we respond."

Margaret Wheatley bases the theme of her book on a teaching from the Hopi Native American Elders teachings. You can find this online in various forms. This is the one Wheatley uses:

From the Hopi Elders To my fellow swimmers,

There is a river flowing now very fast.

It is so great and swift

and there are those who will be afraid.

They will try to hold on

to the shore. They will feel that they are being torn apart and
will suffer greatly

Know that the river has its destination.

The elders say we must let go of the shore;

Push off into the middle of the river,

Keep our eyes open and our heads above water.

And I say,

See who is in there with you and celebrate.

At this time in history we are to take nothing personally.

Least of all, ourselves.

For the moment that we do,

our spiritual growth and journey comes to a halt.

The time of the lone wolf is over.

Gather yourselves.

Banish the word "struggle" from your attitude and vocabulary.

All that we do now must be done in a sacred manner and in celebration.

For We are the ones we have been waiting for.

I will be exploring insights from the chapters of this book as we seek God's Word and Wisdom through our worship themes and preaching this Lenten Season. You are welcome to pick up the book online or at a local bookstore if you want to delve more deeply into her insights. And, at her website, you can find more information and a link to a weekly emailing with excerpts from the book. Look for it here:

<https://margaretwheatley.com/books/perseverance/persevering-people-email-series/>

CENTRAL CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday, January 25th FAMILY SUNDAY

The Sunday School joins us for worship today.

10:00am Worship/Sanctuary & Zoom

Fellowship Hr: Sally Robinson/Mission Committee
151st ANNUAL MEETING will be held following
Worship Today/Vestry.

Monday, January 26th

6:30pm Prayer Group meets online by Zoom. Use the same Zoom link as you would for worship. All welcome to join at any time. Prayer Requests may be submitted by using the index cards found on the table in the narthex and in the Vestry. Look for the large Prayer Request Containers.

Tuesday, January 27th

7:00pm Mission Committee meets in Vestry & by Zoom.

Wednesday, January 28th

7:00pm CE Committee meets in Vestry & by Zoom'

Tuesday, January 29th

7:00pm Choir/Vestry.

Sunday, February 1st

9:45am Sunday School/Daggett Lounge

10:00am Worship/Sanctuary & Zoom

Fellowship Hr: Trustees - TBA

“Coffee Hour Conversations” with Rev Don. Coffee Hour Conversation focused on our Neighbor (“Who Is Our Neighbor?”). This section of the profile explores the community around us: its dreams, challenges, demographics, and opportunities as well as our engagement with it. **Please stay for the discussion during Fellowship Hr today/Vestry.**

Tuesday, February 3rd

TRIAD DEADLINE to submit news and information.

Wednesday, February 4th

7:00pm Executive Council/Vestry & Zoom

Thursday, February 5th

7:00pm Choir Rehearsal/Vestry

Sunday, February 8th

9:45am Sunday School/Daggett Lounge

10:00am Worship/Sanctuary & Zoom

Fellowship Hr: Cheryl Rogers and Judy Holland

Monday, February 9th

6:30pm Prayer Group meets by Zoom – only. All Welcome. Use the same link you would for worship.

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

Fellowship Hr: Pam Morse, Deacon Co-Chair

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 February Prayer List by 01/27/2026

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

TRIAD DEADLINES

to submit news and information:

Tuesdays, February 3 & 17 and March 3, 17 & 31

ZOOM LINK FOR WORSHIP

AND MEETINGS

AS OF 03/2023

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2148198082?pwd=b2krNFNOODRTQjVuWV>

RZSDJTVnc5dz09

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 Dave Valerio, Music Director

Choir Rehearsals for Grade 9 through Adult take place on Thursdays, at 7:00pm in the Vestry. All are welcome! No auditions – the only requirements are that you are willing to learn more about singing and want to have FUN! Come on over and check us out – and bring a friend! See Dave any Sunday for 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

Our next meeting will be held on
Wednesday, January 28th at 7pm /Vestry & Zoom
Back on Route 66: Our Road Trip Through the Books of the Bible

We're excited to be back on the road with our Route 66 adventure—journeying through all 66 books of the Bible together! Each Sunday morning at 9:45 a.m. in Daggett Lounge, our children gather for an engaging, age-appropriate exploration of Scripture designed to help them see the big story of God's love from Genesis to Revelation.

As we prepare lessons, activities, and materials each week, it's incredibly helpful to know when a child will be absent. Parents, please let Sharilyn or Warna know if your child will be unable to attend. Your communication supports our planning and ensures we're ready to welcome every traveler on the journey.

We're looking forward to another meaningful season on Route 66—full of discovery, connection, and joy.

From the Executive Council

Our next meeting will be held on
Wednesday, February 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: January 26th, February 9th & 23rd, March 9th & 23rd, April 13th & 27th, May 11th.
(Always second & fourth Monday’s)
Time: 6:30pm via ZOOM.

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

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.

From the Mission Committee

Our next meeting will be held on **Tuesday, January 27, 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

IMPORTANT NEWS FLASH!!!

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 am; 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. 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. If interested in knowing shift duties, Gil Reynders also has copies for review.

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; \$25 – a CWS Blanket and Hygiene Kit, offering warmth and essential supplies; \$60 – Family Bundle! Provides blankets and hygiene

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>

kits for the entire family, ensuring that they have what they need during challenging times. ***Let’s be the hands and feet of Christ in the world through your contributions. Last year the congregation donated \$1,176 for this mission project. The mission committee voted to designate the donation for only the Blankets. Let’s try to match the 2025 outcome.***

Write a payable to Central Congregational Church. Please be sure to note “CWS Blanket” in the memo section of your check.

Insight: “Church World Services (CWS) is a faith-based organization transforming communities around the globe through just and sustainable responses to hunger, poverty, displacement, and disaster. CWS Values include Justice – Pursue and advocate for a just world where the dignity and rights of all people are respected. Hope – Lead with faith and the conviction that our vision is within reach. Belonging – Create an inclusive world and organization where all people are welcome, respected and feel valued. Excellence – Deliver people-centered programs that are effective, impactful, and innovative. Collaborative – Achieve more together through a commitment to principled partnerships. Integrity – Be good stewards of all resources to advance the mission with transparency and accountability.” (Taken from CWS website.)

Church World Services was born in the wake of the devastation of World War II. Seventeen Christian denominations came together ‘to do in partnership what none of us could hope to do as well alone.’ (For more insight visit www.CWS.org)

UPDATES & OUTCOMES

‘THE HEARTBEAT INITIATIVE’

Allison Darling returned to Kisumu, Kenya between January 12-25, 2026 to oversee a Heartbeat Initiative CPR training event for 400 delegates. Her Dad, Keith, accompanied Allison to serve as a member of the training team.

Through her college work this year, **Allison Darling**, 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. The program not only builds individual skills, but it also strengthens the entire emergency response system. By empowering frontline responders, they are reducing time to first intervention, increasing survival rates, and fostering collaboration between community members and hospitals.

Allison, as founder of the Initiative, has been raising funds for this and future events. She presented the focus of the Initiative and goal of providing CPR training events to the Mission Committee in November. The Mission Committee was impressed with the overall project plan to achieve the first training event. On behalf of Central Congregational Church, we agreed to contribute a financial gift of \$1500 from our Board Designated Fund to help achieve a \$17,000 budget for this event. **Personal donations in the amount of \$180 have recently been received from church members and mailed to the fund. Contributions are still welcomed and gratefully received. Make your check payable to Central Congregational Church and add "Heartbeat Initiative" in the memo line.**

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 and the vision to establish CPR training in Kenya.

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 January 2024 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 and family information 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.**



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: Trustees – TBA “Coffee Hour Conversations” Gathering during Fellowship Hr Today/Vestry. PLEASE STAY!	02	03 TRIAD DEADLINE	04 7:00pm Exec Council /Vestry & Zoom	05	06	07
08 9:45am SUNDAY SCHOOL 10am Worship/ Sanct & Zoom Fellowship Hr: Deacons - Cheryl Rogers and Judy Holland	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 No SUNDAY SCHOOL Today. 10:00am Worship/Sanct & Zoom Fellowship Hr: Pam Morse	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 9:45am SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00am Worship/Sanct & Zoom Fellowship Hr: Mission Committee	23 6:30PM PRAYER GROUP/ ONLINE ONLY	24 7:00pm Mission Committee /Vestry & Zoom	25 7:00pm CE Committee /Vestry & Zoom	26 7:00pm CHOIR REHEARSAL/ VESTRY	27	28

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Services of: February 1 & 8, 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