



“GOD IS STILL SPEAKING”

***NEVER PLACE A PERIOD
WHERE GOD HAS PLACED A COMMA***

”

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

United Church of Christ - ONA

One Church Street

South Hadley, Massachusetts 01075

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**** The two center sections of the sanctuary are equipped with a hearing loop.
Turn on the T-coil in your hearing aid and sit in one of these sections
for better hearing**

HEARING LOOP INSTALLED
Switch hearing aid to T-coil
© 2011

September 19, 2021

Welcome to Worship at Center Church.

We are glad you can join us in person or on Facebook – during worship time or at your convenience. Please feel free to contact us with any concerns or spiritual needs.

*If you are new to the community, please take one of our **All About Us** pamphlets, found on the table in the Narthex or Crossway.*



When you get to a place where you understand that love and belonging, your worthiness, is a birthright and not something you have to earn, anything is possible.
Brene Brown

PRELUDE

Beecher

M.H. Corl

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASSING OF THE PEACE

CHORAL INTROIT

HYMN *Called as Partners in Christ's Service* black #495 vv. 1&2

JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE PEOPLE

MORNING PRAYERS

Prayer of Confession (unison)

O God, we are consumed with comparing ourselves to others, seeking to be the greatest, smartest or fastest. But all along, you just want us to be ourselves in serving others. Forgive us, and lead us into peace.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Pastoral Prayer

Silence

Lord's Prayer (debts)

*Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be your name.
Your Kingdom come; your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.*

*Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.*

*And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever.*

Amen

READING FROM THE SCRIPTURES

Mark 9:33-37 The Message

30-32 Leaving there, they went through Galilee. He didn't want anyone to know their whereabouts, for he wanted to teach his disciples. He told them, "The Son of Man is about to be betrayed to some people who want nothing to do with God. They will murder him. Three days after his murder, he will rise, alive." They didn't know what he was talking about, but were afraid to ask him about it.**33** They came to Capernaum. When he was safe at home, he asked them, "What were you discussing on the road?"

34 The silence was deafening—they had been arguing with one another over who among them was greatest. **35** He sat down and summoned the Twelve. "So you want first place? Then take the last place. Be the servant of all."**36-37** He put a child in the middle of the room. Then, cradling the little one in his arms, he said, "Whoever embraces one of these children as I do embraces me, and far more than me—God who sent me."

SERMON**WORTHINESS****OFFERING**

Invitation *Please place your offering in the plate as you leave*

Musical Offering

Cantilena

J.G. Rheinberger

Dedication

HYMN

Called as Partners in Christ's Service black #495 vv. 3&4

BENEDICTION**POSTLUDE**

Neander

H. Walcha

*We invite you to remain quietly
and celebrate the conclusion of worship in the postlude.*

*We hope that you find your worship experience meaningful.
If you are new to the community, we invite you to make this your church home.*

In our Service Today

Preacher:

Rev. Lori J. Souder

Scripture Reader:

Bob Judge

Organist/Music Director:

Larry Schipull

Hymn Singer:

Tim Garrett

Deacon:

Gretchen LaBonte

Greeter:

Karen Hyvonen

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS

Continual:

Emily Bangs-Orsini (at Mission Care Holyoke)
Luke Bradley (lifelong battle with cancer)
Muriel Graham
Audrey Heinrichs
Tom Hazen
Phyllis Lacoste
Anna Sibley
Art Stanley



We keep all those affected by the Coronavirus, in our prayers

. We keep our Member- in -Discernment, Emily Carle, in our prayers, as she begins her studies at Louisville Seminary

If you have submitted one of these requests for prayer, please let us know when it is time to remove someone's name from the list.

Situational:

Estelle Anderson, recovering from a fall
Karen Anderson
Yvette Clarke
Cheryl Cobb, home
Loxley Coffin, granddaughter of Karol and Art
Joan Duffy
Audrey Heaphy's brother-in-law, Bob Brandt
Grace Hooton
Eunice Howes, for stabilization of vision
Jim K, with stomach cancer
Fay Paquette
Robin Roberts, friend of Linda Wolf, following surgery
Alina Sokop, undergoing chemo
Eric Tipton following kidney replacement surgery

We keep those serving in the military in our prayers



Center Church Announcements

. Bible Study: Sailing on with Paul

Join us for more Bible Study on the Book of Acts in the Conference Room at Loomis Village, Thursdays from 10-11am. All are welcome - come to one or join us for all. Sept 23 Acts: 15:36-21: 16 Paul's 2nd and 3rd mission trips
Oct 7 Acts 21:17-28:31 Paul does Rome not on a moped
Oct 14 Finish up prior week and conclude

Sign up through the front desk at Loomis. Get ready for some sea travel!



Center Church and the Outreach Team will be hosting the meal for Cathedral in the Night TODAY. With the help of Gail from Food for Friends, we prepared the hot meal yesterday and we will heat it up on Sunday afternoon to deliver by 4pm in Northampton. We will also need to make 100 sandwiches (including 20 PB&J) to provide as well. If you'd like to help make sandwiches this afternoon, please contact John Hoffman at hoffmanje3@gmail.com or call 413-535-9754.



Racial Justice Vigils continue, since the last time any of us looked around, racism exists. Please join us; we gather from 10-10:30 in front of the church, social distancing, wearing face coverings, and bringing a sign. Our bell ringer, Randy P. rings in the vigil and sends us safely home.



While we try to absorb the devastation wrought by summer fires and hurricanes, most recently in Haiti and Louisiana, but also New Jersey and much of the western US, some areas are bracing for yet another onslaught. The response to such disasters is often quick, but the need for assistance is ongoing and long lasting. If you would like to help, you may write a check to Center Church, with "disaster relief" in the memo line, or place your offering in a labeled envelope. It will be sent to the UCC disaster response effort where 100% of donations go to that work. You may also donate on our website <https://centerchurchsouthhadley.org/donate-give/> , Disaster Relief fund.

On Friday, October 29th, at 7 pm, the Stewardship Team and *Music at the Center* will present another world-class community benefit concert ~ *Jazz For Justice, Peace, and Dignity* ~ right here at Center Church!

This year, New York City based trumpeter and vocalist, [Benny Benack III](#), headlines this benefit event with an extraordinary cast of musicians behind him. The band also features New York based artists [Addison Frei](#) on piano, [Russell Hall](#) on bass, [Kyle Poole](#) on drums, and special guest vocalist [Tahira Clayton](#).

The concert will open with a short set by the [Berkshire Hills Music Academy](#)'s Jazz Ensemble.

Admission is \$25 in advance / \$30 CASH at the door (\$15 students). Advance individual ticket sales and VIP packages can be purchased here on [Eventbrite](#), or, you may contact Thia in the church office to secure your advance reservations as well (without any fees!).

This community benefit concert event will directly benefit efforts to address food and housing security, and social and racial justice issues here in the Pioneer Valley. A portion of the proceeds will be shared with each of the following organizations critical to these efforts:

- [Cathedral in the Night](#)
- [Healing Racism Institute of Pioneer Valley](#)
- [Neighbors Helping Neighbors](#)
- [Pioneer Valley Habitat for Humanity](#)

Please direct any questions - or your ability to help volunteer the night of the show - to any member of the Stewardship Team (Brian Lapis, John Anz, Gretchen LaBonte, and Jane Markarian)

More soon - stay tuned....

MUSIC at the CENTER
presents
Jazz for Justice, Peace & Dignity
a community benefit concert in support of food and housing security, and social and racial justice

The Benny Benack Band
Benny Benack III (t, v), Addison Frei (p), Russell Hall (b), Kyle Poole (d)

with special guest Tahira Clayton (v)

Friday, October 29, 2021
Center Church | One Church Street | South Hadley, MA
Doors open at 6:30 pm
Concert at 7:00 pm

Admission:
\$25 in advance
\$30 at the door
Students \$15

Advance individual & preferred package tickets sale at:
www.eventbrite.com

Thank you to our generous sponsors...

fibersonic, E Ink, PeoplesBank, PIP, Mass Cultural Council

SRJC: This program is supported in part by a grant from the South Hadley Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.

Super Saturday Registration is Now Open!



***With the uncertainty of Covid, the October Super Saturday will again be Virtual.
Our priority is the safety of our attendees.***

Join us for Virtual Super Saturday on **October 2, 2021** featuring [Dr. Monica Coleman](#). Super Saturday is filled with a variety of virtual workshops, marketplace and networking.

This October, we will be offering some **1 Hour** workshops and a few **1 Hour Midday** workshops in addition to our standard 1.5 hours and extended workshops for attendees who want to be busy all day. Sign up for as many or as few as you like. View the [New Schedule](#).

Super Saturday is focusing on **renewal** on a personal and congregational level. Some of the workshops we are offering - ***Assessing and Discerning Your Church's Future; Where Have We Been? What Have We Learned?; Become a Racial Justice Trainer; What's the Difference Between Charity, Advocacy and Social Justice?; Pray with Jesus; The Simplicity of Mindfulness; Pandemic Learnings, Reclaiming Commons*** and many more.

Click [HERE](#) to see the Workshop offerings.

THE MINISTRY AT CENTER CHURCH

Ministers:	All Church Members
Senior Minister:	Rev. Lori J. Souder
Member in Discernment:	Emily Carle

Christian Education Program

Children:	Martha Guild, Chelsea Korzeniowski and Molly Thomas
Youth:	Emily Carle and Kayla Scott-McDowell

Music

Organist:	Larry Schipull
Choir Director:	Cheryl Cobb
Associate in Music:	Cynthia Morrell
Office Administrator:	Cynthia Jubinville
Sexton:	Robert Farman