



WORSHIP AND PROGRAMS:

Worship: Remotely and On-Site
Sundays, 10:00AM

Regular Events:

Adult Choir:
Wednesdays, 6:45PM

Adult Hand Bells:
TBD

Afternoon Hand Bell Group
TBD

Bible Study: Zoom
Wednesdays, 10AM

Fiber Fellowship: Zoom
2nd Tuesday, 4PM

Prayer Shawl Ministry:
Wednesdays, 10AM

Quilt Guild:
3rd Tuesday, 1PM



Board Meetings: ZOOM

Christian Ed: Oct. 1, 7PM

Council: Oct. 19, 7PM

Deacons: Oct. 5, 7PM

Finance/Property: Oct. 12, 7PM

Media/Tech: TBD

Missions: Oct. 10, 7PM

Music: Oct. 26, 7PM

Vitality: Oct. 8, 11:15AM

PASTOR'S PAGE

Recently I attended a conference with the staff of the Southern New England Conference meant to welcome clergy who are new to our conference in the past three years. The whole day was transformative, but in particular we heard from the Executive Conference Minister for our conference – Rev. Darrell Goodwin. His whole keynote was about the “new thing” happening among our churches, the REVIVAL that’s taking place, and how people “out there” are looking for hope.



But before all that he started with singing – and he sang a simple meditation saying, “I will do a new thing, in you... Sayeth, the Lord.” As he sang it over and over again we all settled into the melody and the rhythm of it, and as he wrapped it up and we all opened our eyes ready to receive an inspiring message from our Executive Conference minister he simply said, “So often, when we ask God to do a new thing in us what we REALLY mean is that we want God to do a new thing in someone else.”

That’s because change and finding new ways to do things is hard. It takes sacrifice. It takes patience. It takes being uncomfortable. So often, throughout scripture, when God does a new thing there are growing pains and challenges and unexpected circumstances before anyone ever sees the glory of the new thing. Rev. Goodwin’s point was that we’re invited into the birth of new things with God, and we have to be willing to feel these things if we’re committed to it.

On Sunday as I watched our congregation try new things with an intergenerational worship service to celebrate World Communion Sunday I have to say I was proud to be part of this beloved community. Our sanctuary was filled with laughter, people were smiling, and I saw God’s children of all ages really worshipping together in ways that were accessible to everyone. I also saw plenty of people getting well outside of their own comfort zones – but I was reminded that this is what brings us closer together and closer to God.

As we continue to pick up steam into this fall (with the church fair one month away; Thanksgiving, Advent, and Christmas following close behind) I invite you to step outside of your comfort zone to see the kind of joy you can experience in beloved community when you do – because, unlike so many other places in our world, when you step out of your comfort zone in beloved community you will find others to laugh with you but never at you. We just have to leave room for God to do a new thing in each one of us.

Blessings and Peace,
Pastor Jeff



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWS

Happy Fall, Beloved Community.

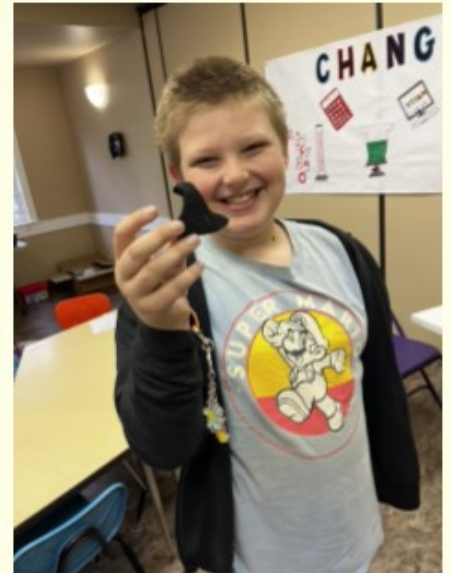
The transition of seasons is always a time that leaves me in awe of our Creator. The intricacies of how trees change and animals prepare for hibernation remind me that all things are wonderfully by a God who knows every cell, fiber, and need. Fall is by far and away the favorite season at Team Kardisco's house. We love opening our windows, lighting a candle, and cozying up with blankets and soup to cheer on Penn State and Green Bay Packers. We are drawn closer as the evenings get darker and spend time playing and reading together. It's a slower pace than summer, a time to refocus and set goals. I imagine God placed this moments of transition so that we as God's people are almost forced to stop a minute and recognize the world around us- whether that be leaf peeping, apple picking, or pumpkin carving. A minute to breathe in the goodness that God has to offer, like a warm hug.

We've transitioned into Sunday School and there have been some changes. We celebrate neurodiversity in our community. God wired our brains to think differently, which means we learn and experience things differently. So, Sunday School starts with a snack, story, and conversation. Then children are provided with centers that they may choose to play in- art, math, engineering, sensory play, science, gross motor activities are a few of the kinds of centers that will be used each week. This has opened up space for children to converse about their observations of who God is in their world and to ask and answer questions about church and faith. Church is a place where we should feel safe and welcomed, just as God made us. Invite the next door family to join us for a Sunday or a family at soccer practice. We'd love to meet them and learn with them at Sunday School.

Lastly, we look forward to welcoming children to our Trunk or Treat on Sunday, October 22 from 3-5pm. Thank you to those that have signed up and to those that will be participating. Invite your friends and family- you can grab flyers to share in the Narthex after church on Sundays.

My prayer this month is for families to breathe into the transition of autumn. I pray you take a moment to feel the cool breeze and hear it rustle the leaves. I pray that this month is filled with traditions and special memories. I pray that if this is not that season for you that you know you are loved and prayed for regularly.

In Peace,
Dani



Friendly reminder:

Please use the email ce@brocktonucc.org if you need to contact Dani Kardisco for any Christian Education needs. This email is checked regularly and you can expect a response within 24 hours. Thank you!



BASEBALL SUNDAY
2023



FROM THE BOARD OF MUSIC



Fall is here and the Board of Music has been very busy with lots of happenings.

The music search committee has been very busy over the summer, and has found us a new Music Director/Organist. We want to thank the search committee for all their hard work. On the board was Doug Anderson, chair, Alice Farnsworth, Bridgett Barrows Penn, Henok Kaptimer, John Baglolle, Luane Rich, and Pastor Jeff.

Our New Music Director/Organist:

Lets welcome Alex Green who comes to us from the United Church in Walpole, MA. He served and inspired two adult choirs (Handbells, and vocal) and the congregation. He has accompanied and directed choirs from the organ, piano and guitar and given instruction about the organ, its construction, and maintenance.

Alex is also the Music Director at the Brightview Senior Living in Canton and he is an Independent Music Therapist in Walpole. He is a singer-performer with the Copley Singers in Boston and a Leader/Performer with the Upbeat Drummers, African percussion group in Walpole.

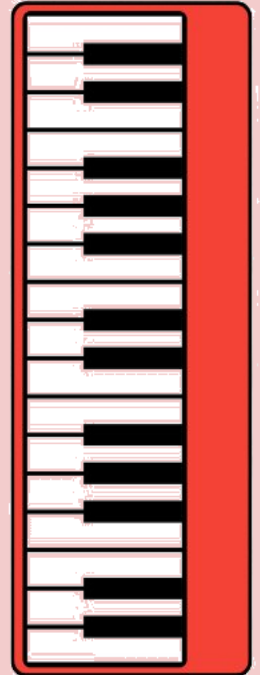
We will be having a welcoming cake this Sunday, October 8th at coffee hour, and we hope you all come and help us welcome Alex to our Beloved Community.

We look forward to all the new things Alex brings to us, and hope you will consider participating in some of the activities.

Choir resumes this **Wednesday night, October 4 at 6:45 PM**. If you have ever considered joining the choir this is a great time to do it, as we will all be learning new things together.

We also want to welcome our new Chair for the board, Emily Swisher Rosa. If you have any ideas, or concerns, pls talk to Emily or any board member with this. Changes and transitions always bring a vibrant collection of challenges and excitement as we consider how to hold onto traditions that are dear to us while celebrating new musical endeavors that will surely expand our repertoire and our minds.

~The fall is here, lets look forward to what is to come!



Midday Music is back this fall

Our Wednesday monthly midday program, presented by Arts & Music at Christ Church, resumes for the fall at 12:15 pm on October 11.

Performing on our Austin pipe organ will be Mary-Katherine Fletcher, church organist and recitalist from Dighton, MA. Thanks to support from local cultural councils and other sponsors, the programs are free. Donations are always welcome, and this year they will support Father Bill's & Mainspring. Our Missions Board already has a connection with this wonderful agency, through its meals program.

Father Bill's & MainSpring is a 501(c)(3) agency, whose mission is to end and prevent homelessness in Southern Massachusetts with programs that provide emergency and permanent housing, and to help people obtain skills, jobs, housing, and services. The agency helps people who are struggling with homelessness or who are at risk of homelessness, to achieve self-sufficiency.

Please come, invite a friend, and enjoy uplifting music and support local mission work at the same time.



And **SAVE THE DATE:** Greg Fernandes will return for another participatory Drum Circle on Wednesday, Nov. 15.

For further information, contact the Arts & Music Planning Circle at arts-music@brocktonucc.org.



We're 5 weeks away... Time for the Harvest Fair...

And You Can Help, Please!!

Saturday November 4th

We are looking for Donations - Confirming Helpers and Participants

✚ We Need Donations of Clean, Gently Used Items for Fair Areas of:

- Collectables
- Jewelry
- Clothing
- Attic Treasures

✚ Have You Signed Up for Food Preparation

- Possibilities for Frozen Take-Out
- Desserts
- Candy
- Luncheon contribution

✚ Gift Baskets for Purchase or Fall Fair Raffle

- Please donate a basket or themed components for a basket

✚ There are Still Opportunities for You to Volunteer

- Please Pitch in a day or two in October for a variety of preparation tasks
- Please Help during set up week October 29th through November 3rd
- Please Be there on Fair Day November 4th
- Please Help with Clean-up November 4th through November 8th
- Some of Each, Please

✚ **ALSO** Our Popular Calendar Raffle will be for January 2024 Draws after several recommendations that chances could be given as Holiday Gifts

So Gift Card Donations are appreciated in amounts between \$25 and \$50

Please Let Us Know What You Can Do - Call the Church 508.586.3022

Email Us: Fair@brocktonucc.org; Sheppo247@comcast.net; Darmok2@comcast.net; sjkoza84@gmail.com

Text Us: Sheppo 508.631.1999 David 617.590.1878 Sue 508.613.6574



SAVE THE DATE!

- a. Invite friends, family, neighbors!
- b. Sign up to decorate your trunk [HERE](#).
- c. Sign up to donate candy [HERE](#).
- d. Sign up to donate apple cider and/or munchkin donuts [HERE](#).
- e. Sign up to volunteer on the day of [HERE](#).
- f. COME, PARTICIPATE, and DELIGHT in some friendly, spooky fun on Sunday 10/22.

Questions? Email Dani at ce@brocktonucc.org



A heartfelt thank you...

On behalf of the Missions board and all those that benefit from the meals provided by our collaboration with Outdoor Church, we want to thank everyone who has donated funds, food and a commitment of time & talent to prepare, pack and distribute lunches in Cambridge. Thank you for helping this food related ministry continue!

For upcoming opportunities to support our local food ministry in collaboration with Mainspring house of Brockton, please contact Anita Keenan at keenans21@gmail.com

The next batch of casseroles need to be prepared and in the Brockton UCC kitchen freezer by Sunday, October 15th. Volunteers are welcome to serve on Wednesday, October 18th.

Interested in serving? Please connect with Anita Keenan by email (above) or text at 781-244-7742

Thank you,
Missions Board



Food Ministry



Wishing all the best on your Birthdays

Ariana Vergne, Paula Gair, Andrew Johnson, David Fairbanks, Emma Quesnel, Linda Alvilhiera, Richard Emanuel, Dan Ozelius, Lucas Flanagan, Bill Serjak, Deborah Edwards, Carol Ozelius, Brian Julio, Emily Dasey-Fisher, George Manoogian, Shelley Blanchard, Ashley Nelson, Janice Howard

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

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

Alice Farnsworth - grammy58@comcast.net



CHRIST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, BROCKTON, MA

FELLOWSHIP COFFEE HOUR VOLUNTEERS



SignUp
.com

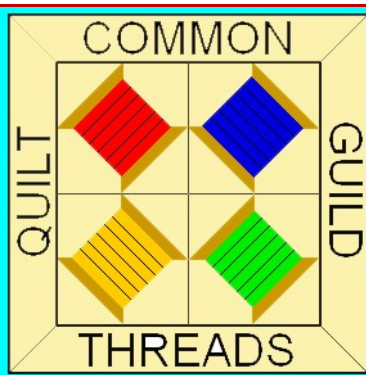
There will always be at least 2 people helping with our Fellowship Coffee Hour, so not to worry if you are only one. We appreciate ALL help!

Thank you from your Vitality team - Michelle, Elisha, Maryann and Janet



serrv

The SERRV counter is open in Fellowship Hall on the second Sunday of the month!



The October meeting of the guild will be Tuesday, the 17th, from 1-3pm in the quilt/craft room.

There is donated material to look through and take home if you see some that you like. There will be second look at “disappearing 9 patch”, a demonstration of spray quilt basting and a new circle cut ruler to look at.

We have cotton batting available if you need some for a quilt or placemats. Bring the quilt dimensions and we will cut it for you.

Come and join us. Call Nelda with questions (508-238-6004) Call Janet for a ride (508-583-0505)



Frog quilt by Linda Alvilhiera and frogs are in “Black Tie”.



This table runner was a wonderful find at a recent quilt show. Look out for it in the December Calendar Raffle.



Fall is here which means pledge season is back! WE are so blessed to have a vibrant church. Our stewardship committee’s goal is to have each active participant in our ministry pledge something. We have decided since last year our theme was such a success we would do it again! Our Stewardship committee theme this year is “Count Me In”. Instead of having a monetary goal, our goal is to have 100% of our members/friends submit a pledge form. In 2023, we had 23 new pledging units!!! Look out for this year's pledge packets to be handed out online and in person on October 22.

Please, fill out the form during our 4 week stewardship focus on Oct 22 to Nov 12! We are asking that pledges be returned by November 12th. You can send a digital copy to finance@brocktonucc.org , bring a hard copy into the church office during the week, or drop it in the offering plate during Sunday service.

Note even if you have a recurring payment we still need you to fill out a pledge form for 2024.

By the full pledged amount of our members, the property and financial board can decide how much to spend on our church ministry. Which keeps our church community and ministry running smoothly!

If you have any questions about pledging, please reach out to any stewardship committee member: Deb Bowman, Audrey Jones, Jillian Larson, or George Manoogian



Come Create with Us!

Saturday 10/21 12:00 – 2:00 pm

Luncheon of Homemade Soups & Breads

Paint your board and choose your vinyl cling to go over it.

***Inspirational *Holidays *Home**

\$10 per person (Vitality will cover the additional costs.)

(Deadline to sign up is Sunday 10/15 – Firm)

*Must sign up to attend

VITALITY EVENTS



Join in on the fun!

Save the Date



Sunday November 19th. – 12:00 pm

Our Annual Thanksgiving Dinner is Back!

Tickets will go on sale in October/November

*Ticket Price -TBD

Volunteers are Definitely Needed and Appreciated!

*Contact the Church Office or a Vitality Committee Member (Michelle, Elisha, Maryann, Janet)

BROCKTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
A Greater Brockton Treasure

New BEGINNINGS

**SUNDAY
OCTOBER 15, 2023
3PM**

CHRIST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
1350 PLEASANT ST, BROCKTON

FEATURING
Giuseppe Verdi - Overture to *La Forza del Destino*
Ludwig van Beethoven - Piano Concerto No. 3
Antonin Dvořák - Symphony No. 8



John Masko, Music Director



Ji Youn Lee, piano

Order tickets at BrocktonSymphony.org

Adults \$25 | Seniors \$20 | Children & Students with ID FREE!
TICKET SALES AT DOOR
IF ORDERING ONLINE IS NOT POSSIBLE, PLEASE CALL (508) 588-3841




CONTACT US

CHRIST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC
1350 Pleasant Street
Brockton, MA 02301-2840

Tel: 508-586-3022
Web: brocktonucc.org
Email: office@brocktonucc.org

Office Hours:
Monday thru Thursday:
9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Sunday Worship Time: 9:55 a.m.

BE THE CHURCH

*Protect the environment. Care for the poor.
Forgive often. Reject racism.
Fight for the powerless.
Share earthly and spiritual resources.
Embrace diversity. Love God. Enjoy this life.*



Christ Congregational Church, UCC
1350 Pleasant St.
Brockton, MA 02301-2840