

**CENTRE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

193 Main Street Brattleboro, Vermont 05301
centrechurch@centrechurchvt.org

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CENTRE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

193 Main Street, Brattleboro, VT 05301-2842
Office Hours: M - F / 8:30 AM - 12:30 PM
Church Office: (802) 254-4730 / centrechurch@centrechurchvt.org
Website: www.centrechurchvt.org

Facebook: Centre Congregational Church-Brattleboro VT
Instagram: @centrechurchvt

Current news/information in the larger UCC Community:
www.vtcucc.org / National: www.ucc.org
VT Conference: www.vtcucc.org

CHURCH STAFF AND LEADERSHIP

Minister and Teacher: The Rev. Dr. Scott Couper: (786) 622-8473 (cell)
centrepastor@centrechurchvt.org
Music Director: Mary Milky-May: music@centrechurchvt.org
Administrator: Bruce Landenberger: admin@centrechurchvt.org
Financial Secretary: Christine Yost: finance@centrechurchvt.org
Council Chair: William McCarty
Treasurer: Anne Fecto
Clerk: Connie Bresnahan
Custodian: John Bertolini

MINISTER'S COLUMN, Scott Couper

Dear Friends in Christ,

Perhaps it is more than appropriate that as Spring arrives we introduce a sermon series on the environment entitled "Sacred Creation". New life is springing forth from the ground and our surroundings in the great state of Vermont are turning verdant and bucolic.

Many rightfully question to what degree is environment relevant to the Bible or Jesus' teachings. This sermon series will answer with an emphatic "VERY!" The biblical narrative is pregnant and saturated with themes related to our environment.

Our sermon series will focus on a Theology of Creation. The word 'creation' comes from the Latin root word *crea*, which according to Genesis includes the solar system, our galaxy and indeed, the entire universe.

In our spring sermon series, we will examine the *cosmos*. When the Hebrew scriptures were written, the Earth was mostly thought of as a flat disc floating on water. Yahweh, or God, kept the Earth from sinking into the chaotic waters. Ancient Greeks used the word *cosmos* to say 'world' and 'order' because they believed that the world was perfectly harmonious and impeccably put in order. We have learned a great deal about our world since the ancient Hebrew and Greeks wrote their texts. Therefore, I believe strongly that science should inform our theology, rather than our theology should at all costs resist science.

Our sermon series will link Genesis, Revelation, and all that lies between and propose that God intends that all of creation be a beneficiary of God's salvific plan. In other words, not only humans, but the cosmos, the world, is in need of saving. Throughout the scriptures, Creation is anthropomorphized, that is, given human characteristics. The Greek root word *anthro* means 'human'; *morph* means 'change'. So, inanimate objects such as rocks are given human attributes – the ability to speak. During the passion of Holy Week, we read in Luke 19:40 that 'if they kept quiet, even the stones will cry out!'

Another related theme of our sermon series will be the degree to which we as humans and our Christian theology are sadly anthropocentric, or 'human-centered'. I will preach that we need to move to a more cosmocentric theology, or a 'world-centered' theology. This is not radical. This is not new. It may be new to modern, western, Protestant, and Reformed theology since the Age of Enlightenment and the Industrial Revolu-

tion, but it is 'old school' theology and this wisdom is mined from our ancient scriptures. A cosmocentric theology is not against an anthropocentric theology – rather it includes it! For humans cannot live and thrive without or outside of a healthy and 'saved' cosmos.

Finally, we will examine why there is so much resistance, and thus 'cognitive dissonance', in the politics surrounding climate change. The resistance to scientists, and I would argue, ancient Hebrew and Christian theology, is sourced from an ideology, or rather an idolatry, that premises manna, or money, over that which is sacred. Has our country's god become the GDP and non-stop forever 'economic growth' and abundance? Is all else to be sacrificed for a superpower's economic growth? These questions are not political, they are theological. For the former is included in the later.

I pray you will join us in this challenging and thought and feeling provoking sermon series.

Love always in Christ, Scott



VITALITY INITIATIVE UPDATE

On March 26, Scott Couper, Gina Hammet and myself joined the Vermont Vitality Cluster of eleven churches for 90 minutes of sharing. Already the Palm Sunday parade from Pliny Park and the sunrise service on the town Common have been inspired by this program. And there's more good news. The \$1,500 cost of the year-long coaching program has been funded as follows: \$500 from the Vermont Conference of the United Church of Christ, to which Centre Church donates as a special offering, and \$1,000 from the Johnson Family Future Fund, which had over \$5,000. Each week we get a newsletter vitality idea from coach Paul Nickerson. The Church Vitality Team currently consists of Gina Hammett, Bonnie Girvan, and Roger Brown. The next Team call is at 6pm on June 4.

-Roger Brown

Council Chair, BILL McCARTY

Spring is here. There may not be many spring flowers - but there is no snow!

Centre Church Council is preparing for the warmer weather and the spring time. At the April meeting, council approved plans for a Church Vitality Initiative - a year-long plan to rejuvenate and inspire more participation and activity in our church. More information will be forthcoming from the Vitality Team in the near future.

Council has also approved the most recent Space Envisioning plan for the main floor. You all have seen the proposals in *Centre Bells* and *eNews*. It will involve a few moves and change of use of various rooms in the Wells annex. Watch for the changes and new name designations on the walls and doors. The plan is in place and it will be revisited in twelve months to determine its effectiveness or if it will need further amendment.

The monthly Board and Committee Meeting Night has been reinstated. Boards will again be meeting every second Tuesday evening at 6:00pm. (Council will continue to meet every third Tuesday at 6:00pm). The reversion and change has been necessitated due to scheduling issues.

The Centre Church Annual Program Meeting has been scheduled this year for Sunday, 19 May to attend to old and new issues and the election of new officers and boards. Please plan to attend this very important annual meeting. All members may discuss and vote and friends are welcome to attend, speak to any issue, and be heard.

The reliability and vitality of Centre Church depends on the involvement of all members and friends. It is particularly important that new and younger people be involved in Church activities. Please join in our activities and government. If you have any questions or comments, please speak to a Council or Board member.

Council is looking forward to a new slate of officers and a rejuvenation with younger members and friends.

Thank you and see you in church!

CENTRE BELLS-May 2019

The newsletter of
Centre Congregational Church,
United Church of Christ

DEACONS

There will be many changes in the next few weeks at Centre Church. As you enter the front walkway of the church you will see a burst of color in our gardens. Tulips, daffodils, hyacinths, and anemones will grace your path and greet you!

As you enter the front doors, please notice the beautiful paraments that Heidi Mario made for the lectern and the pulpit for our sanctuary. They are both very unique and will be treasured. Many thanks Heidi for all you do for Centre Church.

Also look up and you will see our Spring wreaths have been refreshed with new flowers and bows.

The deacon of the month of May is Carlene McCarty.

BROWN BAG LUNCH GROUP

This group has been having a hard time getting together, with illness and conflict interfering. Nonetheless, plans are to try again on **Wednesday, May 1** to share conversation over the individual lunches we bring. Celebrate May Day with us and enjoy a spring day together catching up on everything.

BUILDING & GROUNDS

Centre Church steeple was refurbished late last summer as our church members recognized the need to do so. A motion was passed at the congregational meeting last May to borrow the needed \$40,000 from our own endowment and to replenish this amount promptly. We have received generous support totaling \$22,000 and now have a golden opportunity to add an additional \$6,000 if we match a proposed anonymous gift of \$3,000. Many small gifts and a couple of not so small ones can accomplish this goal. We know you value our beautiful historical structure, so please send a check to the church office labeling it for the steeple fund. Together we can fulfill our promise.

MISSION & SERVICE

May's **SECOND SUNDAY OFFERING** will go to the *Brattleboro Summer Lunch Program*, which provides nutritious lunches throughout the Summer vacation to children who would be receiving free or reduced lunches in school during the school year. This program is administered by the school district, but mostly funded by grants and donations. Mission & Service applies for a small grant from the Vermont Conference each year, as well as raising funds in the Offering. Many children from low-income families would be going hungry through the summer without programs such as this.

MEMBER CARE

It is a joy to take up the responsibility again of submitting an article for *Centre Bells*.

For one fourth of 2019, I've been off the job as chair of this Board. My husband, Darrel, died in mid-December. Days after that, several of my falls in our house resulted in the breaking of my left "already dying" hip. As you can imagine this has been the worst time in my life.

I am suffering what many of you already have. We can't wipe away the grief in our own hearts or others. But help came to me from many of you. Our minister, Scott Couper, visited me at Pine Heights every week. He was the first visitor when I arrived home on March 30. He brought news of the church and always strong prayers for me and my family. Cards and letters filled my Putney post office box and also that of Pine Heights. You visited and many brought cups of Dunkin' Donuts coffee, and sometimes a donut too.

Offers of help when I arrive home came from many. I appreciate the kindness and encouragement offered to me from so many of you. I'm taking this opportunity to thank you for your help and thoughtful prayers.

LOAVES & FISHES

Do you remember at church when our children last Autumn accompanied two wagonloads of food down the center aisle in observance of the *Project Feed the Thousands*? Our faith formation group at the same time donated \$110.79 to the project. This Spring, *Loaves & Fishes* was the recipient of a \$2,500 grant as a result of this yearly campaign. We are grateful to Jeffrey Morse, Co-Chair of *Project Feed the Thousands* and his staff for this generous gift.

Project Feed the Thousands was started in 1994 by Larry Smith, formerly of WTSA radio, and Entergy Vermont Yankee (ret.) and George Haynes, formerly of the Brattleboro Savings & Loan (ret.). Their initial goal was to fill a single tractor trailer with food for people in Brattleboro area. Over the years, the need has grown. *Project Feed the Thousands* has also grown in size and scope. Today, it collects multiple tractor trailers' worth of food and personal care items for thousands of people in and around six communities across southeastern Vermont and southwestern New Hampshire. They also aim to raise more than \$60,000 in cash.

WOMEN'S SPIRIT

This group which is open to everyone is continuing to read and discuss *Women Rowing North*. We meet each Thursday at 4:30 in the library and are learning about others who are going through similar experiences, whether male or female. Talking things over and sharing is a big asset of this group. Come join us.

COMPASSIONATE BRATTLEBORO

continues to present *Community Conversations on Compassion* in May. Compassionate Brattleboro's mission is to raise community awareness about the meaning of compassion in our lives, and ways in which compassion can influence the town's government, the organizations and institutions within the town, and, most important, among the town's citizens in our daily lives and interactions with others. All programs will be held at 6:30pm, at the Brooks Memorial Library. Admission is free and all are invited to attend. It would be great if our church was visibly present and supportive.

May 8 Compassion and Our Schools

May 22 Compassion and Healing

Everyone is invited to the *MOMENT for PEACE*

Friday, May 3 • 5:30-6:00pm

Tuning in to the Heart of Peace

Beginning and ending with vibrant chant in unison and harmony, we will cultivate peace and resonance in our hearts as the container for a guided meditation of intercession for our world. The chants are non-sectarian. The intercessory meditation is from the contemplative Christian tradition, engaging Jesus' model as Teacher. All are welcome to participate silently or vocally.

adwoa, our guide, is a Christian follower of God, rooted in Episcopal soil, and nourished by contemplative/wisdom spirituality. She has spent time in monastic settings and now endeavors to share that spirituality with others seeking to be transformed toward sustainable union with God and one another.

COMPASSION STORY OF THE MONTH

[With Brattleboro voting overwhelmingly to become part of the international Charter for Compassion, the Reformer and The Commons have agreed to publish a "compassion story of the month." This is the 21st.]

Compassion Abroad through Bite and Sight, by Peter Abell, Marion Abell, and Jenifer Ambler

In the late 1990s, the three of us organized a group of individuals to visit El Salvador and treat indigent persons in need of eye exams and dental care. There were a dozen of us - teens to retirees, professionals and helpers from all walks of life. We called ourselves "Team Sight and Bite" and carried with us donated eyeglasses, dental instruments and disposable supplies from optometrists and dentists throughout Vermont.

On one of these days, we traveled by small boat across Lake Suchitlan to a remote area, unloaded our suitcases, reloaded them into the back of a couple of pick-up trucks and continued our journey deeper into the backcountry. We pulled up at a small building with an open-air porch where we found long lines of villagers who had been recruited by local health workers and had traveled long distances on foot or horseback to get there.

After setting up our makeshift "offices," Jenifer proceeded to examine a diminutive elderly woman and found prescriptive glasses as close to the woman's needs as she could. Jenifer gently adjusted the frames and assisted the woman to stand and make room for the next patient. The woman, with a look of total amazement, stared at her surroundings and, with tears trickling down her cheeks, exclaimed loudly, "God Bless - I can see the birds again and I can read my Bible."

Imagine! Returning home, we spoke about our deeper understanding of the dictum that it is more blessed to give than to receive.

Over the past 27 years, groups of us from this area have been offering such services to needy persons in El Salvador, Honduras and Haiti. The experiences have been memorable and, by all accounts, have proven to be useful and highly valued. Those of you who have worked in low income countries will resonate with the extraordinary understandings that emanate from such work.

All of this began in the early 1990's with a memorable visit Peter made to El Salvador with the Center for Global Education.

The Brattleboro Rotary Club, inspired by a talk Peter gave upon returning, then sponsored a trip for dental, optometry and other medical specialists to provide services to a refugee population in the small El Salvador village of El Sitio Cenicero. The observations of this group led to further investigations by students from SIT and Dartmouth, culminating in a major initiative by our Rotary Club - in concert with the San Salvador Noroeste Rotary Club, to provide potable water solutions to villagers. The non-profit Pure Water for the World was the result, a registered 501(c)(3) organization with offices in El Salvador, Honduras, Haiti, and the US. Through comprehensive water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) efforts - both hardware provision and intensive counseling, Pure Water has saved many thousands of lives in these countries.

And imagine this: In 1994, a group of us together with a team from the San Salvador Noroeste Rotary Club visited a humble village, El Sitio Cenicero, located deep in an area that had been controlled by guerrillas during that country's civil war.

The directiva (governing body) of the village asked to meet with us all, and we sat around a table under the huge Amate tree (from which, we later learned, peasants from that village had been hanged during the war). It felt like a micro summit meeting. To the local folks, the San Salvador Rotarians represented the country's wealth - as a power elite seeking to maintain control and subjugation of the peasants.

(Conversely, despite the fact that the U.S. supported the Salvadoran army, treasury, police and death squads, despite the fact that the area had been carpet bombed by U.S. planes, we, shepherded in by a justice-oriented NGO, were seen by the peasants as sympathetic to their plight). All of us were more than a little nervous. But the unforeseen was in store: By the end of the meeting, the combined assemblage of us had together come up with a plan for the construction of a much-needed school for the town. Something important had taken place, and it felt like our presence had made a difference.

Peter's early visit also generated for Centre Church a sister parish relationship in El Salvador with a small congregation located in the community of Cabañitas. Its pastor, Francisco Aguilar, had been working without a salary, surviving on welding jobs he did on the side and doing his pastoral work by bus. Centre Church helped out with the provision of automobiles, and established a scholarship program which has taken some children from kindergarten to the university. Meanwhile, teenage girls from the two congregations have developed long term friendships.

Let us close with a heartbreaking story from our work in Haiti, one we weren't able to affect, but which brought home to us the desperate struggles encountered by so many of the disenfranchised living in these countries.

Peter and Marion had traveled to Jeremie, a town about 100 miles west of Port au Prince where we were providing similar services.

On the last day of our stay, an old woman, far beyond child bearing age but cradling an infant girl, was patiently waiting for an exam and treatment. Our translator told us that local folks called this grandma "Madame Sarah", and that she had cared for her granddaughter ever since the baby's mother returned to the city to work. The old woman approached us speaking in her Creole dialect and held the baby out to us.

Our translator paused, and then haltingly explained that the woman was asking us to take the child with us back to the U.S. and care for her.

We were brought to tears realizing what it must be like to sacrifice your child to total strangers in the hope that the baby would survive and live a healthy life. Her tragic plea had to remain unfulfilled.

Our hope is that Brattleboro itself might soon develop a sister community relationship with Cabañitas, focusing on the extraordinary work taking place there - and remembering also this extraordinary connection.

[Note from the Compassionate Brattleboro Committee: Fittingly, the 2018 Brattleboro Unsung Hero Award went to dentists in our area who have delivered such services and who have provided free treatment to low income individuals locally.]

MARGARET A. JOHNSON—Obituary

The Chesterfield community will greatly miss their lifelong friend and resident, Margaret A. Johnson 91, who passed away on Friday, March 29, 2019 at the Cheshire Medical Center / Dartmouth Hitchcock, Keene.

Her parents, Maurice and Elvira (Lawrence) Amidon, welcomed their daughter into the world on September 10, 1927 in Chesterfield, NH. Margaret was a 1945 graduate of Brattleboro (VT) High School and attended Bryant College where she received a bachelor degree in Executive Secretary 1, in 1947.

Immediately following her graduation from Bryant College, Margaret began her work career with Gannett Law Office in Brattleboro.

Margaret was well known within the Chesterfield community with her role as tax collector for 34 years, a position she held while also working at the law office. She also served her community by cooking and providing meals for senior citizens in Chesterfield once a month which in the beginning included serving them in her home. She also worked at Joan's Food Pantry helping to keep the shelves stocked and getting donations into the right hands. Additionally, she volunteered her time at Maplewood Nursing Home sorting clothes that would then be offered to the residents.

For Margaret, family was first and foremost to her. She enjoyed picking blueberries and creating many wonderful treats with these. She also was a wonderful baker of cookies which were her children's favorites. Her perfect day was spending time with her family, especially her grandchildren, at their camp in Richmond, NH. She also enjoyed traveling with her husband, Carl.

She will be greatly missed by many, especially her children, Joanne Azevedo and her husband Al, of Ceres, CA; Carol Johnson-Goulet and her husband George Goulet, of Chesterfield; Patty Haversat and her husband Eric, of Tewksbury, MA; Dr. Carl Johnson and his wife Joanne, of Bellingham, WA; Arthur Johnson and his wife Donna, of Keene; her grandchildren, Jennifer Bobbin and her husband Jared, Ryan Johnson (Alexandra Marella), Jacob Haversat, Jocelyn Haversat, Philip Goulet (Ashton Gatley), Gregory Goulet, Bryce Johnson; a great-granddaughter, Harper Bobbin; her brothers, Ralph Amidon and his wife Peggy, of Grafton, MA, Norman Amidon of Hinsdale, NH; and several nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her husband of 59 years, Carl A. Johnson, on May 30, 2012; and a sister, Thelma Boucher.

In lieu of flowers, for those who wish, donations may be made in Mrs. Johnson's memory to Centre Congregational Church, 193 Main Street, Brattleboro, VT 05301 –or– to the Town of Chesterfield New Annex Kitchen Supplies, 557 Route 63, Chesterfield, NH 03443.

PEOPLE



A word of good cheer would be warmly received by members and friends of our church who are in nursing homes, assisted living centers, or are housebound as of March 26.

The Rev. David Cutting—Pine Heights #406
187 Oak Grove Ave., Brattleboro, VT 05301

Fran Burrows—Langdon Place
136A Arch St. #150, Keene, NH 03431

Jeanne Rueter—Thompson House
80 Maple St., Brattleboro, VT
254-4977

Nancy Clarke—Holton Home
158 Western Ave, Brattleboro, VT
254-4155

Wanda Godfrey—Vernon Hall
13 Greenway Dr., Vernon, VT
254-2444

Phyllis Hickok
1520 Little Blue Stem Ct., Ames, IA 50014
515-337-1956

Jane Reed—Valley Cares
461 Grafton Rd., #101, Townshend, VT
802-221-4213

Karen Getty Peter—Pine Rock Manor
3 Denny Hill Rd., Warner, NH 03278

*Please let the Administrator know
if we've missed someone.*



NEW CONTACT INFORMATION

Judy Palmer's address was incorrectly listed in the 2019 Directory of Members & Friends. The correct address is: **81 Wyman Rd. #305
Keene, NH 03431**

CAREGIVER AVAILABLE

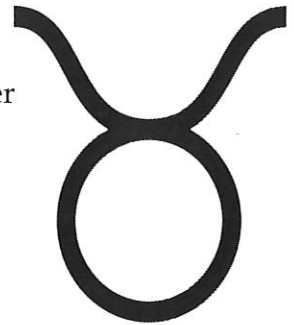
I am looking to connect with anyone who is in need assistance with:

- animal care
- house cleaning
- house sitting
- personal care, help of any kind for an elder or other.

Jeanushka Fishell: 802.275.7791 / jnushka07@gmail.com

BIRTHDAYS

- 4 Bruce Landenberger
- 11 Bernadette (Mo) Meyer
- 16 Jackson Grobe
Karen Rydant
- 18 Arthur Freeman
- 20 Frances Burrows
- 21 Ann Brinton
- 26 Al Rydant



NEEDED: A small wagon or cart that could carry coffee supplies from place to place in our fair town. Contact Margo Neale:
802.579.1602 / margoblue@myfairpoint.net

PROGRESSIVE DINNER

When: **Friday, May 17**

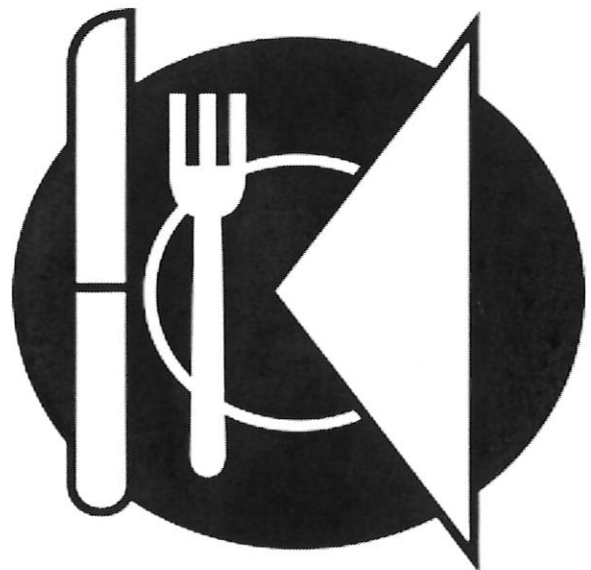
Where: **5:00pm**, Appetizers at Margo Neale's house

6:00pm, Entrée in the Church Parlor
(menu - Tuscan tomato and roasted red
pepper soup, Chicken Marbella, sides)

7:00pm, Fantastic Desserts at the McCarty's.

Tickets: **\$30.00/person**, available from
Anne Doesburg: 802.490.2075 -and-
Carlene McCarty: 603.363.2050 /
vtbooklady@gmail.com.

Invite friends to come with you for this wonderful evening and Centre Church fundraiser!



MAY 2019

**Holy Communion
celebrated

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 8 ⁴⁵ Devotional 12 ⁰⁰ Brown Bag Lunch 5 ³⁰ AA Meeting	2 8 ⁴⁵ Devotional 1 ³⁰ Quilting Ministry 4 ³⁰ Women's Spirit 5 ³⁰ Choir Rehearsal 7 ⁰⁰ Film Series	3 11 ³⁰ Loaves & Fishes 5 ³⁰ Moment for Peace 7 ⁰⁰ Rock Voices 7 ³⁰ AA Meeting	4 11 ⁰⁰ Writing Workshop 2 ⁰⁰ Darrel Daley Memorial Svce
5 9 ⁰⁰ Book Study 10 ⁰⁰ Worship** Sacred Creation 10 ⁰⁰ AA Meeting 6 ⁰⁰ AA Meeting	6 8 ⁴⁵ Devotional 1 ⁰⁰ Prayer Shawl 4 ⁰⁰ BCC Board	7 8 ⁴⁵ Devotional 11 ³⁰ Loaves & Fishes 6 ⁰⁰ AA Meeting	8 8 ⁴⁵ Devotional 5 ³⁰ AA Meeting 6 ³⁰ Compassionate Brattleboro	9 8 ⁴⁵ Devotional 1 ³⁰ Quilting Ministry 4 ³⁰ Women's Spirit 5 ³⁰ Choir Rehearsal 7 ⁰⁰ Film Series	10 11 ³⁰ Loaves & Fishes 7 ⁰⁰ WWAC lecture 7 ³⁰ AA Meeting	11 7 ³⁰ Brattleboro Women's Chorus
12 Mothers Day 9 ⁰⁰ Book Study 10 ⁰⁰ Worship/FIA Sacred Creation 10 ⁰⁰ AA Meeting 4 ⁰⁰ Brattleboro Women's Chorus 6 ⁰⁰ AA Meeting	13 8 ⁴⁵ Devotional 1 ⁰⁰ Prayer Shawl 7 ³⁰ AA District 8	14 8 ⁴⁵ Devotional 11 ³⁰ Loaves & Fishes 6 ⁰⁰ Meeting night 6 ⁰⁰ AA Meeting 7 ⁰⁰ Pastoral Relations	15 8 ⁴⁵ Devotional 5 ³⁰ AA Meeting	16 8 ⁴⁵ Devotional 1 ³⁰ Quilting Ministry 4 ³⁰ Women's Spirit 5 ³⁰ Choir rehearsal 7 ⁰⁰ Film Series	17 CB DEADLINE 11 ³⁰ Loaves & Fishes 1 ³⁰ L&F Steering Comm 5 ⁰⁰ Progressive Dinner 7 ³⁰ AA Meeting	18 9 ³⁰ Piano recital 11 ⁰⁰ Writing Workshop
19 9 ⁰⁰ Book Study 10 ⁰⁰ Worship/FIA Sacred Creation 10 ⁰⁰ AA Meeting 11 ³⁰ Annual Program Meeting 6 ⁰⁰ AA Meeting	20 8 ⁴⁵ Devotional 1 ⁰⁰ Prayer Shawl 1 ³⁰ Compassionate Brattleboro	21 8 ⁴⁵ Devotional 11 ³⁰ Loaves & Fishes 6 ⁰⁰ Council 6 ⁰⁰ AA Meeting	22 8 ⁴⁵ Devotional 5 ³⁰ AA Meeting 6 ³⁰ Compassionate Brattleboro	23 8 ⁴⁵ Devotional 1 ³⁰ Quilting Ministry 4 ³⁰ Women's Spirit 5 ³⁰ Choir Rehearsal	24 11 ³⁰ Loaves & Fishes 7 ⁰⁰ WWAC lecture 7 ³⁰ AA Meeting	25
26 9 ⁰⁰ Book Study 10 ⁰⁰ Union Svce @ Guilford Church 10 ⁰⁰ AA Meeting 6 ⁰⁰ AA Meeting	27 Memorial Day Office Closed	28 8 ⁴⁵ Devotional 9 ³⁰ Windham Union 11 ³⁰ Loaves & Fishes 6 ⁰⁰ AA Meeting	29 MAIL CB 8 ⁴⁵ Devotional 5 ³⁰ AA Meeting Scott out	30 8 ⁴⁵ Devotional 1 ³⁰ Quilting Ministry 4 ³⁰ Women's Spirit 5 ³⁰ Choir Rehearsal Scott out	31 11 ³⁰ Loaves & Fishes 7 ³⁰ AA Meeting Scott out	

SCOTT'S SERMONS can be accessed at the church website: www.centrechurchvermont.org -or-
facebook page: <http://www.centrechurchvermont.org/audio--video.html> -or-
https://www.facebook.com/pg/Centre-Congregational-Church-Brattleboro-VT-632678343519640/notes/?ref=page_internal -or-
From the website *Welcome* page, click *Audio & Video* in the top list (or click *More* or *Other* on the top right).

ENVIRONMENTAL FILM SERIES

In conjunction with Scott's Sermon Series, *Sacred Creation*, exploring Environmental Theology, we will offer a Thursday night four-week film series at 7:00pm in the Chapel. Join us on **April 25, May 2, May 9, and May 16.**

ELECTRONIC GIVING: for those who indicated they pledged to give electronically and thus received a monogrammed pen, please remember to register to and to give electronically. I will assist anyone who wishes to learn how to easily give on-line. For those who have not committed to on-line giving, please do so! It greatly facilitates my work as Treasurer and Chris Yost's work as the bookkeeper as well improves the ability of the church to plan, budget and implement its ministries. Thank you. Anne Fecto, Treasurer

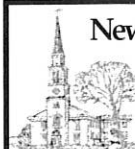
MAY LECTIONARY TEXTS

Sunday, May 5— Third Sunday of Easter
Acts 9:1-6 (7-20); Ps 30; Rev 5:11-14; John 21:1-19

Sunday, May 12— Fourth Sunday of Easter
Acts 9:36-43; Ps 23; Rev 7:9-17; John 10:22-30

Sunday, May 19— Fifth Sunday of Easter
Acts 11:1-18; Ps 148; Rev 21:1-6; John 13:31-35

Sunday, May 26— Sixth Sunday of Easter
Acts 16:9-15; Ps 67; Rev 21:10, 22-22:5; John 14:23-29,
or John 5:1-9



News items, articles, address changes, or requests to be added or removed from the *Centre Bells* mailing list should be submitted to the church office: 802.254-4730 / admin@centrechurchvt.org