



Christ Congregational Church, UCC  
 An Open and Affirming Congregation  
*Creating Beloved Community*

Volume 42 No. 7 & 8      Be The Church      July-August 2022

**WORSHIP AND PROGRAMS:**

Worship: Remotely and On-Site  
**Sundays, 9:55AM**  
 (Music starts at 9:50AM)

**Regular: Remotely**  
 Bible Study: Zoom  
 Wednesdays, 10AM

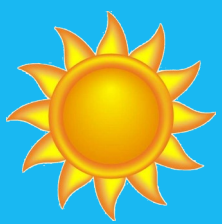
Craft Group: On-Site  
 Tuesdays, 9:30-11:30AM

Choir, Bells, Fiber Fellowship & Quilt Guild are on summer hiatus. All programs will start up in September



**Board Meetings: ZOOM**

Christian Ed: July 13, 6:30PM  
 Council: Aug. 18, 7PM  
 Deacons: Sept. 2, 7PM  
 Finance/Property: Sept. 8, 7PM  
 Media/Tech: Sept. 20, 7PM  
 Missions: TBD  
 Music: Sept. 22, 7PM  
 Vitality: July 3, 11:15AM



**PASTOR'S PAGE**

*"He will wipe away every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more. There will be no mourning, crying, or pain anymore, for the former things have passed away. Then the one seated on the throne said, 'Look! I am making all things new.' He also said, 'Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.' Then he said to me, 'All is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will freely give water from the life-giving spring.'" Revelation 21:4-6*



Recently the Wednesday morning bible study has undertaken a study on the whole book of Revelation. For the next several weeks they'll be going through Revelation, chapter by chapter, to try to understand the text and to reclaim some of its meaning. It's no secret that fundamentalist Christians interpret the book of Revelation in a very specific way, and that way can be scary and judgmental and divisive – and we all know that's not what Jesus' gospel is all about. As I've been thinking with the bible study about studying Revelation, and as I look at our landscape together (both right now, and in the short term) it's clear to me that we all might need a bit of Revelation thinking.

We find ourselves in a time of mixed emotions, both on a big scale and in small ways. Recently the Supreme Court effectively overturned Roe v. Wade, the supreme court decision that has protected a woman's constitutional right to choose for herself for the past 50 years. I'm sure all of us have friends on our social media timelines who are grieving, and we probably also know others who are celebrating. On July 17th we will welcome our friends from Stoughton for the first step in a long process to integrate our ministries together – and while we're overjoyed at the prospect of their joining us (and they too have expressed optimism, hope, and joy in this process) it's important to remember that they will be a collective group of folks grieving the closure of their former spiritual home. We could go through so many other scenarios, but you get the point – nothing is ever just ONE thing, but rather there's always nuance. If we're honest with ourselves, that nuance is hard.

That's why I think Revelation thinking is what we need to cling to now – because the driving message throughout the book is that God is making all things new, and that those who have felt marginalized or outcast will be invited in. What's more is that this invitation is for the whole of creation, so that peace and justice and grace can be realized for all of God's children. What's more is that we aren't alone, and God never expected us to navigate this life alone to begin with. The Alpha and the Omega is making all things new – and sometimes making new things can obscure the vision of what's coming because of the work at hand (think about all those home and yard projects that look AWFUL until they're complete) but just because the vision is hard to see doesn't diminish the need for participation in the new thing that's coming.

Blessings and Peace, Pastor Jeff

CHRIST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC

# UNDERCOVER WORSHIP DETECTIVES

Start Date: July 10th

THIS SUMMER, SUNDAY  
SCHOOLERS ARE GOING  
UNDERCOVER TO  
INVESTIGATE WORSHIP!



JULY  
3RD

AUGUST  
7TH

# SPLASH SUNDAYS

JOIN US AFTER CHURCH FOR WATER GAMES AND  
FUN IN THE SUN! BRING A BAG LUNCH AND A  
BATHING SUIT (OR CLOTHES YOU DON'T MIND  
GETTING WET). ALL AGES WELCOMED!

CHRIST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC



## Congratulations Graduates!

Christopher Colby - HS Diploma  
Southeastern Regional High School

Josiah Cora - HS Diploma  
Brockton High School

Kathryn Howard - Juris Doctor  
New England School of Law

Jilliann Larson - MA Integrated Marketing Comm.  
Stonehill College

Sawyer Young-Ferguson - HS Diploma  
Brockton High School



### Children & Youth Sunday

What a beautiful day it was! Heartfelt worship created and led by our young folks, bibles gifted, music from the youth choir, presenting scholarships to students, and recognizing our volunteers! All followed by lunch and cake and a wonderful puppet show!



# Congratulations Scholarship Recipients!

ANGELA COLBY  
LENDH FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP

JOSIAH CORA  
EN AMI SCHOLARSHIP

JAYCE EXELL  
NOAH GOODALE SCHOLARSHIP

JESSICA GROSS  
T. SCOTT MATHER SCHOLARSHIP

AUDREY JONES  
LESTER G. MYERS

LAUREN KAPTIMER  
IRVIN GILLETT SCHOLARSHIP

MURRAY KIDD  
WILLIAM J. MACMULLEN JR. SCHOLARSHIP

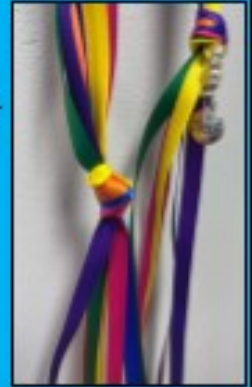
ABIGAIL MURPHY  
LENDH FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP

SAWYER YOUNG-FERGUSON  
URBAN FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP

SERENITY YOUNG-FERGUSON  
ARTHUR & PRISCILLA ILLSLEY, JR.

## Thank You Volunteers!

A huge and heartfelt thank you to all of the volunteers who made our spiritual formation programs possible this year! On Children & Youth Sunday, we gave volunteers a ribbon stole to honor their



contributions to this ministry of our church. If you were not able to be present that day, please see Pastor Ann-Marie for your stole!

## Bibles for the

### Sunday Schoolers!



For Children & Youth Sunday, the Board of CE revived a tradition and gifted bibles to all of our Sunday Schoolers. This gift was made possible by a donation to the Carey Bible Fund with the dedication: "To the Glory of God and in loving memory of all the Christian Educators who influenced our lives and helped to shape our faith journey." Thank you!

SAVE THE DATE

**RALLY DAY!**  **SEPT. 11TH**

CHRIST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC

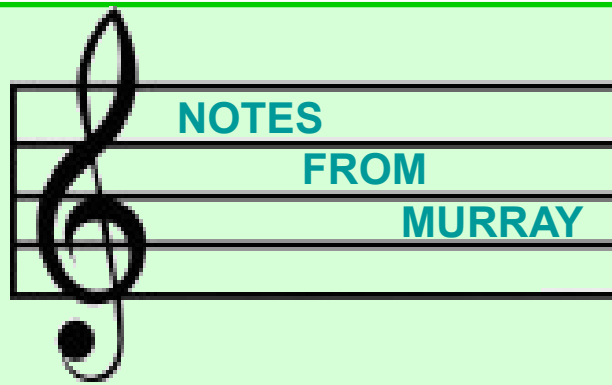
CHRIST CONGREGATIONAL  
CHURCH, UCC

**VACATION  
BIBLE  
SCHOOL**

**SAVE THE DATE!**

Week of 8/14

JOIN US FOR AN  
INTERGENERATIONAL, FUN-FILLED,  
EVENING VBS TO REMEMBER  
ALL AGES WELCOME!



Happy Summer!

MUSIC MINI RETREAT is September 10!! (save the date)  
For those of you who are involved or want to be involved in the music program this year, please save the date of September 10th. There will be a mini retreat for all involved; choir, handbells, youth music (Orff, choir, handbells and more!), and more! Here is the schedule:

- 10:00 Full group greeting and prayer
- 10:30 Break out groups; Youth and Adult
- 12:00 break for snacks/lunch (youth and instruments are done for the day)
- 12:45 Choir continues until 2:00pm

If you are considering joining in, please come and get your feet wet! We need you and want you with us! We have so many diverse musical possibilities, there is something for everyone! Also, plan on showing off our learning at Rally Sunday the next day!

We have a wonderful lineup of music for the summer services. Don't be shy about showing your appreciation for those who are sharing their gifts with us!

Murray at Oxford University! I will be traveling to England this summer to conduct with some amazing singers and educators. This is part of my second master's degree and is affiliated with Westminster Choir College. The program is from July 18 to 28 and I'll enjoy a few days in London at the tail end. I look forward to my time there with colleagues and learning more about music!

Have a great and relaxing summer! [Here is a little inspiration](#) for the warm weather!

Sincerely,  
Murray

### A NOTE FROM THE MODERATOR

A heartfelt *THANK YOU* to all who have served on committees in the past year, and to those who have volunteered to serve for the upcoming year. Your dedication to our Beloved Community keeps us active and relevant. Whether you have joined a committee for the first time, are staying on your current committee, moving to a new committee, or stepping back to rest for a time, *you are appreciated!*

On **July 17th** Council will sponsor an Ice Cream Social following Worship. This will be an opportunity to enjoy delicious treats, as well as hold a 'Meet and Greet' with members of the Stoughton First Congregational Church. Please join us as we celebrate gathering as a community of Fellowship, Faith and Friendship.

Sue Koza, Moderator



# FROM THE BOARD OF MUSIC

## Choir Celebration

The Board of Music hosted an Ice Cream Social for the choir on Wednesday, June 1. Thank you to all choir members, as well as Murray Kidd, Anton Faynberg, and Lisa Sparling, for a wonderful year of music in worship!

## Children's Day – June 19<sup>th</sup>



The Arts & Music Planning Circle was happy to partner with the Board of Christian Education to present a fun Puppet Show as part of our celebration of children and youth on Sunday, June 19<sup>th</sup>.

A good group stayed after worship to enjoy a light lunch and a performance "Judy Saves the Day" presented by the Puppet Showplace Theater of Brookline. Thanks to all who helped with set-up, food, serving and clean-up.



**SAVE THE DATE:** Family Concert on *October 2 at 1 pm.*  
***Peter and the Wolf***, with Nicole Marane, organist; Hope Vazquez, percussionist; and ***Special Guest Narrator, Matt Cunningham***, director of Choral Music at Brockton High School. Co-sponsored by Southeastern MA Chapter of the American Guild of Organists (AGO).

For Arts & Music, please speak to Donna Costa, Audrey Jones or Candy Savage with your suggestions for programs, offers to help, or email to [boardofmusic@brocktonucc.org](mailto:boardofmusic@brocktonucc.org).

Board of Music members: *Donna Costa, Henok Kaptimer, Leigh-Ann Larson, Luane Rich, Candy Savage and Murray Kidd (ex-officio).*

## Musical Meditation

With Anton Faynberg

Every Wednesday at 3:30 PM  
In the sanctuary at Christ Congregational Church

Come for a meditative musical service that further reflects upon our readings and themes from the previous Sunday.

For more information please contact the church office.

In an effort to extend and expand our liturgy, Anton will be offering a weekly meditative musical service on Wednesdays at 3:30 pm. This offering consists of improvised and prerecorded music with meditation on the Word. The texts are taken from the week's lectionary and the musical selections from the previous Sunday's service. Thus, we have an opportunity to engage more deeply with the Word of God and the Spirit's movement through music.



# Stewardship Thoughts ...

- Thanks to everyone who has paid their pledges for the first six month of 2022. We are so grateful for your generosity and commitment to our beloved community.
- Thanks to everyone who has given to the church this year so far in time or money.
- If you haven't pledged for 2022 – it is never too late. You can send an email to [finance@brocktonucc.org](mailto:finance@brocktonucc.org) with your pledge amount for the remainder of 2022.
- What could you do to be a faithful steward of your abundant resources?
- If you have pledge or stewardship questions for this year or next feel free to reach out to Pastor Jeff or anyone on the Stewardship Committee below.

Blessings from your Stewardship Committee,  
Debbie Bowman ([deb@act-cpa.com](mailto:deb@act-cpa.com)), Audrey Jones, Jillian Larson, and George Manoogian



The Missions Food Pantry is FULL. You are welcome to take what you want and maybe take something for a friend. Within the next few weeks we will clean it out and give it to the Salvation Army in Brockton. We do not want the food to get old.

Thank you everyone for your kind donations to help others!

We all do little acts of Missions every day. Think about them this summer and we'll share them in the Fall. Maybe your church can join in some of them.

George Manoogian, Missions Scribe

New Committee Members: Sandra Hill, Lauren Kaptimer, Beth McIntyre, Ricky Soncrant and Brian Young-Ferguson





### Wishing all the best on your Birthdays

#### July:

Reagan Lacourse, Sam Fisher, Christopher Colby, Kevin Weatherbee, Cecilia Creedon, Donna Costa, Donna Hefler, Tom Sampson, Alexander Owens, Deana Colby, Abby Morales, Penny Ackley, Abigail Murphy, Leo Larson, Holly Matisis, Nicholas Colby, Cody Cappiello, Chris Madden, Abby Quimby, Zachary Alden, Emily Swisher-Rosa, Brenda Wyss, Alan Bradford, Mike Camara, Jenn Alden, Audrey Simmons, Andrew Howard, Max Flanagan, Brad Mitchell

#### August:

Mark Deyoe, Kate Howard, Stephen Bennett, Jillian Haskell, Betsey Serjak, Arlene Gerrior, David Stuart, Ariella Bastia, Candy Savage, Lisa Sparling, Eddie Poole, John Hagberg, Anna Camara, Rich Brosky, Jenn Brosky, Karin Davis, Caple Rich, Ann Clark, Karl Koza, Jayden Quintero

*(listed in order of day of month from 1 to 31) listed in*



We pray for the families Glenna L. Paananen, Pat Murphy (friend of Patricia Illsley) and Christopher Betts (father of Cody Cappiello), may they rest in peace.

**Fun & Creative Indoor & Outdoor Activities for Kids Grades 2-6**

**KIDS SUMMER CAMP**

**JULY 5 - JULY 29 MONDAY-FRIDAY**

**at Rose Conservatory  
From 8:00am - 2:00pm  
1350 Pleasant Street Brockton**

**The Craft Group**

The craft group meets every **Tuesday from 9:30 - 11:30am.**

Please come join in on the fun and fellowship.

Would you like to lead a fun project? Please contact Carol Bradford or Lucille Berg.

**YOU'RE INVITED!**

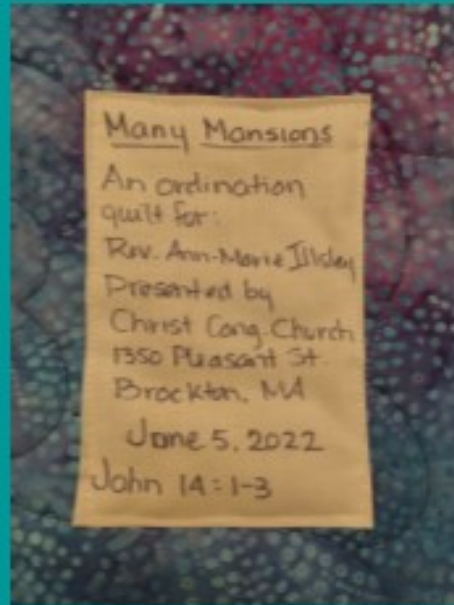
**TO:**

**Wednesday Bible Study**

10:00 AM each Wednesday  
On Zoom

For more details, or to get the Zoom link, contact:  
Pastor Jeff - [pastor@brocktonucc.org](mailto:pastor@brocktonucc.org)  
Alice Farnsworth - [grammy58@comcast.net](mailto:grammy58@comcast.net)

**CHRIST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, BROCKTON, MA



Above is a lovely quilt the group put together for Ann-Marie for her ordination. On the left is the top put together and on the right is after it had been quilted.



Keith Allen completed this elegant purple star quilt. This is the very first quilt he has ever made and it is spectacular. He gave it to his mom on her 85th birthday on June 23rd.





This quilt was Nelda Hayes' daughter Carolyn's baby quilt. Every single applique piece and trim were hand sewn.



The end of the year June meeting was delicious---a pot luck salad luncheon. There are no meetings in July and August. We will meet up again on Tuesday, September 20th from 1-3pm in the craft room. Enjoy the summer!



# ICE CREAM SOCIAL

July 17th, 2022 (after worship)

Join us as we get to know our friends from First Congregational UCC in Stoughton!



## CONTACT US

### CHRIST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC

1350 Pleasant Street  
Brockton, MA 02301-2840

Tel: 508-586-3022

Web: [brocktonucc.org](http://brocktonucc.org)

Email: [office@brocktonucc.org](mailto:office@brocktonucc.org)

Office Hours:

**Monday thru Thursday:**

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

Sunday Worship Time: 9:55 a.m.

Join us on July 17th after worship to welcome and get to know our friends from First Congregational UCC in Stoughton! We have recently entered into conversations with the Stoughton church to talk about how we might integrate our ministries together, and a key part of that process is not only welcoming them to our place of worship - but it also involves getting to know these siblings in Christ just as well as we know one another. We are asking all of our members to please make every effort to join us on this day to show our friends from Stoughton that we are with them through this journey.



Christ Congregational Church, UCC

1350 Pleasant St.

Brockton, MA 02301-2840