

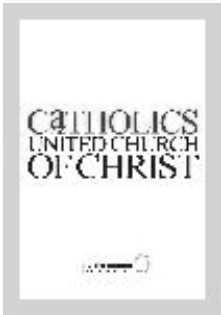


Steeple Sounds

April 2010

The Newsletter of Central Square Congregational Church

This is an invitation from your Interim Pastor and the Growth Committee. As we continue to affirm and learn more about our denomination, the United Church of Christ, the Growth Committee is encouraging everyone to participate in the next booklet study group:



"Catholics in the United Church of Christ"

Produced by the Still Speaking Writer's group and the Congregational Vitality Initiative.

By: The Rev. Dr. J. Mary Luti and The Rev. Andrew B. Warner.

(Do not be deceived by the title of this booklet—it is a great resource for all of us who have come from different religious backgrounds.)

"The Roman Catholic tradition, as broad and diverse as it is, has a unique ethos, identity, and imagination that, taken together, shape the ways in which Catholics find meaning and enact the Christian faith... as we welcome people from Catholic tradition, (and other traditions), our challenge is to journey with them as they develop a UCC imagination and as they enrich and adapt our own identity."

Learning together about our denomination and about how we are seen and understood by others, helps us all find a common ground of acceptance, comprehension and spiritual growth.

Join us for Four Sessions

Thursdays at 7:30 p.m.

In the Parlor

April 8, 15, 22 & 29

"No matter who you are or where you are in your life's journey you are welcome here."
Blessings on the journey!

Rev. Esther



BOARD OF DEACONS

Thank You Kristy

Like everyone here at Central Square Congregational Church, I was saddened to hear of Reverend Kristy's resignation as Associate Pastor. I am convinced that Kristy's decision was part of God's plan for her to grow and continue on her faith journey. We join in celebrating this new chapter in Kristy's life.

It is only natural for each of us to reflect back on what Kristy has meant to this Congregation. During her time here, Kristy has woven herself into the very fabric of this Church Community. Her ability to touch us through her enthusiastic personality has been evident each Sunday. We have been witness to Kristy's special relationship with her family; the touching moments with her little girls that she adds into a sermon or the playful banter with her husband Ken. We also have shared in her sorrow as she leaned on her unyielding faith in God and this Church to deal with tragedy. She has been our teacher, our friend, our Pastor; she has been our Reverend Kristy.

Thank you Kristy!

I would like share a few recent observations that in my opinion summarize Reverend Kristy and her tenure here in this Congregation.

On Sunday's when Kristy beckons her flock of children to the altar, I can see their eyes scanning the front pew for the magic bag that usually contains some unique props to help Kristy emphasize the lesson of the day. Children possess the special gift to view the world through eyes that are not yet clouded with the cynicism and doubt that unfortunately creep in with time. They simply look into the heart seeking trust, kindness and love. That special bond happens each Sunday between Kristy and the children as she attempts to spark the flame of faith within them and sends them off to Sunday school class. I am certain they will carry these

lessons with them always, and they will keep Kristy in their memory for the rest of their lives.

Thank you Kristy!

Last year, on Memorial Day, my wife Paula and I walked up to the Bridgewater Common to witness the rededication of the War Memorial monument. It was gratifying to see so many people gathered on the Common to observe this special occasion. Among the crowd were the usual representation of politicians, Veterans Groups and Service men and woman. One of them was Reverend Kristy. To honor the occasion, Kristy was dressed in her uniform as Naval Officer and Chaplin. She was serving two roles that day. One by one, speakers' from the various organizations came to the podium and spoke about the importance of the day and keeping alive the memory of those who had made the supreme sacrifice in serving this country. Then finally, it was Reverend Kristy's turn to offer prayer and preside over the unveiling of the monument. Like those before her, Kristy emphasized the importance of the day, but her voice rang different. There was no stumbling of words, no pause to find her place on the scripted paper, no inaudible whispers from someone overwhelmed by the moment. Rather the crowd heard a clear message honoring the day and acknowledging Gods hand in all of it. As I glanced at Reverend Kristy at the podium, the outline of Central Square Congregational Church came in focus behind her. It struck me how proud this congregation should be of its Associate Pastor. She had drawn upon her faith, and through it, had risen to the occasion, again.

Thank you Kristy!

A year ago this February, the tragedy of war came home to this community. One of Bridgewater's sons had been killed in Afghanistan. Lance Corporal Kevin Preach lost his life serving his country in that far off land. The numbing responsibility fell to Reverend Kristy to comfort a grieving mother and family while attempting to answer the unanswerable....Why? As the pews in our Church filled with family, friends, dignitaries, and as hundreds of others gathered on the Common and beyond to see and listen, Reverend Kristy celebrated the life of a young man too soon gone. Her eloquent eulogy resonated with the sacred

theme of “Semper Fi”, “always faithful”. The service was befitting a fellow soldier, a fallen Marine. I sat there in one of those pews, my own emotions stretched, and wondered how she was doing this. She was leading everyone through this. The answer was obvious. Once again Reverend Kristy had drawn on that unshakable faith in God and risen to the occasion. Once again she had proudly represented the best of this Church Community, her Church Community.

Thank you Kristy!

A final thought. I believe that as we come into this world, God reaches out his divine hand and touches our soul. In this brief moment, he empowers each of us with a measure of His love, understanding, compassion and all those attributes that make us human and in His image. Every so often, in His infinite wisdom, God holds that divine touch for an extra heartbeat, an extra measure. It is in this way, I believe, that Reverend Kristy has been blessed.

We thank God for your time here at Central Square. We thank you for all you have provided to us. Go with God.

Thank you Kristy!

Rich Sullivan

Board of Deacons

...and in response:

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Thank you so very much for the warm, heartfelt, loving, and supportive farewell you gave to me on March 21st. Every detail was perfect! The worship service was wonderful – most especially the Children’s Farewell and the kind words by Rich Sullivan. The party after the service was terrific as well. I had a chance to say personal good-bye’s while enjoying some great food! Thanks to all who helped to make the special party happen.

I shall never forget you, Central Square Congregational Church, United Church of Christ! You have claimed a piece of my heart and you will always be special to me! Thank you for the wonderful memories, the learning experiences, the prayers, and the love!

With warm thoughts and many prayers for a bright future,

Yours in Christ’s love,

Rev. Kristy

Walk on Good Friday - WHY?

"The Good Friday Walk is a place, a time, an act that happens, because people care about suffering, about inequality. It is an opportunity to pray physically by doing something to help change things. It is also a time of sharing the caring with great numbers of people. I can't help but feel joyful at the end of the walk when I have been surrounded by people who care.



It is such an expression of the existence of god in all of us! I walk as an act of prayer; to be with others who; to add to our efforts to change the inequality in society; to show my children that prayer can be action; to share in the joy of the people who are there; to do something difficult that brings me each year to depend on the Lord in a very concrete way; to worship on Good Friday."

Walk with us on Good Friday - we will gather at the church at 7 AM and carpool to Hingham. Walk for just few miles or walk for 20 miles.

Be part of "people helping people by walking on Good Friday".

For more information and/or a sponsor sheet, please contact Carol Chaffee.



Have you registered your Shaws' Rewards Card for our fundraiser yet? If you shop at Shaws' a little or a lot, you can help raise funds for CSCC by registering your rewards card at www.albertsons.com/cp/shaws. Click on register your card and follow the directions. Our

church ID# is 49001018582. Shop at Shaws' Tuesdays through Thursdays and we will receive 1% of eligible purchases. If you have questions or need help please contact Connie Chandler at (508) 697-3405.

Project Bread's Walk for Hunger



Today in Massachusetts, more than 554,000 people are struggling to put food on the table. They include the state's most vulnerable citizens – children, senior adults, people with chronic illness, and the working poor. How can you help? Organize a team to walk in Boston on May 2nd for Project Bread's Walk for Hunger. You can walk 2 miles or 20 miles. When you raise \$25 this provides 50 people at a soup kitchen with a bowl of hot soup and a sandwich, \$100 provides five families with a week's supply of groceries, \$200 provides ten families with a hot meal and a week's supply of groceries, and \$500 helps support a summer food program for low-income children. You are invited to form a team or volunteer to help at the walk in one of various ways. If you would like more information check the Outreach bulletin board in the vestry and help yourself to a brochure.

GREAT GROUPS!

Interest has been shown in 3 groupings of our church: former Catholics who are now UCC, single parents, and young adults. If you are looking for fellowship, fun or support in any of these areas, please contact one of your Growth Committee members: Kim Ramsdell, Kevin Thompson, Nancy Winter or Diane Glass, or call the church office.



There will be a **Kids of the Kingdom** meeting on Friday, April 9, from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m.

The **Youth Group** will meet on April 11th and April 25th, from 5:30 to 7:00p.m.



WHAT'S ON THE PROGRAM FOR THE WOMEN OF CENTRAL SQUARE? STAY TUNED!

LOVE THE FOOD CHANNEL? Is cooking or eating your first love? Then you are invited to watch and participate in Chef Beth Basler's cooking class on Wednesday evening, April 7 at 7:00 in the church kitchen. Titled "Not Your Typical PB&J," Chef Beth will teach how to grill a scrumptious meal indoors with the right tools. And then, the **BEST** part, samples for the audience! Don't miss this event!

WHAT'S BETTER THAN HOME SHOPPING? IT'S THE "SPRING FLING" RUMMAGE SALE, on Saturday, April 10, from 9-1. There will be treasures of all sorts for your viewing and for sale, a Gourmet Bake Sale and Coffee Corner, and the fabulous "SOUP'S ON" lunch, to eat in or to go. We will be accepting goods of all types in the vestry beginning Monday, April 5. Set up day is Friday, April 9, and goods will also be accepted while the gals are working that day. Call **TEAM RUMMAGE**, chaired by Annie Blanchard (584-1960), if you wish to join in the fun of preparing for this program!

Even the **CSCC PHANTOM GOURMET** will be present at the Annual Banquet of the Women's Fellowship on Wednesday, May 5! The great time will take place at the newly renovated Monponsett Inn in Halifax, and all women are invited to attend. Call Sandra Alley (697-2716) or Bev Mitchell (697-2949) for menu details. Give this the Gold Plate award!!

Thanks for watching!

Marie Nelson,
For the Women's Guild & Fellowship

A Story from your Global Ministries

April 2010: A New Building, A New Chapter



Written by Ken & Betty Frank
April 1, 2010

What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, do; and the God of peace will be with you. Philippians 4:9

Our historical secondary school in Izmir, Turkey began a new chapter in its long history. Founded by our missionary predecessors in 1878, the Izmir American Collegiate Institute has now opened a renovated building. In addition to the usual classrooms and school facilities, the new building has a girl's dormitory. Thirty girls now live on the top floor enjoying modern, spacious living quarters with a magnificent view of Izmir and its bay. What's more, these girls are from more distant parts of Turkey and this means greater diversity in the student body.

We, as members of a long line of Americans who were invited to work in the Izmir school, appreciate how it strongly observes its heritage. It is an institution where generations of Christians, Muslims, Jews -- Turkish and foreign -- have worked together for common ideals of citizenship, service, and learning. It's a legacy that the graduates are protecting and developing. And it's a legacy that all Americans who contributed to it can celebrate.

Peace,
Betty & Ken Frank

Ken & Betty Frank serve with the American Board in Istanbul, Turkey. They share the job of General Secretary of the American Board. They also serve on the board of the Istanbul Interparish Migrant Program (IIMP).

For More Information

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Middle East & Europe ext. 3227
700 Prospect Ave. Fax: 216-736-3203
Cleveland, Ohio 44115 makarip@ucc.org

Ordination Service for Elizabeth Keyes Duffy

Saturday, May 1, 2010
beginning at 2:00 PM

The Pilgrim Association, Massachusetts
Conference, United Church of Christ, will
gather for an

Ordination Service

on

Saturday, May 1st, 2010 at 2:00 PM

At

**Central Square Congregational
Church**

71 Central Square

Bridgewater, MA 02324-2508

The afternoon will be a service of
celebration as we

ordain

Elizabeth Keyes Duffy

Elizabeth has been called to
Zion United Church of Christ, Tonawanda,
New York

**Following the Service of Ordination
there will be a reception in the
Fellowship Hall.**

Daily Lectionary Scripture References April 2010 (Year C)

Thurs., April 1

Holy Thursday

Exodus 12:1-4 [5-10] 11-14
Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19
1 Corinthians 11:23-26
John 13:1-17, 31b-35

Fri., April 2

Good Friday

Isaiah 52:13—53:12
Psalm 22
Hebrews 10:16-25
 or Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9
John 18:1—19:42

Sat., April 3

Holy Saturday

Job 14:1-14 *or*
 Lamentations 3:1-9, 19-24
Psalm 31:1-4, 15-16
1 Peter 4:1-8
Matthew 27:57-66
 or John 19:38-42

Sun., April 4

*Resurrection of the Lord,
Easter Day*

Acts 10:34-43 *or*
 Isaiah 65:17-25
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
1 Corinthians 15:19-26 *or*
 Acts 10:34-43
John 20:1-18 *or* Luke 24:1-12

Mon., April 5

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
Joshua 10:16-27
1 Corinthians 5:6b-8

Tues., April 6

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
Judges 4:17-23; 5:24-31a
Revelation 12:1-12

Wed., April 7

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
2 Samuel 6:1-15
Luke 24:1-12

Thurs., April 8

Psalm 150
1 Samuel 17:1-23
Acts 5:12-16

Fri., April 9

Psalm 150
1 Samuel 17:19-32
Acts 5:17-26

Sat., April 10

Psalm 150
1 Samuel 17:32-51
Luke 24:36-40

Sun., April 11

Second Sunday of Easter
Acts 5:27-32
Psalm 118:14-29 *or* Psalm 150
Revelation 1:4-8
John 20:19-31

Mon., April 12

Psalm 122
Esther 7:1-10
Revelation 1:9-20

Tues., April 13

Psalm 122
Esther 8:1-17
Revelation 2:8-11

Wed., April 14

Psalm 122
Esther 9:1-5, 18-23
Luke 12:4-12

Thurs., April 15

Psalm 30
Isaiah 5:11-17
Revelation 3:14-22

Fri., April 16

Psalm 30
Isaiah 6:1-4
Revelation 4:1-11

Sat., April 17

Psalm 30
Genesis 18:1-8
Luke 14:12-14

Sun., April 18

Third Sunday of Easter
Acts 9:1-6 [7-20]
Psalm 30
Revelation 5:11-14
John 21:1-19

Mon., April 19

Psalm 121
Ezekiel 1:1-25
Acts 9:19b-31

Tues., April 20

Psalm 121
Ezekiel 1:26—2:1
Acts 26:1-18

Wed., April 21

Psalm 121
Isaiah 6:1-8
Luke 5:1-11

Thurs., April 22

Psalm 23
Ezekiel 11:1-25
Revelation 5:1-10

Fri., April 23

Psalm 23
Ezekiel 20:39-44
Revelation 6:1—7:4

Sat., April 24

Psalm 23
Ezekiel 28:25-26
Luke 12:29-32

Sun., April 25

Fourth Sunday of Easter
Acts 9:36-43
Psalm 23
Revelation 7:9-17
John 10:22-30

Mon., April 26

Psalm 100
Ezekiel 37:15-28
Revelation 15:1-4

Tues., April 27

Psalm 100
Ezekiel 45:1-9
Acts 9:32-35

Wed., April 28

Psalm 100
Jeremiah 50:17-20
John 10:31-42

Thurs., April 29

Psalm 148
Ezekiel 2:8—3:11
Revelation 10:1-11

Fri., April 30

Psalm 148
Daniel 7:13-14
Revelation 11:15



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April 2010

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Parish Care Deacon: Pat Lindsey (508) 821-5911 Coffee Hour Hosts: Deacons				1 Maundy Thursday Worship 7:30PM Al-Anon	2 Good Friday Walk in Hingham 7AM Al-Anon	3
4 Easter Sunday! Sunrise Service @ Hanson Farm 6:30 10:00 Worship/Choir AA	5 Narc-Anon	6 Trp. #600 3:30-6:00	7 Women's Guild 7 PM	8 Al-Anon	9 Rummage Sale Set-Up Kids of the Kingdom 6:00-7:30PM Al-Anon	10 WG&F Rummage Sale 9:00-1:00
11 Teen Forum Baby Shower in Parlor 12-2:00PM Youth Group 5:30-7PM AA	12 Deacons 7:30PM Narc-Anon	13 Growth 7:00PM Outreach 7:30PM	14 Trustees/Stewardship 7:00PM	15 Al-Anon	16 Trp. 306 6-7:30PM Pack #35 7:30-9:00PM Vestry Al-Anon	17
18 Choir AA	19 Narc-Anon	20 Trp. #600 3:30-6:00	21 Cabinet 7:00PM	22 Earth Day Al-Anon	23 Bela Voce/Choir Concert 7:30-8:30PM Al-Anon	24 Nicole O'Brien Recital 4:00PM
25 Choir Teen Forum Youth Group 5:30-7PM AA	26 Bridgewater Mom's Club 9:30AM Narc-Anon	27 Mainspring Meal	28 BSC Chamber Chorus rehearsal in sanctuary 6:30-10PM	29 Al-Anon	30 Trp. 306 6-7:30PM Al-Anon	