

Our Vision—A beacon of God’s love radiating faith, hope, and joy... Everywhere!

The Flowers on the Altar are given by Matt and Angela Hughes in Memory of James Hughes on what would have been his 84th Birthday, February 23rd

The Flowers on the Altar are given by Betty Champeaux in celebration of Vern’s 93rd birthday today, February 25th.

Lenten Soup Suppers and Worship

Wednesday evening in-person soup suppers and worship led by one of our church family members will return this year, **beginning on Feb 21st**. The theme is "Giving It Up." The suppers will be held at 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall, followed by the ~ 30-minute service in the sanctuary at 7:00 pm.

A big thank you to Dan Ward for his message on February 21st.

The Worship leaders for the next 4 services are:

February 28 – “Giving Up Expectations” - Cheryl Ortoff;

March 6 – “Giving Up Living” - David Driscoll;

March 13 – “Giving Up Control” - Peter Smyton; and

March 20 – “Giving Up Superiority” - Christine Kelley

If you want to help provide **salad, bread, or dessert for one or more weeks**, please contact Betsey Driscoll, (betseylll@yahoo.com). We will also live-stream and record the service so people can watch it in real-time or later at home.

American Red Cross Blood Drive

Thank you all for giving blood during our Feb 24th Blood Drive.

You have continued to help with the national shortage!

Watch for more information about our next drive or call or email Cate Lehan or Robin Dye or the church office. Blessings, Outreach.

POTLUCK BIBLE TRIVIA NIGHT FUN! SATURDAY, MARCH 2ND 5:30 – 7:30 P.M.

The youth will be hosting a potluck trivia night for all.
Bring your favorite dish to share.
How well do you know the Bible?



Memorial and Reception Meal for Chuck Piper

We got word from Jean Piper that Chuck passed away at Kennedy Meadows on Saturday morning January 20th. His memorial will be held on **March 16th at 11 am** in our Sanctuary, with a reception in the Fellowship Hall at noon. His burial will be sometime this summer in Maine. Please check in with Betsey Driscoll to find out what you can help with. Please pray for Jean and the rest of the Piper family as they prepare to celebrate Chuck’s life.

Here is the link for Chuck’s Obituary:

<https://www.rivetfuneralhome.com/obituary/charles-piper-sr?>

Flower Chart open dates

Thank you all for providing flowers for the Altar. There are some open dates in the next few months - March 3rd and 10th, April 21st and 28th and May 5th. Please select any of these if you have special occasions to provide flowers. Thank you, Betsy.

Coffee Hour Help Needed

Many thanks to all who have helped with coffee hour in the past 6 months.

There is a new sign-up sheet out in fellowship hall. Please sign-up for goodies, set up of coffee and cleanup. Many hands make light work! From Deb Benson

Easter Flowers

If you wish to provide Flowers to enhance the beauty of our sanctuary during our Easter Services on March 31st, please complete a form from the welcome desk or the credenza near the greeters and **send or bring it to the church with your check**, or email the office by Monday, March 18th. You will be able to take yours home after 2nd service on Easter.



Pastel Tulips	\$14.00
White Double-Stemmed Lily	\$15.00
Blue Hyacinth	\$15.00

Please order as soon as possible to ensure your order can be fulfilled.

Change for Change



Change for Change continues to contribute to others. In the fall, our youth selected the Alzheimer's Association as a candidate. \$400 has been collected by change and will be donated. Our Adult ED team has selected the Alternative House in Lowell as our next candidate. Change matters. God is Good. From Kim – Chair of Adult Ed “Adult Ed would like the next Change for Change designation to go to Alternative House in Lowell, a domestic violence shelter.” <https://www.alternative-house.org/>

Early Bird Bible Application

Early Bird begins a Lenten study, "Were You There." It is a look at some of the events leading up to the crucifixion of Jesus Christ and seeing if and how we might see ourselves there. We will also look at some of the Christian traditions associated with Lent. We will begin with a look back to Ash Wednesday. Join in the discussion on Tuesday morning at ten o'clock.

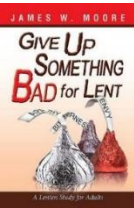
Adult Ed Sunday Class



February 25: Our discussion on the impact Alzheimer’s disease and dementia has on our congregation and loved ones concludes today. Pastor Bob has recommended *Ministry with the Forgotten* by Kenneth L Carder as a resource. We invite you to read and join the discussion, led by Debbie Smyton, on Sunday mornings at 9:45 in the Concord Room or via Zoom.

Each Sunday in March we will gather to explore the Wednesday Lenten Reflection topic together. This is a chance to share your thoughts and hear from each other. Get some coffee and join us in the Concord Room at 9:45!

Thursday Morning Bible Study- LENT



10:00 AM Thursdays, February 22 to March 21 join us for “Give Up Something Bad for Lent” by James W. Moore. Imagine giving up envy, jealousy, self-pity, apathy, procrastination, gossip, resentment, or negative thinking. How would that change your life? Pick up this easy read and find encouragement and understanding from friends while we take on the challenge of walking this out.

Vote for Veggies!

It’s primary season and the Garden Club is holding an election! A multitude of vegetables are running for positions in our garden for the 2024 season. All the candidates on our Green Party ballot have been nominated based on their campaign promises of cold hardiness and nutrition for all. But it’s a crowded field. The veggie hopefuls must have broad appeal among the electorate to win a spot this term. Who will be planted, Leafy Lettuce or Curly Kale? It’s up to you! Grab a ballot in the foyer or the fellowship hall after each worship service on February 25 or March 3. Everyone is eligible to cast a vote! Election results will be posted in the bulletin after the polls have closed.

Ken Teal and Elaine and Garth Brown will be singing in this concert and would like to invite you to attend.

Central Congregational Church, UCC
presents

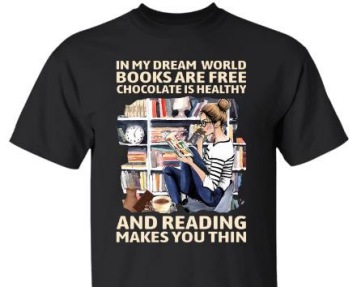
A Joyful Alleluia!

An Easter Concert
featuring
Katrina Holden-Buckley, soprano
Tudor Dornescu, violinist
Joseph Chapman, trumpeter
Tudor Bota, pianist & director
also featuring
CCC Concert Choir, Bell Choir, Children’s Choir &
SonLight Band

Sunday, March 24, 2024
3:00 PM

Central Congregational Church
1 Worthen St, Chelmsford, MA
978-256-5931
www.cccchelmsford.org
Freewill Offering

Book Club in the Concord Room and on Zoom



Here are the upcoming book picks for February, March and April. If you haven't yet picked, think of your pick and let Deb know

Tuesday, February 27th Remarkably Bright Creatures by Shelby Van Pelt (Liz's pick)
Tuesday, March 26, Mad Honey by Jodi Picoult (Robin's pick)

Tuesday, April 30th, The Woman with the Cure by Lynn Cullen (Ken's Pick)

Come and Hear About Habitat for Humanity on March 10, during coffee hour

Habitat for Humanity will be here during coffee hour on March 10, 2024 (9:30-10:30). They will be staffing a table to provide us with ongoing progress of their important work. In addition, they have their annual Gala scheduled for April 5, 2024. At this event, one of the silent auction items will be the beautiful quilt made of handprints by all who attended the 2023 Habitat themed VBS. They love the quilt and feel it will be one of the best items in the auction. Thank you to everyone who had a part in this wonderful work. If anyone wishes to attend the Gala the registration information is listed below.

DREAM BUILDERS

You're invited!

Habitat for Humanity of Greater Lowell is inviting you to celebrate its 17th annual Dream Builders Gala to support builds in Bedford, Billerica, Dracut, and Westford.

Join us for food, entertainment, and a live auction!

For tickets and opportunities for your org to sponsor Habitat, please visit lowellhabitat.ejoinme.org/2024

April 5, 2024

6 PM

UTEC Event Ctr
35 Warren St
Lowell