

CHURCH AT THE CENTER ,

MARCH 2018



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH "CENTER CHURCH"

United Church of Christ

One Church Street

South Hadley, Massachusetts 01075

(413) 532-2262

email: centerchurch@verizon.net

website: centerchurchsouthhadley.org

*ALL ARE WELCOME AT CENTER CHURCH ON THE COMMON,
AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING UCC CONGREGATION,
WHERE THE SPIRIT OF GOD STIRS US TO EMBRACE OUR DIVERSITY,
DEEPEN OUR FAITH IN JESUS, SHARE OUR TEARS AND LAUGHTER,
AND EXTEND GOD'S ABUNDANT LOVE AND JUSTICE INTO THE WORLD.*

Friends ~ You have been so kind and gentle with me over the death of my mother on February 13. Thank you for your cards and love.

We have many opportunities of education, and justice in March. Two ideas I want you to consider.

- 1) Linda Laderach suggested building community by way of "acting out" using our favorite TV shows. For instance, there is a show where people are given money to buy an item at a Flea Market and limited time to flip it around to see how they can improve on the final price. We could have teams where we give you money to go out to a flea market, buy an item, and have one of our crafty people improve on it....then later that day have a potluck/auction. Does that sound like fun? If so, please drop by names of your favorite TV shows that we can replicate within Center Church!
- 2) We are scheduled to provide a meal and serve it for Cathedral in the Night on March 25. Youth, are you interested? Other volunteers? It is ALWAYS a win/win. Foods that we will need will be posted in the Fellowship Hall to be brought in by March 22. We will be cooking: American chop suey, cakes, bread, and making many sandwiches.

Continued on following page

To end may I leave you with this poem by Nancy Wood, a Taos Pueblo Native American....

Hold on To What is Good

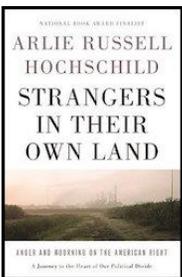
*Hold on to what is good
even if it is
a handful of earth.
Hold on to what you believe
even if it is
a tree which stands by itself.
Hold on to what you must do
even if it is
a long way from here.
Hold on to life even when
it is easier letting go.
Hold on to my hand even when
I have gone away from you.*

Peace and blessings, Lori



Please join Al Duffy in the Chapel on Saturday March 10, 2018 at 10am or Sunday March 11, 2018 at 11:30 am for an informational meeting on Church Public Safety. Topics for discussion will include building lockdown, security, evacuation and other safety issues. Now is the time to get involved! Your input is important for the safety of everyone and will be instrumental in the formation of a team to address all our concerns.

Looking forward to meeting with you! Al Duffy, Trustee



Schedule for discussion of the book, led by Don Donihue and Lorain Giles:

Monday March 12, Parts I & II. Potluck supper at church, 6:00 p.m., followed by book discussion, finished around 8:00 p.m.

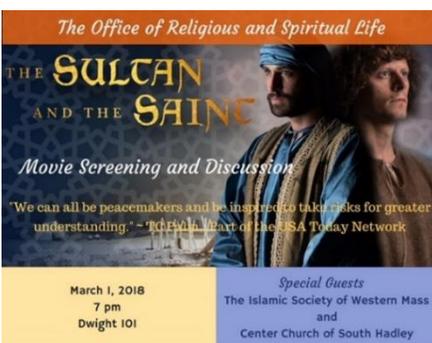
Sunday March 18, Parts III & IV. After-worship discussion (with light lunch provided), until about 1:00 p.m.



Mount Holyoke College, the Islamic Society of Western MA, Center Church, and the Muslim Student Association are sponsoring the movie,

The Sultan and the Saint, Teaching Peace over War

to be viewed on March 1st (during Inter-Faith Awareness Week) at MHC. The screening will begin at 7pm - **NOTE CHANGE OF TIME** - in Dwight Hall, Room 101 - **NOTE CHANGE OF LOCATION** - on the campus of MHC. A discussion will follow. Hot beverages and special Chef Jeff cookies (the pride of Mount Holyoke) will be served.



If you are interested in attending, Lori will leave from the church parking lot to walk over at 6:50pm. Dwight Hall is just across Church Street.

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS

Situational:

Betsy Bergan
 Family and friends of Tawnya Burnett, Sharyn Kovalesy's niece
 Fran Collins, following surgery
 Lesley Dunbar, Betsy Bergen's sister
 Martha Guild's father, Curt Guild
 Judy Hemingway
 Eunice Howes
 Eunice Howes' son Steve
 Eunice Howes' friend, Sarah Boynton
 Donna Johnson, Cindy Morrell's cousin
 Peter Kovalesky
 Sharyn Kovalesky
 Linda Laderach
 Miriam Markarian
 Edward Matuvhunye
 David Ryder Barb Hubbard's brother
 Rev. Lori and her family on the passing of her Mom, Elizabeth (Betty) Souder
 United Congregational Church in Holyoke following a fire.



Continual:

Emily Bangs-Orsini (at Mt. St. Vincent)
 Chuck Blakney
 Luke Bradley
 Marjorie and Carl Buschner
 Karol Coffin's mother
 Wayne Cowan
 Daniel Dempsey
 Tim Garrett's friends David Drummond & Sterling McAndrew
 Muriel Graham
 Lou Hamilton
 Jane Hazen
 Phyllis Lacoste
 Hector Reyes
 Anita Sarro's son Michael in need of a transplant
 Jill Therrien, Linda Wolf's niece



We keep those serving in the military in our prayers including Kevin Waller who recently completed Air Force Basic Training and is now attending Technical School.



HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Palm Sunday

March 25 10am
 Center Church

Maundy Thursday

March 29 6:30pm
 Church of Christ Granby

Good Friday

Sanctuary open for
 individual meditation
 March 30 noon - 2pm

Easter

April 1 10am
 Center Church



Coffee Fellowship

Thank you, Nominating and Flower Teams for being such good hostesses at coffee hour during February. We appreciated your homemade "goodies" each week!

During March, the Trustees will be the hosts for coffee hour. The members of this team are the stewards of the church finances and all church owned buildings, grounds, major assets and endowment investments. They are responsible for the financial integrity and viability of the church. With authority given to them by vote of the congregation, the trustees may buy, sell, mortgage, lease or transfer major assets. They prepare and monitor the budget and report to the congregation periodically on the church finances and assets falling outside the annual budget. They also work with the human resources team and appropriate others concerning the review and updating of the contracts of the pastor and staff. (as stated in the revised constitution).

Members of the Trustees are: Eliot Chartrand, Arthur Coffin, Al Duffy, Bill Giles, Cynthia Morrell (non-voting), Kiki Tipton, Tom Waller and Carol White.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



Hello Center Church and Friends and Families of the Promised Land, February our focus in Sunday School was the Great Christians of Black History. Our classes looked at the connection between American resistance movements and Christian faith and how the teachings of Jesus are

revolutionary. We read about the courageous faith of Harriet Tubman who leaned on her relationship with God to lead American enslaved people to freedom. In March, our students and teachers will roll up our sleeves and put our faith into action and give of ourselves in this season of Lent with community service projects. The Promised Land classes will also enjoy a field trip to the Mount Holyoke College Greenhouse flower show. More information and permission slips will be distributed to parents. A big shout out goes to Sarah Smith, Kate Hoffman, and Randy Purinton for their support and volunteerism in the Promised Land in February. And thank you for all that all of you do to support the teachers and students of the Promised Land! *Martha Guild, Children's Education Director*



Escaping American slaves are not the only people of faith who looked to the stars for guidance. The Big Dipper (The Drinking Gourd) points to the North Star, the direction of Canada and freedom from bondage.

Youth Group

What a wonderful first month in Youth Group! We discussed the seasons of the Church, helped the kids in the Promise Land make Valentine's Cards for members of our Congregation, and got to know each other a little better through our weekly "Rose Reflection"! This month, we will build off of our studies on the Church Seasons to learn about the New Century Hymnal. What many people don't realize is that there is more to it than just songs! We will also compare the NCH to the Pilgrim Hymnal, and we will talk about why they are different. I will not be at Church on 3/11 and 3/18 due to my Spring Break being those weekends, so unfortunately there will be no Youth Group with me those days. As always, I will keep the group updated through email. *Warmly, Emily Carle*



Bible Study March 2018

Bible Study will gather at Loomis Village on **March 15th** at Audrey Heaphy's Apt. 125 (Mark 11: 1-11 Palm Sunday, John 13: 1-16 Maundy Thursday) and **March 22nd** at Barbara Blank's Apt 124 (Mark 15, Good Friday Matthew 27: 57-66 Easter).

Super Saturday March 2018

Super Saturday March 17, 2018 8am - 4pm
Minnechaug Regional High School - Wilbraham MA

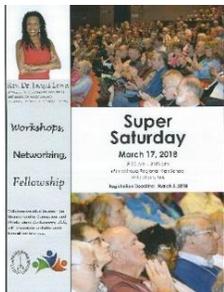
Workshops, Networking, Fellowship

Featuring Rev. Dr. Jacqui Lewis, Pastor, activist, preacher, and fierce advocate for racial equality, economic justice, and LGBTQ equality.

Registration forms may be found on the table in the Office Entry. Registration deadline is March 3rd. Cost is \$54 for morning and afternoon workshops and Lunch. If you need

assistance with fee please contact the church office.

Visit www.macucc.org for more information and to check out the workshop listings. Lori feels there are several good ones that really correlate with Center Church's mission.



News from the Trustees for March 2018

February was our first meeting of the “new” board and team year and we welcomed Art Coffin to our Board. As is usual with financial reporting, it was too early in the church year to receive a report on the state of our finances. We will get that first one in March. We continue to hear positive reports from our endowment team and our advisors, Wells Fargo. 2017 was a very good year and we hope that, in the long term, 2018 will do just as well. This month we seem to be more focused on several building issues and are working diligently to solve them. We are pleased that a new third floor occupant is a physical therapist, and we welcome her. We are making some small adjustments to the room she will use and thank Randy Purinton and Bob Hazen for repainting the room. Al Duffy reminded us about the safety meeting which will be held on Saturday March 10 with a repeat of the same after church on March 11. We are thrilled that the Center Nursery School is now doing well enough that they are able to increase their annual donation. We added an amount from the temporarily restricted fund in Pat Merritt’s name to the window restoration project and the current total in that account is \$48,331.16. We also had the chance to check out the two sets of walkie-talkies (total of four individual ones) which have been a long time in coming and will be available for the Promised Land teachers to use when necessary.

We have set our 2018 individual assignments as follows: co-chairs – Eliot Chartrand and Al Duffy; secretary – Cindy Morrell; safety and building upkeep – Al and Bill Giles; investment team – Eliot, Art Coffin, Bob Russell, Tom Hazen; personnel and HR – Kiki Tipton. Our new safe church coordinator is Art Proctor – welcome Art! Other assignments may be decided on at our next meeting. As always, please feel to contact any of us, or talk to Thia in the office who will get your concerns to us.

Cindy Morrell, secretary

Notes from Church Council

Council met on February 6 with moderator pro-tem John Anz, chair of the Stewardship Team. Rev. Souder thanked everyone for their prayers and concern about her ailing mother. She thanked Rev. Chris Mereschuk for taking over preaching duties while she was away. Our front lawn vigils have been very successful for all who have participated. She stated that four to possibly five people may be joining Center Church in the near future. Lori asked the Council to consider and resolve the business of “campership” money.

Activities is working on ways to improve, and possibly change, various details concerning the Columbus Day Fair and Holiday Bazaar. Nominating is concerned about the lack of involvement by the congregation to become team members and serving as moderator. CE will participate in the showing of the *Sultan and the Saint* film March 1 at Mount Holyoke College. Deacons have been facilitating preacher coverage for Lori. Membership completed the tabulation of the *Time and Talent* survey. The team is still working to complete the informative pamphlet about what our teams do. Outreach is sponsoring the One Great Hour of Sharing offering on March 11. They are actively promoting the Peterson Scholarship Fund. Stewardship hit its pledge amount goal! They will be initiating an “info moment” to encourage responsible giving. Trustees completed the 2018 budget. There’s been a lot of furnace upkeep to date. The south rose window restoration project is progressing on schedule. They are actively debating our “church safety/security” issues. The congregation is urged to attend a church safety gathering at the church on Saturday, March 10 at 10:00 a.m. or Sunday, March 11 after worship. Council was asked about the lack of an “official” moderator and how it may affect Center Church. Should we be considering co-moderators?

David C. Morrell, clerk

Outreach Partners of the Month

"Hearts to Hands to Hope"



One Great Hour of Sharing

One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) is the annual special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that carries God's message of love and hope to people in crisis. The UCC works with international partners to provide sources of clean water, food, education and health care, small business micro-credit, advocacy and resettlement for refugees and displaced persons, and emergency relief and rehabilitation. OGHS also supports domestic and international ministries for disaster preparedness and response.

Our Church's OGHS collection will be received on March 11th.

Words cannot capture the anguish of people when they lose everything in a disaster or have to leave it behind while fleeing war or conflict. Through One Great Hour of Sharing, lives are literally changed daily. Our OGHS support provides clean water, food, medicines, shelter, healthcare, education and so much more. Please give generously.



It was a dreary day in late January, but inside the Jewish Community Center in Amherst sixty voices were raised in joyful songs. The occasion was a concert featuring music from around the world, in support of Lucio Perez who is in sanctuary at First Church Amherst.

There has been curiosity about Lucio's status here in the United States and broader questions relating to US overall immigration policies. The following is an attempt to provide more information about Lucio's situation and to alert people to several up-coming information gatherings the Outreach Team will be hosting.

Lucio Perez has been in the United States for 20 years, is married and has four children, three of whom are U.S. citizens. He is an undocumented immigrant from Guatemala who fled that country because of violence and poverty. Until entering sanctuary he was employed by a landscape company working in the Springfield/Hartford area. Lucio had been complying with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) by regularly checking in with that agency for required visits which allowed him to stay in the United States. In the fall of this year ICE began a crackdown on immigrants that resulted in an order for his deportation. In October of 2017 Lucio sought sanctuary in the First Congregation Church in Amherst where he has been ever since.

Lucio and his family have been assisted by the Interfaith Solidarity and Sanctuary Network, a group comprised of 10 faith communities in the Valley. They are providing food, visitation, and volunteers to stay with Lucio at night. The critical need at the moment is for financial assistance for the family of Lucio since he no longer has an income. A legal team is helping him through the complex immigration network in the hope that he might be given another hearing where he would be allowed to stay in the United States.

Many questions have been raised in connection with Lucio's case such as who can get a green card? Another question is can an illegal immigrant then become a legal permanent resident? To answer questions on immigration and deportation policy and practices and to begin to understand the challenges people face who want to come to this Country, **the Outreach Team will be hosting two events.** We have invited Associate Professor David Hernandez from Mount Holyoke College back to speak with us some time in the spring to address these and other questions. The second educational opportunity will be to participate in a simulation game that illuminates the obstacles faced by immigrants and refugees. Facilitated by a representative of the Massachusetts Conference of the United Church of Christ this program will help us in walking in an immigrant's shoes.

For more information about this sanctuary movement and how you might help go to First Church Amherst [FACEBOOK](#).

The Peterson Scholarship Fund

Below is the Moment of Concern given by Bobbie Ayers during the service of worship on Sunday, February 11th. We thought that it would be good to give each of you the opportunity to share in our outreach and to help build our Peterson Fund. As stated, we realize that many of you do not know Gus Peterson and thus it would be good to give you a little insight into this remarkable man and his legacy.

We hope that you will consider contributing to the fund. As stated, you can put an envelope in the plate, or write a check (with Peterson Fund in the memo) and drop it off at the church office.

“Good morning,, I want to very briefly talk to you about the Peterson Memorial Scholarship Program. As our team was talking, we realized that many of you don’t even know about Gus Peterson and others of you are not aware of the Peterson Scholarship Program here at Center Church.

Gus and his wife, Ginger, came into the life of Center Church when he started the “Town Reminder” ...which is still going strong today. In 1985, a few years after they joined, Ginger died. Gus and his 3 daughters, with the guidance of our Trustees, set up a scholarship program with memorial gifts that been given in Ginger’s memory. Ginger firmly believed in education and that it could go a long way towards solving the problems of individuals, communities and nations. She also was concerned that so many people, especially those who were minorities, were not getting the education they needed to fully realize their potential. Thus, at the request of the Peterson family, the Peterson Fund was born. And it has continued for many years, aided by the fact that the Peterson family and others have given further contributions. In the early ‘90s Gus gave the reins of its administration to the Outreach team. When our well-loved Barbara, his 2nd wife, died and when Gus died, the memorial gifts were directed to this fund.

Now who was Gus? His involvement and influence with the church was amazing. Over the years he retired and then went on to Hartford Seminary. After being ordained, we gave him the title of Minister of Mission and Visitation (both volunteer) and paid him with one cord of wood a year...actually a bundle of tiny sticks delivered at the annual meeting and fitting in one’s hand. Gus and Barbara were very involved with Nueva Esperanza in Holyoke and his work with them, his compassion and his belief in them was amazing. Gus did visit our home bound and those dealing with illness; but we all benefitted from just being around him and hearing his words of wisdom, (laced with a keen sense of humor); witnessing the living out of his strong faith in God; and participating in his visions. He didn’t do things with a “splash” (although he had a pool in his back yard); but rather with a behind the scenes quietness that accompanied action.

Back to the scholarships. Funding guidelines have been brought up to date by the Trustees. Suffice to say, monies are not taken from the church general fund; but stand alone. Awards are relatively small, in amount ranging from \$300-\$500; but those receiving the awards have told us they can have a big effect. The number and amount of the awards are driven by the donations to the fund and the interest available. We look at need, as well as past, present and future involvement in human relations and service to others. However, most importantly we believe that along with the financial aspect comes the contribution we give through the encouragement that the check represents...the encouragement to individuals.... a belief that they can succeed and that we believe in them.

This is voluntary and today we are taking a special offering to try and increase the amount available in the Peterson Fund used to make the awards. We want to continue the Peterson legacy, and we want to provide outreach through this program. Envelopes are available in the pews....or if you are writing a check, just put Peterson Fund in the memo portion. ..and **thank you very much.**”



Food for Friends - An Outreach Mission

Making a Difference

Since 2009, **FOOD FOR FRIENDS** has been making a difference in the lives of many homebound elderly in our South Hadley and Granby communities. A warm and delicious meal delivered by a friendly driver is the helping hand and personal contact that is so needed and appreciated. Food For Friends also makes a difference in the lives of our volunteers, providing a meaningful way to give back to people who provide a bright spot in our day as well!



How We Operate

Food for Friends is a community group of volunteers from Center Church, United Methodist Church, Our Savior Lutheran Church, Living Gate Community Church, Morning Star Baptist Church and the South Hadley Democratic Town Committee. We prepare and serve meals one weekend a month to approximately 100 homebound elderly in South Hadley and Granby. Our clients are generally also clients of the Meals on Wheels program, which delivers meals only on weekdays - creating a significant gap on the weekends. These clients are served on the other weekends of the month by St. Patrick's, St. Theresa's and Immaculate Heart of Mary. While we share our client list with these other churches, Food For Friends is solely responsible for all other aspects of our program including organizing our volunteers and generating funding through donations. Many of the donations we receive come from the churches that we share our program with and individuals in the community.

How You Can Help

The Food for Friends operating expenses average \$130 per month, which covers the food, packaging supplies, and membership fees for the Western Mass Food Bank - through which we are able to procure food at no- to low-cost. We are at a crucial point right now where we need to replenish our account so that we can continue to cover our operating expenses. Please consider donating to this valuable program. Any amount that fits into your budget would be helpful. It takes a village to help a village!

If you would like to donate:

Please send a check made payable to **Center Church Food For Friends to:**
The First Congregational Church, c/o Thia Jubinville
1 Church Street South Hadley, MA 01075

Coming soon: our own Food For Friends Facebook page so that you can learn about the ongoing activities and needs of our group!



"Even in these wilderness times, in times of violence, even now our destination is love.

Love that lasts. Love like God's love."

Rev. Jacqui Lewis



Rev. Jacqui Lewis pastors a congregation in New York City that is said to have diversity that looks like the subway, but its legendary love feels like home. In every aspect of the ministry at Middle Collegiate, love is the center, love is the grounding, love is the mission. It matters not what your faith tradition is, or is not. It matters not what the color of your skin or your country of origin is. It matters not how old or young you are. It matters not whether you are straight or gay, trans, bi or questioning, single or committed. You are truly welcome at Middle Collegiate. This faith community lives and shares the love of God within the walls of the church as well as on the streets in their community.

Come to Super Saturday on March 17 at Minnechaug Regional High School in Wilbraham, and be inspired by Jacqui and many other workshop presenters who will share their gifts as we seek to Live the Love and Justice of Jesus. [Registration is open through March 3, 2018](#) - fill out your form and leave it with Thia in the Church Office.

Getting to Know You - March 2018

Gretchen LaBonte and her harp



Gretchen's bio was featured last June in the CAC. But since then, we have been honored to have her bring her **harp** into the sanctuary several times to play anthems and preludes for our services. So now, here is information about how she got started with playing the harp and her harp in particular. She started with piano in first grade in the Cleveland area. There was a nearby fine arts center, which was starting a harp studio; so in Grade 3 she switched her allegiance. She studied harp through high school, taking one year off, with the same teacher on a borrowed troubadour harp that belonged to a family friend. She worked with a "troubadour" harp back then, which is middle-sized, and has no pedals, just levers. The levers come down over the strings and change a natural note to a sharp by putting the lever up. By 7th grade, she had graduated to a pedal harp. She mostly played by herself, but says she did join orchestra in 7th grade for concerts, and played in her first "pit" orchestra for a high school production of Peter Pan. In high school, she continued to play with the orchestra for concerts.

During her senior year in high school, Gretchen got her first "very own" harp. She worked directly with Lyon & Healy harp makers based in Chicago. It takes six months from the time you order until you actually receive the harp. When that time came, she traveled to Chicago and was able to pick from three harps of that particular style. She took her harp with her when she went off to Otterbein University in Columbus, Ohio where she was a music minor and took private lessons with the Columbus Symphony's principal harpist. She also played with the Westerville Symphony Orchestra while in college, as well as playing all four years with the university's wind ensemble and band. She has had no additional lessons since university and now plays for weddings, funerals, and parties when asked. Gretchen has played with a number of community orchestras, like the Windham Orchestra in Brattleboro, and at several churches. She first played at Center Church during Joy Bock's memorial service and has been playing more for our Sunday services during the summer, Advent, Christmas Day and just this last Sunday.

Now for **her harp** - see pictures to help with descriptions. The harp has five components - the base where the pedals sit (see middle picture), the sound board which comes up from the base at an angle (right picture), the neck which goes along the top, and a straight column which comes up from the base to meet the neck, and of course, the strings (shown on the right picture. The left picture shows their attachment along the back to the neck). The player is responsible for tuning the harp and for any sound that comes forth from it. Gretchen moves her harp around with a dolly, as it weighs about 100 lbs. It would have been easier if she played the flute; but both her mom and older sister already had that instrument covered. Plus, Gretchen never would have developed her fierce independence and strong muscles to move the harp on her own.

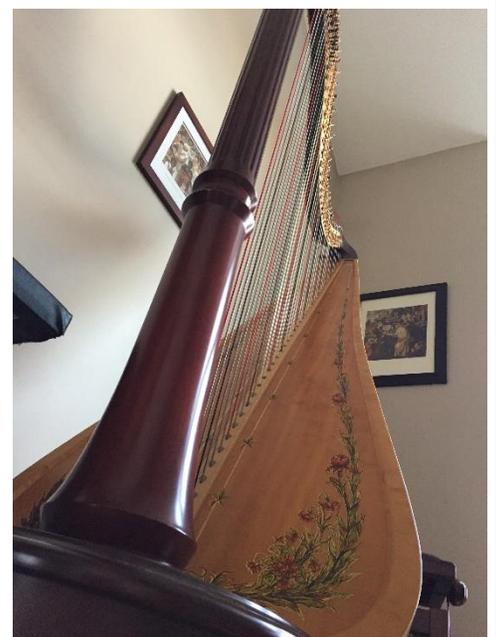
In general, two smaller harps (folk or troubadour) are considered lever harps, while the concert grand, which Gretchen has, is a pedal harp. This harp has 47 individual strings covering seven octaves, which are basically set up like a piano. The red strings are C notes, the black strings are Fs, and the

white strings in between are the other notes in the scale. Her harp has a wider soundboard at the bottom than what you would see on a troubadour. There are metal rods that run from the pedals up through the center of the column which attach to tuning disks that allows each string to be played as a flat, natural, or sharp note (again see left picture). There are seven pedals with three “notches” per pedal placement – one for the regular sound of a note or “natural”, one for the “sharp” sound and one for the “flat” sound – like the black notes on a piano (see middle picture). The strings go from the soundboard to metal pins that are held in place at the neck. Unlike a piano, Gretchen says you “tune” the strings on the backside of the harp. These days, just as with a piano, you can tune using an electronic tuner or a tuning app on a smartphone (in the “old” days you would need a tuning fork to set the first string).

Gretchen plays the harp with the pads of her fingers but does not use the “pinky” finger at all. Like any instrument, the harp is temperamental when it comes to changes in humidity or temperature; so it is important for the health of the harp to keep it a fairly constant temperature year round and make sure to “water it” during these dry winter months. When Gretchen was in college, her harp was unfortunately left out in the cold during a band tour and had significant damage done to her soundboard. As a result, her harp made a trek back to Lyon & Healy in Chicago for repair. It was at that time the beautiful gilding and flowers were added to the soundboard (check out the bottom picture).

There’s no way that her 3rd Grade self could have imagined all the places she would travel with her harp. Gretchen has enjoyed playing for nearly 25 years and feels privileged to have had the opportunity to connect with people through music. She has never aspired to be the best harpist in the world, but has appreciated moments to share her love of music, and bring people joy through the calming and centering tones of the harp. We at Center Church are so pleased that she shares this instrument and her talent with us! Many thanks!

*Cindy Morrell, Associate in Music
with major help from Gretchen*



Getting to Know You, *too*

As of mid-January, Tanya Tarail Ms. T, P.T., CST-D has been offering her services in physical therapy massage, during the week, on the third floor of the Lancaster wing. Tanya has written the article below to introduce herself to our congregation and to invite you to contact her if you think she might be of help to you personally.

About Me

I can help you untangle the root causes of your pain or dysfunction! Tanya Tarail, Ms.T, P.T. CST-D, has over 30 years of practical clinical experience. Tanya is a graduate of Hunter College, NYC, with a B.S. in Physical Therapy, as well as certifications from several healing institutes, including the Upledger Institute, the Stillpoint Center of Massage, the Integrative School of Massage, and the IM School of Healing Arts. Tanya is certified in NLP Hypnosis from the New York Training Institute for NLP. Tanya has taught anatomy @ The IM school of Healing Arts, as well as massage privately. Tanya has served as an assistant teacher for CSTI and VMIA, has lead CST and VM study-groups, and extensive experience guiding preceptors.

My Skills

Among other unresolved issues, I specialize in:

Internal/External Scar Tissue/Adhesion

Lyme Disease

Arthritis

Spinal Issues: headaches, eye pain, twitching, disc degeneration, spinal cord injuries, disc issues, etc.

Sinus restrictions

TMJ

Malocclusions, including side effects from orthodontics

Surgical Side Effects

Trauma Side Effects: car accidents, falls, winter sports injuries, etc.

Fibromyalgia

Pelvic/ObGYN issues

Sports Injuries

Non-typical/ Atypical: babies, children, adults Post transgender surgery and scarring therapy

I am trained in:

CrainoSacral Therapy

SomatoEmotional Release

Visceral Manipulation

Urogenital Visceral Manipulation

Myofascial Release

Joint Mobilization

Meditation techniques

Specializes in working with Internal and External Scar tissue from any source and any age. Available for lectures on scar tissue issues and bodywork

10% discount for all Center Church congregation for first session.

www.iahp.com/ttarail

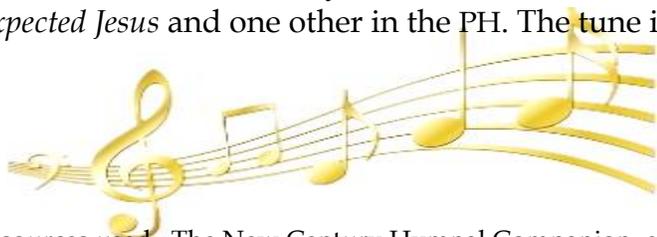
[\(413\)330-0310 text preferred](tel:(413)330-0310)

Tell Me the Stories - March 2018

Our first hymn story this month is about one that the choir has been singing as an anthem for many years. *Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether* (NCH 337) is one we have sung it numerous times on a communion Sunday. It was actually written to go along with another communion text, but now stands alone. The text was written by Percy Dearmer in 1925 so it has been around for quite some time. Dearmer was educated in Oxford, England and earned both an B.A. and M.A. degree. Ordained as a deacon, he was also later ordained as a priest in the Anglican Church. This is his only hymn in the NCH but over his lifetime, he actually edited a number of important hymnals. The tune "Union Seminary" was composed by Harold Friedell in 1957 as a choral setting for the text. An American by birth, he spent most of his career as an organist in NYC churches and also taught at at least three well-known schools of music there. Jet Turner actually took part of the anthem setting and made it into this hymn in 1967. The tune's name comes from Union Seminary where Friedell taught and Turner was a student. Next time you are in the sanctuary, take up the NCH and read the very lovely words and thoughts expressed. (updated a little from the last time I wrote about it).

Jesus, Still Lead On (NCH 446) is a relatively new one for us. It was one of two texts written in 1721 by Nicolaus Ludwig von Zinzendorf (whew!) which were combined into one in a 1778 hymnal. He was a founder of the United Brethren Church which had roots in the Moravian Church. Interestingly, that church was banned by the Saxony government, so Nicolaus traveled in the rest of Europe, the US and West Indies. The two hymns mentioned were written before his religious conversion. The tune "Seelenbräutigam" was composed by Adam Drese first for another text which he had written and published in 1698 in Darmstadt, Germany. (It was eventually married with our hymn text.) Drese was born in that town but actually studied in Warsaw where he was sponsored by Duke Wilhelm IV. He returned to Weimar upon completing his studies and served there as the Kapellmeister to the Duke. After Wilhelm died, the duke's son took him on and they traveled together to Jena where he eventually became mayor.

Our final hymn, *O My Soul, Bless Your Creator* (NCH 13, PH 100), is one that we have sung quite a few times in the PH version. The text is based on Psalm 103 whose 22 verses were compressed into 16 stanzas. It was first published in 1871 by the Presbyterian Church, N.A. but it could have first been published as an older version in 1650. Our PH version has only six stanzas while the NCH one has less, 5. As is usually the case, our newer version has been updated slightly. The UCC managed to "steal" it and it has become popular with us too. The tune "Stuttgart" comes from a German city and has been credited to Christian Witt as the composer. Son of a church musician in Gotha, Witt studied with several other musicians and was himself eventually appointed court organist and choirmaster in Gotha. Witt also composed a number of choral and instrumental sacred and secular works. The tune is used with three other hymns in the NCH including *Child of Blessing*, *Child of Promise* and *Come O Long Expected Jesus* and one other in the PH. The tune is one that we know well.

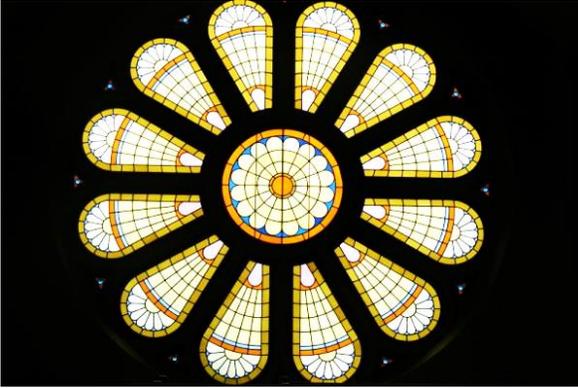


Cindy Morrell, Associate in Music

Resources used: [The New Century Hymnal Companion](#), ed. Kristen Forman (1998).

From the Church Historian

HISTORY OF THE ROSE WINDOW



After doing the article on our Center Church south rose window, some of the CAC readers asked about the background history of a rose window. Rose windows have been in existence since ancient Rome. They were developed from a small round open (no glass) Roman window. Through the years, they have been called wheel windows, Catherine windows and eventually rose windows. These were terms for windows generally in a circular shape divided into segments. Church buildings (cathedrals) began using these windows in the 900s, in what became known as Romanesque architecture, and then into Gothic architecture. Center Church follows the lines of a Romanesque building.

Rose windows are often glazed with stained glass. By the 1100s, rose windows took on a more decorative design. They were widely used at the west end of the church. The major design that we enjoy today came about in the 1200s. The scheme consists of a series of radiating geometric forms such as circles, squares triangles and stars symbolizing a biblical theme. Some of these symbols are lost on most observers today.

The French took rose windows to another level. Some magnificent examples are the windows that adorn Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris. They are beautiful works of art! Not only are they pleasing to the eye, but one feels a spiritual presence when viewing them. They are considered “flamboyant tracery” because they consist of an intricate network of wavy double-curved bars. Rose windows in general are made up of a series of smaller windows that radiate out from the center. Rose windows spread throughout Europe in Italy, Spain, Germany and England.

Stained glass is the main component of a rose window. Stained glass was originally composed of various metallic oxides created through intense molten heat. The effect of light coming through the glass was meant to convey a heightened sense of the Divine. They expressed the sense of human aspiration towards wholeness and coherence, causing one to meditate or even feel deep spiritual emotion when looking at them. Symbolism is a large part of what rose windows represent. The designs are full of geometry. Through shapes, arches and subdivision of forms the elements come together. There are specific biblical representations. Most windows have 12 sections or spokes which usually relate to the twelve apostles. One should think of the trinity as a symbolic whole when looking at the rose window i.e. God as the father, God the son, and God the Holy Spirit.

Center Church has three rose windows. They don't display human figures or various heraldic emblems. All three are the same design and simplistic according to our more puritan heritage. The center of our windows represent Jesus. The spokes that radiate out symbolize the 12 disciples. The blue triangles that encircle the outer rim are called the “eye of God” who watches over us. Our rose windows embody faith in God and faith in each other. These values contribute to strengthen our commitment to the church, the community/country, and our neighbors. When you are in the sanctuary, take a moment to contemplate and reflect on what you see in our beautiful, simple and silent rose windows. You will be happy that you did!

David C. Morrell, Center Church historian



EASTER FLOWERS

Once again, we will celebrate the Easter season by decorating our sanctuary with Easter Lilies, Tulips and Daffodils. If you would like to participate, **the deadline for placing your order is MARCH 15.** Lilies are \$10.00 each, tulips and daffodils \$9.00 each.

Please make your check payable to **"First Congregational Church"** and note **"Easter flower"** in the corner.

Please leave your completed form and your check at the church office or place in the Offering plate before the deadline.

Number of plants you wish to order:

Lilies _____ Tulips _____ Daffodils _____

Total payment enclosed _____



In loving memory of or In honor of **(circle one)**

(name(s))

(name(s))

Please check one of the following choices:

_____ I will pick up after church on Easter Sunday

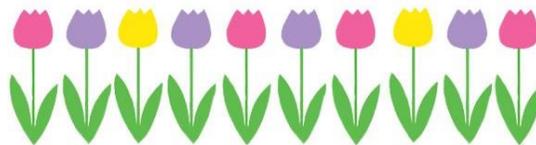
_____ I will pick up after Easter

_____ I would like my plant delivered to a shut-in

_____ To help, I will deliver my plant to: _____



Given by _____



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**OPEN YEAR ROUND FOR YOUR SHOPPING CONVENIENCE
CHECK OUT OUR GENTLY USED ITEMS FOR SALE
WE HAVE AN ASSORTMENT OF TREASURES
AWAITING YOU NOW.**



- 03 Cathy Irish
- 13 Jane Hazen
- Avery Lapis
- Zoe Lapis
- 14 Rod Kenneson
- 16 Dolly Crossland
- 17 David Blank
- 22 Carl Buschner
- Sandy Calkins
- Jared Waite
- Logan Waite
- 28 Patrick Sabbs
- 30 Betsy Bergen



February 5, 2018

First Congregational United Church of Christ
1 Church St
South Hadley, MA 01075-1527

Dear Friends in Christ:

Thank you for your gift of \$1,178.00 received on 12/25/2017 to support Hurricane 2017 Relief Efforts, designated for Puerto Rico. Your donation will help address the emergency now, as well as the long-term recovery that will be needed to get communities restored and people back into their homes. We are asking for prayers for everyone impacted by the storms, and for your continued support as the long-term recovery take shape.

On behalf of the United Church of Christ, thank you! Thank you for being inspired by God's grace, for partnering with us in loving our neighbors and uniting with us to build a just world for all.

Should you have any questions regarding your donation, please contact us at giving@ucc.org, or at 800-846-6822.

Faithfully,

Nichole M. Collins
Associate Director, Annual Giving and Special Events
Office of Philanthropy and Stewardship

Officers of the Church:
Rev. John C. Dorhauer
General Minister and President
Acting Executive Minister
Local Church Ministries
Rev. Traci D. Blackmon
Executive Minister
Justice and Witness Ministries
Rev. James A. Moos
Executive Minister
Wider Church Ministries

700 Prospect Avenue East, Cleveland, Ohio 44115-1100 | 866.822.8224 | ucc.org

Did you purchase mustard, jam or chocolate sauce at the Bazaar?
We can **reuse those jars (and any others you could donate)**
which cost about \$1.00 each. Bring them to the church when
you're done with them and help us keep our costs down next year.



AND if you have any plastic pots we will take them for the Plant Sale!

Thanks!!

THE MINISTRY AT CENTER CHURCH



Ministers: All Church Members
Senior Minister: Rev. Lori J. Souder
Minister Emeritus: Rev. Charles P. Blakney

Christian Education Program

Children: Martha Guild
Youth: Emily Carle
Adult: Randy Purinton and
Betsy Bergen, Team Chairs

Music Program

Organist: Larry Schipull
Choir Director: Cheryl Cobb
Associate in Music: Cynthia Morrell

Office Administrator: Cynthia Jubinville
Sexton: Bob Farman

The South Hadley Chorale, in collaboration with The Valley Winds, will present its annual concert on Sunday, March 11, 2018, at 3:00 p.m. in Abbey Memorial Chapel at Mount Holyoke College, South Hadley, Massachusetts. Featured works will include **Bach's** *O Jesu Christ, mein's Lebens Licht*; **Brahms' Begrabnisgesang**; **Schubert's Deutsche Messe**; and **Persichetti's Celebrations**.

Music Director Jonathan Harvey will conduct. Dr. Harvey is an Associate Professor of Music and Director of Choirs at Fitchburg State University and is the Chorus Director of the Pioneer Valley Symphony.

The Michael E. Smith Middle School Opus Singers, under the direction of Patricia Murawski, will open the concert.

A reception will immediately follow the concert at the First Congregational Church, South Hadley.

Tickets may be purchased at the door for \$20 general admission, \$15 for senior citizens, and \$5 for all students and children. Tickets may also be purchased prior to the concert day from Chorale members; at the Odyssey Bookstore, South Hadley; or online at www.eventbrite.com for \$16, \$11, and \$5.

This program is supported in part by a grant from the South Hadley Cultural Council, a local agency that is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council. For further information, please visit www.southhadleychorale.org or call 413-533-3833.

SOUTH HADLEY CHORALE

Sing Me the Universal: Music of Life and Death

J. S. Bach: *O Jesu Christ, mein's Lebens Licht* BWV 118
Lauren Bernofsky: *The Tiger*
Johannes Brahms: *Begräbnisgesang* op. 13
Franz Schubert: *Deutsche Messe* D872
Vincent Persichetti: *Celebrations*

South Hadley Chorale, **Jonathan Harvey, Conductor**

The Valley Winds, **Brian Messier, Conductor**

South Hadley Michael E. Smith Middle School
Opus Singers, **Patricia Murawski, Director**



Admission \$20.00 Senior Citizens \$15.00 Students/Children 12 and under \$5.00
(Preconcert and online: \$16; \$11; \$5)



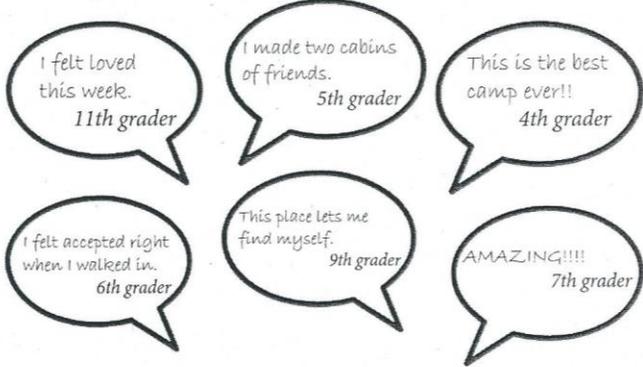
Tickets at Door, at Odyssey Bookstore-South Hadley, or online at:
www.shconcert.eventbrite.com

*This program is supported in part by a grant from the South Hadley Cultural Council,
a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency*

Sunday, March 11, 2018 - 3 p.m.
Abbey Memorial Chapel
Mount Holyoke College

Encounter God's Love in Creation

Why Choose Silver Lake?



SUMMER 2018 CONFERENCE DATES:

- PreCamp: June 17-23
- Week 1: June 24-June 30
- Week 2: July 1-7
- Week 3: July 8-14
- Week 4: July 15-21
- Week 5: July 22-28
- Week 6: July 29-Aug. 4
- Week 7: Aug. 5-11



Summer Camp for grades 4 through 12; register online at

silverlakect.org

Friendship unity Deepening of Faith



Spring fever



Daily Lectionary Scripture References March 2018 (Year B)

<p>Thurs., Mar. 1 Psalm 19 Exodus 19:1-9a 1 Peter 2:4-10</p> <p>Fri., Mar. 2 Psalm 19 Exodus 19:9b-15 Acts 7:30-40</p> <p>Sat., Mar. 3 Psalm 19 Exodus 19:16-25 Mark 9:2-8</p> <p>Sun., Mar. 4 <i>Third Sunday in Lent</i> Exodus 20:1-17 Psalm 19 1 Corinthians 1:18-25 John 2:13-22</p> <p>Mon., Mar. 5 Psalm 84 1 Kings 6:1-4, 21-22 1 Corinthians 3:10-23</p> <p>Tues., Mar. 6 Psalm 84 2 Chronicles 29:1-11, 16-19 Hebrews 9:23-28</p> <p>Wed., Mar. 7 Psalm 84; Ezra 6:1-16 Mark 11:15-19</p> <p>Thurs., Mar. 8 Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22 Genesis 9:8-17 Ephesians 1:3-6</p> <p>Fri., Mar. 9 Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22 Daniel 12:5-13 Ephesians 1:7-14</p> <p>Sat., Mar. 10 Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22 Numbers 20:22-29 John 3:1-13</p> <p>Sun., Mar. 11 <i>Fourth Sunday in Lent</i> Numbers 21:4-9 Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22 Ephesians 2:1-10 John 3:14-21</p>	<p>Mon., Mar. 12 Psalm 107:1-16 Exodus 15:22-27 Hebrews 3:1-6</p> <p>Tues., Mar. 13 Psalm 107:1-16 Numbers 20:1-13 1 Corinthians 10:6-13</p> <p>Wed., Mar. 14 Psalm 107:1-16 Isaiah 60:15-22 John 8:12-20</p> <p>Thurs., Mar. 15 Psalm 51:1-12 Isaiah 30:15-18 Hebrews 4:1-13</p> <p>Fri., Mar. 16 Psalm 51:1-12 Exodus 30:1-10 Hebrews 4:14-5:4</p> <p>Sat., Mar. 17 Psalm 51:1-12 Habakkuk 3:2-13 John 12:1-11</p> <p>Sun., Mar. 18 <i>Fifth Sunday in Lent</i> Jeremiah 31:31-34 Psalm 51:1-12 or Psalm 119:9-16; Hebrews 5:5-10 John 12:20-33</p> <p>Mon., Mar. 19 Psalm 119:9-16 Isaiah 43:8-13 2 Corinthians 3:4-11</p> <p>Tues., Mar. 20 Psalm 119:9-16 Isaiah 44:1-8 Acts 2:14-24</p> <p>Wed., Mar. 21 Psalm 119:9-16 Haggai 2:1-9, 20-23 John 12:34-50</p> <p>Thurs., Mar. 22 Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29 Deuteronomy 16:1-8 Philippians 2:1-11</p>	<p>Fri., Mar. 23 Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29 Jeremiah 33:1-9 Philippians 2:12-18</p> <p>Sat., Mar. 24 Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29 Jeremiah 33:10-16 Mark 10:32-34, 46-52</p> <p>Sun., Mar. 25 <i>Passion Sunday or Palm Sunday</i> Palms: Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29 Mark 11:1-11 or John 12:12-16 Passion: Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 31:9-16; Philippians 2:5-11; Mark 14:1-15:47 or Mark 15:1-39 [40-47]</p> <p>Mon., Mar. 26 Isaiah 42:1-9; Psalm 36:5-11 Hebrews 9:11-15; John 12:1-11</p> <p>Tues., Mar. 27 Isaiah 49:1-7; Psalm 71:1-14 1 Corinthians 1:18-31 John 12:20-36</p> <p>Wed., Mar. 28 Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 70 Hebrews 12:1-3 John 13:21-32</p> <p>Thurs., Mar. 29 <i>Maundy Thursday</i> 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</p> <p>Fri., Mar. 30 <i>Good Friday</i> Isaiah 52:13-53:12; Psalm 22 Hebrews 10:16-25 or Hebrews 4:14-16; John 18:1-19:42</p> <p>Sat., Mar. 31 <i>Holy Saturday</i> Job 14:1-14 or Lamentations 3:1-9, 19-24 Psalm 31:1-4, 15-16 Psalm 148 1 Peter 4:1-8 Matthew 27:57-66 or John 19:38-42</p>
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On the first Sunday of each month, please bring any of the following items to worship:

- | | | | |
|-------------------|---------------|----------------|-----------|
| Canned vegetables | Canned fruits | Cereals | Soups |
| Dried Pastas | Rice | Canned beans | Tuna Fish |
| Peanut Butter | Jam/Jelly | Juices | Crackers |
| Spaghetti sauce | | Meals in a can | |



The monthly offering is used for direct appeals to Center Church and for donation to local food pantries.

Our gifts are extended to the hungry and the poor - those who need them most!
Food offerings may be left inside the Church Street entrance at other times.

Thank you for your compassionate response!