



WORSHIP AND PROGRAMS:

Regular Events

- Worship and Sunday School:
Sundays, 9:55AM
- Adult Bells: Wednesdays, 8:15PM
(starting Sept. 12th)
- Adult Choir: Wednesdays, 6:45PM
(starting Sept. 12th)
- Bible Study: Wednesdays, 10AM
- Craft Group: Tuesdays, 9:30AM
- Fiber Fellowship:
2nd & 4th Tuesday, 7PM
- Junior Ringers and Youth Choir:
Sundays, 11:15AM
- Prayer Group: Starting Again Soon
- Quilt Guild: 3rd Tuesday, 1PM
- Wednesday Dinner: Wednesdays,
6PM
- Young at Heart: 2nd Wednesday,
noon (September 12th), next month
October 3rd



Board Meetings

- Christian Education: Sept. 2,
11:30AM
- Council: Sept. 20, 7PM
- Deacons: Sept. 6, 7PM
- Finance & Property: Sept. 13, 7PM
- Green Team: TBD
- Missions: Sept. 10, 7:30PM
- Music: TBD
- Organ Completion Committee:
Sept. 14, 11:30AM
- Vitality: Sept. 6, 7PM

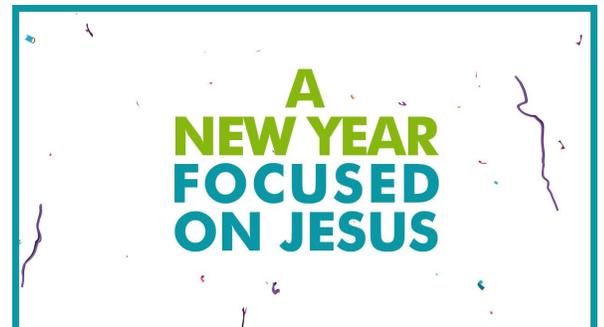
PASTOR'S PAGE

We are about to launch into a great new experiment: the year of all-church themes. Each month we will take a particular focus, in worship, in Sunday School, at bible study, at Wednesday dinners, and at home. For September, the focus is on what Jesus taught about inclusion and covenant – so we have topics about belonging, welcoming the stranger, opening the table, and building alliances. Future topics include key teachings of Jesus – a focus on forgiveness, on caring, on the light coming to the world, on justice, and more. We are creating our own curriculum, pulling from the best and most creative activities. Expect a lot of BIG projects and engagement. Consider teaching for a month on the topic that makes your heart sing (or that you want to spend some time with yourself).

This is not a year to miss, and it is especially not a year for your children to miss. Please consider making a commitment to super-regular attendance. It makes a big difference in the energy, both in the sanctuary and in the classrooms. Every day that you are present makes it possible for us to sing the hymns more fully, to form more questions and conversations, and to bring these key teachings of Jesus into our weeks. Regular and frequent input from credible sources change behaviors – so excellent attendance will change your life. Your life is already changed? Fabulous! Now you can be a support net for someone who comes to us world weary, looking for hope and vision for their life. We never know what Sunday will be the day that someone walks in who really needs to be with people praying. Our presence matters.

There is a lot planned for the fall, and your presence, energy, and help matters more than you can know. Hope to see you week after week after week. Gold stars will be given for your nametag.

Rev. Patricia





Notes from Murray!

Another year is almost upon us! Very exciting! Right now, I am listening to thirty kids sing Jesus Loves Me. They are here for VBS and it is a very nice group of kiddos! A few things to remember as we begin our new year in September:

Adult Choir rehearsals begin on September 12th. As was announced over the summer, we will be starting our rehearsal earlier: 6:45pm and will be finished by 8:15pm. We are just trying this out to see how it feels, as several have asked for an earlier time.

There will be sign-ups for the Music Program at Rally Day. We have several opportunities for everyone to take part in and hope that everyone will find a home in one or more of the ensembles. Music is one of God's greatest gifts to us and can be enjoyed by seasoned performers as well as those new to it. Our groups are:

The **Senior Choir** rehearses Wednesdays at 6:45pm to 8:15pm and is always open to new singers! This well-balanced ensemble is made up of over 20 dedicated singers who sing every Sunday. The music ranges from gospel arrangements to classical anthems. We have a fun time worshiping through music.

The **Youth Choir** is for children ages 5-10. Lisa Sparling leads this wonderful ensemble. It meets Sundays directly after morning service from 11:15 till 11:45am.

The **Junior Ringers** (fifth grade and up) meet Sundays directly after morning service from 11:15 till 11:45am.

"**5 by 5**" (handbells) is an advanced hand bell quintet that rehearses weekly and performs frequently throughout the church year.

Lenten Ringers rehearses during the Lenten season and performs once during Lent and usually performs on Easter Sunday. It is for beginners through experienced players who are looking for a short time commitment.

Morning Chimes is a group that has been silent for a bit, but if you are interested in playing bells and can rehearse during a weekday morning, we only need six people to play and have a great time!

Additionally, Christ Church sponsors **WORLD VOICES**, an intensive youth program that focuses on music, art, and leadership in a multi-cultural and multi-faith context. WORLD VOICES meets Wednesday afternoons during the school year and has a week-long intensive program during February school vacation week.

Please keep an eye out for the ARTS Schedule as exciting concerts are being planned!

Sincerely,

Murray

WORLD VOICES will be starting up again with Weekly WOVOS on September 19th. We are delighted to welcome Sequoria Dickerson to the staff as Program Leader! You'll see Sequoria with the WOVOS girls at Wednesday dinners – or sign up for her plant-based cooking demonstrations (see notice elsewhere in the newsletter). World Voices is a ministry of our church to bring community youth together in a multi-faith, multi-cultural gathering for singing, art and leadership. If you know girls in 6-12 grade who would enjoy this program, please invite them to consider being a part of this very positive, musical organization.



CHRIST CHURCH PIPE ORGAN SERIES

Midday Music with Richard Hill: “Autumn Melodies”

Wednesday, September 19th from 12:15 – 1:00 pm. Free, open to the public. Dick may be joined by a surprise guest organist.

Halloween Concert: Phantom of the Opera, with Peter Krasinski, organist.



The classic Silent Film presented with pipe organ accompaniment on Friday October 26th at 7 pm.

Plan to include this performance as part of your Halloween fun this year. (Runtime about 90 minutes)

PETER EDWIN KRASINSKI is broadly recognized as a motivating consultant for the pipe organ community, and as a conductor, organist and music educator, whose imaginative and energetic performances elevate and inform audiences. Along with regular concert appearances he specializes in the art of live improvised silent film accompaniment, worldwide. He is the recipient of a number of prizes including the First Prize in Improvisation from the American Guild of Organists National Competition.

Tickets will be available in mid-September: \$15 adults, \$10 students and seniors, and children under 12, free. Complementary tickets for Christ Congregational Church members and friends will be available through Sunday, October 21st.

The Organ Completion Committee will also offer a **spaghetti supper** at 5:30 pm that evening. Price for the supper will be \$5 per person, with a maximum of \$20 per family. Proceeds from the supper and performance will benefit The Organ Fund. Mr. Krasinski, past Dean of the Boston chapter of the American Guild of Organists, currently serves as Organist at First Church of Christ, Scientist in Providence RI and is faculty member of St Paul's Choir School, Cambridge MA. He regularly presents master-classes in improvisation to the Harvard Organ Society. He holds both a Bachelor of Music Degree in Music Education and Organ Performance, and the Master of Sacred Music Degree from Boston University.

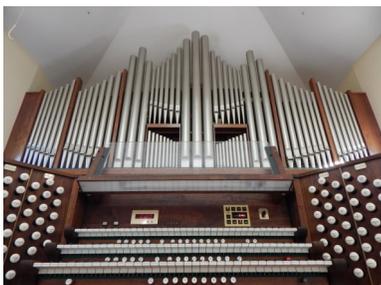


PROJECT PIPES: 620 by 2020

Our financial goal: \$160,000 to install 620 pipes to complete the Choir Division on the Austin Organ Opus #2759

As of July 31, 2018, we have received pledges and donations totaling \$35,784.35 = 138 pipes; 482 pipes remaining

**ORGAN COMPLETION COMMITTEE
CHRIST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UCC
BROCKTON, MA**



GREEN WORKSHOP

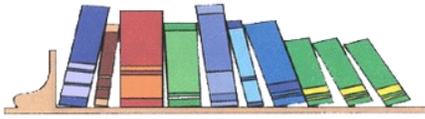
Saturday, September 29th

Mark your calendar for a workshop sponsored by MA Interfaith Power & Light, to be held at our church on Saturday morning, Sept 29th. MIPL is an organization that seeks to help faith communities respond to the challenge of climate change. This workshop would be of particular interest to the Green Team and Property and Finance, but anyone may attend. Please sign up through Deana in the church office.



**MASSACHUSETTS
INTERFAITH POWER & LIGHT**

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP



DIVERSITY READING GROUP will discuss the book **Just Mercy** by Bryan Stevenson of the Equal Justice Initiative. It is the story of his work with people who have been either falsely convicted or harshly sentenced. On Saturday, September 22nd at 10 am at the church. Coffee and coffee cake will be served – all welcome, whether you have read the book or not. Our book for October 27th will be **Transforming: The Bible and the Lives of Transgender Christians** by Austen Hartke. Please let Rev. Patricia know if you need a copy of either book.

New Members Class



NEW MEMBER CLASSES will be offered in October and November. We offer a 3 session opportunity to learn about the church, about Christian faith, and about each other. Our dates will be October 20th, 27th and November 10th, Saturdays at 9 am (running 90 minutes), and on Friday, November 16th there will be a new member dinner at the parsonage at 6pm. Mark your calendars AND please sign up at the information counter in the lower lobby.



A Note From Missions

WANTED: 2019 Calendars for Veterans at Brockton V.A. Hospital Please leave in the office and the Missions Committee will deliver them.

Stay Tuned

In November, there will be a ballot question to protect Massachusetts non-discrimination laws. Stay tuned for more information on this important effort to maintain fairness and equality. Voting yes on question 3 will preserve rights that are already in place. See Doug Anderson if you have questions or would like to help on this ballot issue.



Young at Heart

YOUNG AT HEART is a monthly lunch and program group that typically meets the first Wednesday of each month (except when there is a scheduling conflict). It is designed for anyone available during the day, typically retirees, although there is no lower or upper age limit – it is just a time for conversation, fellowship, a meal and a program. We will gather for the first time this fall on Wednesday, September 12th (note: this is NOT the first Wednesday in September!!!). Our topic will be decluttering, with special guest speakers who were part of the decluttering workshop last year. We'll hear what worked and what didn't. Soup and sandwich lunch at noon, program at 12:30 pm with dessert to follow. Mark your calendars for October 3rd, November 7th and December 5th, programs to be announced.



September Birthdays! Wishing all the best on your birthdays:

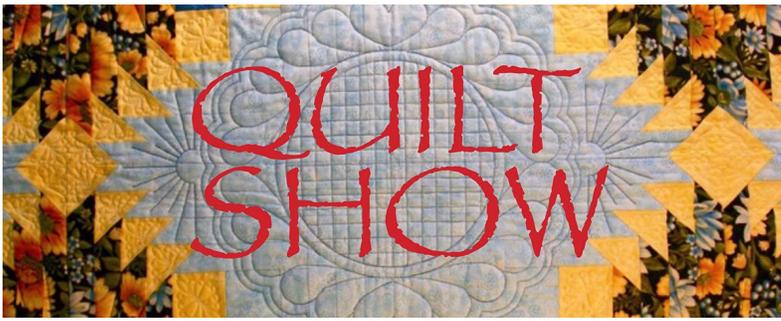
Carole Clark, Chris Merkle, Renee-Marie Matthews, Lynne Mixner, Donald Colby, Lorraine Wilcox, Patricia Emaneul, Diane Landerholm, Jean Purificato, Lisa Landerholm-Burke, Alisabeth Burke, Cathy Campbell, Ann-Marie Illsley, Jean Cappiello, Denise Walsh, Shirley Strangis, Seth Creedon, Donna Nixon, Lauren Fisher, Tavi Swisher-Rosa, Lily Radau, Jane MacIntyre

(listed in order of day of month from 1 to 30)



HOME COMMUNION is offered to those who cannot attend church each month from September through June. If you would like to receive home communion, please call the church office. If you would

like to go with a deacon (or if you are a former deacon and would like to take home communion out) please contact Jan Howard or Rev. Patricia.



Quilt show, Saturday, November 3, 2018

Again this year, in conjunction with the Church Fair, we will be having our annual Quilt Show! Please note this year's show is limited to quilts and quilted items only. We are looking for friends and family that would like to display their quilts and quilted items in the sanctuary on the day of the fair.

If you would like to participate in the show, you will need to submit your name, contact information and a brief description of each item to be included in the show booklet that will be available to guests attending the show. Your contact information will not be in the booklet.

The descriptions should be e-mailed to Kristine Blanchard at jackkrisb@yahoo.com no later than Oct. 20, 2018. This is to allow time for organizing and printing the booklet. Please put 2018 Quilt show in the subject line.

Quilts and quilted items can be checked in with me on Friday, Nov. 2, 2018 between the hours of 3:00 and 6:00 pm. If you are unable to come these hours please e-mail me and we can make other arrangements with you.

Each item must have your name and name of item attached to the back and each item in an individual bag that has your name and name of item clearly attached to the outside as well. We take great care in being responsible for your priceless items and take these steps to keep them safe and secure during their time with us.

Kristine Blanchard for the
Christ Congregational Church
Common Thread Quilt Guild

STEWARDSHIP SNIPPETS

(Not Snippy, Just Zippy!)

- * Joyful greeting to all! Hope everyone had an exciting and renewing summer. Summer life at church has been filled with Spirited worship, planning meetings, interesting events, and an amazing, invigorating Vacation Bible School. Lots of Time, Talent, and Treasure at work here! Now, we are gearing up to continue with an upbeat Autumn!
- * Our Christ Congregational Church Harvest Fair is Saturday, November 3rd! What!? It's way closer than we think! Beloved Community, it takes ALL of us to make this wonderful time of fellowship and frolic happen. We need everyone involved in preparation events, set-up, various activities on the day of the fair, and afterwards for cleanup and put-away. CCC has a positive reputation in Brockton and the surrounding area for having one of the best fairs around! How many fairgoers did you hear say this at last year's Harvest Fair!? Please be aware of requests and participation opportunities that will be made known in pre-worship announcements, the Sunday bulletin, future newsletters, and RP's Nearly Weekly Emails. We can do this together! And it will be great fun!
- * This year's Stewardship Pledge Experience will continue the powerful and moving idea/action of witnessing with an ever-growing number of Beloved Community members willing to witness. We are always open to new experiences prompted by movement of the Exuberant Holy Spirit!
- * Stewardship Committee is brainstorming and entertaining new Time, Talent, and Treasure ideas! We are working on a Beloved Community Art Show for Springtime! Please stay tuned! This is going to be joyful, exciting, and soul-moving!
- * Praise and thanks to God for the awesome, generous, grace-filled gifts of Time, Talent, and Treasure that God gives to us in this Beloved Community! May we put these many gifts to good use, building God's Kin-dom!



ANNUAL HARVEST FAIR

**GET YOUR
RED OF
STUFF**



We are now collecting items for the Fair! Attic treasures, consignment quality women's clothing and jewelry can be dropped off at the church. There is a large table by the white lattice in fellowship hall which is our drop off area. Please advise Bill Cockshaw, David Wilcox, Jo-Ellen Fisher and Katrina Clinton if you are dropping off items. If you have any questions, you can reach David by email at (darmok2@comcast.net) or call the church office and leave a message. And of course, mark your calendars for the Fair day on Saturday, November 3, 2018.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION YOUTH NEWS

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR SEPTEMBER – INCLUDING AT HOME DISCUSSION TOPICS:

Memory Verse: A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. (for littles, simplify to “Love One Another.”)

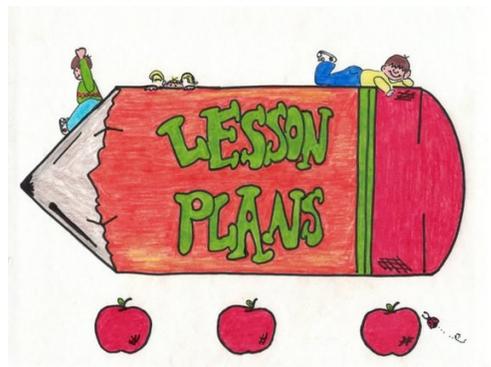
September 2nd – Will be an intergenerational worship service

September 9th – What’s in a Name. Home assignment: learn a story about your own name or other names in your family.

September 16th – Embracing Diversity. All ages will make life-size self-portraits to decorate our space. Home Assignment: Have a dinner conversation about diversity and God’s love for everyone.

September 23rd – Welcoming the Stranger. We’ll be talking about what makes a friend, and what Jesus demonstrated in forming community. Home assignment: Ask your parents or grandparents about a lifelong friend that they have. What made that friendship work?

September 30th – Building Allies. We’ll be talking about bullying and anti-bullying. Home Assignment: Where in the world do we see acts of kindness?



CONFIRMATION, a program for 9th and 10th graders, will begin with a family orientation, dinner and worship on Sunday, October 7th at 5pm. The meetings will generally be the first and third Sundays after church, including lunch. This year we have a new program, Re:Form – for sample sessions, go to the SparkHouse website. Schedules and topics will be sent to “known” confirmands before Labor Day. If you have not been in confirmation or for some reason don’t receive the packet in the mail, contact the church office.

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED for Sunday School. Maybe it has been a long time since you taught Sunday School and you’re feeling that “I could do it one more time” feeling. Consider taking one of the month’s themes and leading a class. Maybe you have a passion for inclusion and welcome and hope our children will understand its importance. Maybe you wonder about forgiveness. Maybe you are all about caring. Consider adding to that conversation by teaching for a month. There will be a shepherd with each age group – someone who has made a longer term commitment to connect with the kids (but not have to prepare the lesson). Lesson plans include supply lists, the flow of the lesson for the day, an opening exercise, questions for discussion, a project/drama/activity, and closing prayer. Contact Rev. Patricia for more encouragement or to sign up.



YOUTH GROUPS will have organizational and planning meetings on September 23rd. Middle School will meet from 2:00 - 3:30pm, Senior High will meet from 3:30-5:00 pm. Come with ideas for the year – we’ll have some kick-off games and snacks.

BE A SUPERHERO TO HOMELESS CHILDREN



VOLUNTEER TO PLAY

just two hours a week with
Horizons for Homeless Children



High need in
*Brockton, Stoughton, Attleboro,
Bourne, Hyannis, Middleboro & Taun-
ton*
Next training Saturday, 9/15/18
9:30-12:30 in Brockton



Supporting Children • Strengthening Families

The Massachusetts Department Of Children And Families needs foster care and adoptive placements.

See Rev. Patricia if you can help

LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR

No matter their mental health challenge.
No matter their immigration status.
No matter their sexual orientation.
No matter their economic status.
No matter their gender identity.
No matter their disability.
No matter their religion.
No matter their race.

Love your neighbor. No exceptions.

We also continue to need donations of new toys from our wish list to support the children in our programs. Visit our Amazon Wish List at www.horizonschildren.org/amazon. Toys can be shipped directly or dropped off in person at Horizons for Homeless Children, 25 Wareham St. Suite 2-23, Middleboro, MA 02346 and will support children in Brockton.



Two of our youth (Hayley Hixon and Eva Lomba) had the pleasure of going to Silver Lake Camp this summer. Their conference theme was full of high ropes, water front, crafts and more.

PLEASE JOIN US
FOR AN
INTRODUCTORY PLANT-BASED COOKING SERIES
WITH
COOKING DEMONSTRATIONS
SEQUORIA DICKERSON - FASCILITATOR

SUNDAYS
September 16, 23, 30 || 12 - 2:30 PM
&
October 7

THIS SERIES INCLUDES FOUR 2 1/2 HOUR WORKSHOPS

TOPICS TO INCLUDE:
INTRODUCTION TO THE 8 BIBLICAL HEALTH PRINCIPLES, RETHINKING THE FOOD PYRAMID: DEBUNKING COMMONLY ACCEPTED HEALTH MYTHS, THE ROLES OF THE 7 ESSENTIAL NUTRIENTS & THE LAWS OF FOOD COMBINATIONS.

COST:
\$50 (HALF AND FULL SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE - SEE REV. PATRICIA)

CHRIST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
1350 PLEASANT ST. BROCKTON, MA

REPORT OUT ON VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL!! WHAT A GREAT WEEK!

By the numbers: we had 46 kids (biggest in my tenure!), including our fabulous teen helpers (10). Of the 46, 26 were from our own church and 20 were from neighboring churches or were friends of those who came. Sixteen adults helped with the week – with many hands making light work, allowing adults to come for part of the day or only on designated days. It was amazing!

The children learned the stories of Jesus calling the disciples, Martha and Mary, Zacchaeus, communion, and the Great Commission. They crafted with clay, sand art, and drawing. They made sit-upons, decorated vests, tie dyed tee shirts, wove friendship bracelets (and wove friendship bracelets, and wove friendship bracelets), made rain sticks, and played with slime. They cooked, played games, and sang songs. They prayed and danced and made new friends. It was a great week.

Our connection with Brockton Interfaith brought many of the 20 non-CCC children to the camp – a great sign of building connection across church lines!!! Hooray!!

Thanks go to adult helpers: Katrina Clinton, Jo-Ellen Fisher, Loren Stott, Debbie Bowman, Cathy Campbell, Michelle Young-Ferguson, Ann-Marie Illsley, Lisa Sparling, Sylvia Berry, Tracey Hixon, Deana Colby, Bill Cockshaw, Keith Allen, Kelly Deyoe and Cindy Bowman.

And HUGE thanks to our teen helpers, many of whom came early in the morning and then went to marching band camp at noon and marched in the hot sun until 6pm, only to get up and return the next day. They lead lines, helped with the projects, and were great role models. The teen helpers were Audrey Jones (who also led a whole section “Cooking with Audrey”, Ronan Cords, Xander Cords, Angela Colby, Christopher Colby, Jessica Gross, David Gutierrez, Zeke Lemieux, Serenity Young-Ferguson, and Sawyer Young-Ferguson.

I'm sure I have forgotten someone. It was an incredible and wonderful week – thank you all for your effort to impart the faith to the next generation. It matters enormously. I don't know when I've had a more lovely week!!

Oh, and many thanks to the three anonymous donors who helped to fund the week!! You know who you are!

Rev. Patricia



Cokesbury's
ROLLING RIVER
ROLLING RIVER RAN
RAMPAGE
Experience the Ride of a Lifetime with God!



RALLY DAY is Sunday, September 9th. We will have special activities as well as a breakfast luncheon after church – please come and help us kick off our month about **INCLUSION**. Registration forms will be available. Parents and adults who work with the children need to have a CORI check – please see Doug Anderson, Rev. Patricia, or Deana in the church office for more information. CORI forms will also be available on September 9th.

Bring your backpacks to be blessed!



CONTACT US

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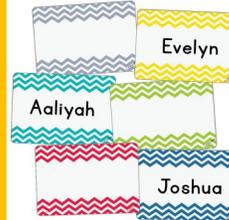
Office Hours:

Tuesday thru Friday:

9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Sunday Worship Time: 9:55 a.m.

Nametags



Do you need a nametag? Do you wish your nametag said "Dave" instead of "David"? Contact the church office with requests.



Christ Congregational Church, UCC

1350 Pleasant St.

Brockton, MA 02301-2840