

**WORSHIP LEADER'S COLUMN,  
Rev. Lise Sparrow**

*Praised be You, my Lord, through Sister Moon and the stars,  
In the heavens you have made them bright, precious and fair.*

*Praised be You, my Lord, through Brothers Wind and Air,  
And fair and stormy, all weather's moods,  
by which You cherish all that You have made.*

*Praised be You my Lord through Sister Water,  
So useful, humble, precious and pure.*

*Praised be You my Lord through Brother Fire,  
through whom You light the night  
and he is beautiful and playful and robust and strong.<sup>1</sup>*

We have just celebrated the end of the Season of Creation and the Feast of St Francis. In the *Legend of Perugia*, one of the earliest accounts of his life, St Francis offered this instruction to the first friars:

*"A person is only as learned as his actions show; and a religious is only as good a preacher as his actions show."* His emphasis on action, practice, and lifestyle was foundational and revolutionary for its time. Jesus became someone to actually follow and imitate.<sup>2</sup>

Our scripture mirrors this as we follow Moses through the wilderness and Jesus toward Jerusalem. Like Francis, the Israelites leave their homes behind and, step by step, begin to walk in wonder and with courage into an unknown future. Water (the Red Sea), Fire (the burning bush) Earth and Air all have something to offer the wilderness travelers. Simultaneously in the lectionary, Jesus slowly untwists the coils of blind tradition so that his followers and the Pharisees might see the world in a new light. What will this Promised Land look like they wonder? What is the New World Christ is proclaiming and how can we be there to help it unfold?

Going forward from a summer of heat and floods, long days and lush gardens we now look around to see school children the glory of the Fall, clear days, bright trees and cool nights of sleep. We begin to clear our gardens, to look for sweaters and gather up what we no longer need for those who live among us without warmth and shelter. By the time Scott returns the trees will be bare and we will turn our hearts to Advent.

May these next weeks be full of wonder and of wondering how best we each tend to the tiny bits of earth we steward, to our families, and to our own hearts, that we may be grateful and giving "that all may see your good works and glorify our Creator who resounds through the heavens".<sup>3</sup>

-Lise

1. Canticle of Brother Sun and Sister Moon, *St. Francis of Assisi*
2. Richard Rohr Daily Meditation, September 3, 2023
3. Matthew 5: 16.

**From Music Director, MARY MILKEY-MAY**

The Centre Church Choir is back in business again after the summer break. Though many folks are still away, we were able to sing again on September 17! Luckily, Lise Sparrow was able to gather some extra singers to complement the group as our numbers were considerably down. Thanks, Lise, for your help!

A special shout out goes to Bill McKim for subbing on September 10 with very short notice! I finally was hit with COVID (for the first time) and was unable to play! Thanks, Bill, for saving the day and thanks to Jenifer Ambler for filling in for the choir!

Choir rehearsals are each Thursday, 5:30-6:30pm in the Choir Room. We will be on deck through the beginning of June! Come join us!

**Council Chair, LYNN HERZOG**

Our new season of Council meetings got off to a lively start. We discussed a great variety of things, reflecting the myriad activities of the church – money (had to withdraw another \$15,000), music (concerts and organ maintenance), thanks (given and received), food (for Groundworks), wine (can it be served?), fund-raising events (several in October), flea market (October 14), and Parlourmaids. Much was accomplished. But we didn't ask the Big Questions, like "What is the future of the church?"

That is for you, the congregation, to decide, and we will be talking about it on October 1, after the worship service, when we will have a discussion of the final report of the Sacred Places project. The Community Asset-Mapping event came up with four areas we could pursue: 1) Improved access to Child Care, 2) Create an Interfaith and Spirituality Hub, 3) Increase access to Health and Human Services, and 4) Become an Arts and Cultural Center. We will go into these in more detail on October 1, and are eager to hear everyone's opinions. You are encouraged to read the final report (sent as an eNews attachment) or wait for the one-page summary that will be given to you on October 1. Hope to see you there!

***CENTRE BELLS***

The newsletter of  
**Centre Congregational Church  
United Church of Christ**

**OCTOBER 2023**

## DEACONS

Cooler temperatures and colorful leaves are fast approaching! For those summer vacationers, adults, and children alike we welcome you back to worship inside our beautiful sanctuary where we are blessed to be led by Rev. Dr. Lise Sparrow during this three-month Sabbatical. October 8 we are grateful to have Rev. David Stinson at the pulpit filling in for Rev. Sparrow.

On September 3, as I was opening the church just after 9:00am, a former member, Susan Ford, came in with appreciative eyes and a big smile as she was passing through Brattleboro, she felt compelled to stop and have a reminiscent look at this beautiful church that she misses so much since her move to Arizona years ago. (Her husband, Dick passed away in 2022).

Thank you to Deacon Rennie Washburn for creating a new Information Sheet for our pews and Deacon Kate Weeks for laminating them!

Remember to honor a birthday, anniversary, or any other occasion you can beautify our Sanctuary with flowers on a Sunday morning. Just sign up on the list you will find on the hallway bulletin board!

-Joy Everett, Chair



The ECDC is a national organization involved locally with the influx of refugees arriving in Brattleboro from several different countries. The Council describes itself as a multicultural community committed to empowering immigrants and refugees.

## MISSION & SERVICE

September and October are busy months for Mission & Service. We continued with our Second Sunday offerings sponsoring the *HELP Fund* in September.

*Neighbors in Need*, a UCC offering, will be in October. The *NIN* offering is one of the 5 for 5 UCC offerings, and this year's theme is "BEHOLD", based on Genesis 1:31: "God saw everything God made, and *behold*, it was good." With this theme we look to focus on environmental justice. Plastics, electronics, and other non-compostable wastes are being shipped across, and even tossed into, our waterways, launched into space, as well as buried in landfills. Many people with limited resources are marginalized by the needs and desires of the wealthy. As people of faith, we must be better stewards of our planet to ensure health to all who inhabit it! As in past years, one-third of the offering supports the Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM). Two-thirds are used by Justice and Witness Ministries to provide grants to UCC churches and organizations involved in a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects.

We also sponsored the wonderful Baroque concert by the Amphion Trio on September 22 and the Galbraith talk on September 27. We hope that you were able to attend these. We are so thankful for those who did and for the support to Luz del Mundo Scholarship Fund through attending the concert.

On Sunday, September 10, Priscilla Svec joined adults and youth at Guilford Church for the first re-launching meeting of the Brattleboro Interfaith Youth Group. About a dozen youth and adults met, enjoyed some games and discussions about what has been done in the past and what might this new group of youth like to do in the future. This group hopes to circulate between churches for meetings, and to be involved in service projects locally as well as planning and implementing a service trip away from Brattleboro. Perhaps NYC? Perhaps El Salvador? Perhaps helping with Loaves & Fishes? Perhaps a canoe trip? Perhaps a lock-in at Centre Church?

Would you like to be involved as a youth or an adult? Contact Priscilla Svec:

802.505.8925 / [svecpriscilla4@gmail.com](mailto:svecpriscilla4@gmail.com)).

Our Groundworks meals date continues to be the third Sunday of each month, October 15. Please sign up either on line:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4DADA82DA6FFCE9-groundworks>

or on the Church Life bulletin board. Questions? Contact Jenifer Ambler:

802.380.2805 / [busylitlmom@gmail.com](mailto:busylitlmom@gmail.com)

## **Can I help?: We need to think expansively and creatively to find solutions to our most pressing issues**

“[T]he state of emergency is also always the state of emergence.”

~Homi Bhabha, philosopher

Southeast Vermont is a place full of well-intentioned, compassionate people. The officially sanctioned infrastructure here for helping vulnerable individuals and families is impressive.

But outside of the accepted conduits for helping—like volunteering and donating to government recognized nonprofits—how are we each empowered (or not) to make the change we want to see in our community? It can be easy to let the government and nonprofits be in control and set the tone of the conversation, but it can also deprive us of taking personal responsibility for our community and being active citizenry.

Lately I have been wondering what systems slow down or discourage us from bravely imagining creative solutions. And, furthermore, from whose perspective are our local problems being defined and how does that 1) create a narrative with a distinct point of view and 2) determine the solutions?

One issue (of many) we could look at is housing. There has been a lot of discussion lately about the lack of housing in our area. We are short many hundreds of units and there are countless anecdotal stories of individuals who cannot find places to live.

Through my window I see one possible solution: my driveway is empty. Zoning regulations in many communities would allow me to park my own empty RV in my driveway, but typically would not allow me to let someone live there even if I arranged for infrastructure support, such as septic hauling. If this was a solution a person wanted to pursue they might feel disempowered from doing so.

You may agree or disagree with this possible solution, but the point is to illustrate how we each are impacted by existing systems when we try to engage in solving pressing issues. It is important that we recognize and call out systems that often go unexamined and acknowledge that we created those systems and therefore can re-imagine new ways of being and re-create new systems that function better for our circumstances.

Keeping with the issue of housing, I have been struck by how often the problem is framed from the perspective of those—like myself—who are comfortably housed. I get the impression that it is generally considered important to maintain the status quo for those of us who are already housed and to expect sacrifice, such as waiting years for an apartment, to come from those who are already being injured by the lack of housing.

This nonsensical approach reminds me of trickle down economic theory and the promise that if poor people would just wait long enough eventually the wealth would get to them, just suffer a little (or a lot) longer. Of course in truth the wealth never makes it all the way down.

If we truly have a crisis then it makes both practical and moral sense to take from those who have more and give to those who have less. In the case of housing a very minor “taking” could be the temporary relinquishment of town owned spaces, such as picnic shelters, to provide people living in tents with locations that are less susceptible to the weather (like the recent flooding) and access to bathrooms.

Is my ability to access recreation space more valid than someone else’s access to a place to sleep out of the elements? It is difficult for me to imagine how I could justify that position.

Again, the issue of housing is only an illustration, but we need to engage in these thought experiments—which we could do with any number of issues from the opioid epidemic to climate change. We need to ask how we can care for each other and examine whether the systems that prevent care are valid and valued enough to trump the crisis at hand. We can step outside the confines of problematic existing systems, embrace experimentation, and get creative to make our place in the world

*[Lindsey Britt is a baker, traveler, and needleworker. She has a background in planning/zoning regulation and her activist work centers on animal rights, constructive nonviolence, and climate justice. She is a member of Compassionate Brattleboro.]*

## IN MEMORIAM



**Verne Richard Bristol** of Brattleboro, Vermont died unexpectedly but peacefully on Aug. 23, 2023 at his home. He had spent five wonderful days preceding his death celebrating his 91st birthday with family, through visits and telephone conversations.

Verne was born on August 17, 1932, in Brattleboro, Vermont, the 5th of 17 children born to the late Elizabeth (Pratt) Bristol and Everett Edwin Bristol of Brattleboro. All of his primary education was in Vermont, attending schools in Townshend, Dummerston and Brattleboro. He graduated from Brattleboro High School, Class of 1951, where he excelled as a student athlete in basketball, cross country, and track and field. His school record for discus throw stayed intact for nearly 25 years after his graduation. During High School, Verne was also a member of the Vermont National Guard. In 1996 Verne served as "The Grand Marshall" for the BUHS alumni parade.

Immediately following graduation, he joined the US Army and the 101st Airborne Division. Promoted to Corporal out of leadership school he spent 19 months in the Far East Command (Korea). He spent the majority of his career as a squad leader early on in the war, then trained as a Morse code radioman during the latter part of the war. He earned 6 service medals as well as the Sigmund Rhee Unit Citation and "The Combat Infantry Man's Badge".

Verne joined the Brattleboro Ski Patrol in High School and continued his association upon discharge from the military. He led the Brattleboro Ski Patrol for three years and was selected Patrolman of the Year in 1972. He served in the National Ski Patrol system for over 25 years.

His chosen profession was as a printer, as were many of the Bristol men in his family. He worked for Stone Typesetting, the Book Press, and spent the majority of his career as an offset printer for American Stratford, all in Brattleboro.

Although his chosen profession as a printer spanned 25 years, his greatest love has always been that of helping people and emergency medicine. In 1966, he and 15 others, all members of the National Ski Patrol, formed what is now Rescue Inc. As a founding member, he worked as a medical volunteer and in the capacity of President of the organization. In 1984, he accepted the full-time role of CEO/Administrator and was able to enact a great deal of change in the organization prior to his retirement in 1997. He wrote the by-laws of Rescue Inc. and designed the basis for the current organizational structure for the squad. This helped to lay the groundwork for what has made Rescue Inc. a premier rescue squad in the region today. During his leadership tenure, Rescue Inc. was honored as the "Best Rescue Squad" in the entire State of Vermont. He was a pioneer in the early days of Emergency Medical Services. Along with 14 other members of Rescue Inc., Verne was one of the first certified in the State of Vermont as an EMT to give intravenous fluids in the field. At the time, this was the infancy for paramedic programs in the nation. As a charter member, he was one of the first Nationally certified EMT's when the program started in the early 1970's. He was appointed to the 9-1-1 committee and was instrumental in helping to bring the 9-1-1 system to the State of Vermont. In addition to this he was selected in 1972 by the Brattleboro Chamber of Commerce as "Man of the Year" for his work with Rescue and the community. As part of his dedication to the community, he served on the Board of Directors of both the Brattleboro Memorial Hospital and Putney Credit Union. He also volunteered as an Auxiliary State Police Officer for over 5 years. The Rescue family, including past and current leadership, have remained close friends with Verne throughout the years, and he was especially grateful to continue that connection. Upon his retirement from Rescue, a day was set aside as "Verne Bristol Day" in Brattleboro. Verne also received numerous awards from the Vermont State Police, Local Police, Service clubs, The Red Cross, The Heart Association, The March of Dimes and from the Membership of Rescue Inc.

In 1955, Verne met the love of his life, Mary Graves Bristol. They were married a year later on March 31, 1956 at Centre Congregational Church in Brattleboro where they have been members for the past 67 years. They were blessed with five children.

They were always known as "Mary and Verne" or "Verne and Mary"; they were a team. He was a loving, compassionate, and loyal family man. They enjoyed their friends and especially the closeness of family. Their home was always open to friends and family.

They took many vacation trips with their children when they were younger and many more as they grew older. Throughout their lives they loved going to the beaches of Maine and to visit family throughout



Canada. Their favorite beach was Popham Beach, which they shared with their older grandchildren on several trips...still to be known to them as "Pom Pom" beach. The grandchildren remember apple picking, or going to beaches, hiking up a mountain for blueberries to the "old shanty" in Dummerston or setting up for the annual Easter Egg hunt at their house in Guilford. Verne always loved to see the smile on their happy faces! He always had a friendly lap for the great grandchildren to sit upon.

Verne was an avid organic vegetable gardener, and his gardens were beautiful, bountiful, and without weeds. He would spend hours in his gardens and perfected new methods for growing his tomatoes or cucumbers to get the best yield. He wrote a "white paper" on growing tomatoes organically and shared it with family members so everyone could learn from his experience. He was the family expert and the one everyone looked up to. He spent hours reading and researching through books, not computers, different methods and putting his own twist on them. This knowledge has been passed down for generations. Verne also enjoyed skiing, hunting and fishing, collecting war movies and his beloved Red Sox and Patriots.

Verne was predeceased by his parents, Everett and Elizabeth (Pratt) Bristol and siblings, Edwin, Margery, Eugene, George, Barbara, Robert, Virginia, Shirley, Esther, Donald and Merlin. He is survived by his wife of 67 years, Mary (Graves) Bristol, children Patricia Higgins, John (Janet) Bristol, James Bristol, David Bristol and Wendy Pritting, and Heidi (James) Gray. He leaves behind siblings Betty Jane Wellman, Neil Bristol, Charles Bristol, Dean Bristol, and Stewart Bristol along with 17 grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren.

Verne touched many lives in his 91 years with us. He will always be known for being a kind, caring, and compassionate man willing to always help someone in need. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

\* \* \* \* \*



**Eileen Janice Freeman**, 83, of Spruce Street, a longtime resident of Brattleboro, died Friday morning, September 15, 2023 at Pine Heights, surrounded by her loving family following a brief illness.

Eileen was born in Lyon Mountain, New York on August 31, 1940, the daughter of Owen and Florence (Benjamin) Lord. At an early age, with her family, she moved to Brattleboro where she attended Saint Michael's Parochial School through the eighth grade. She graduated from Brattleboro Union High School with the Class of 1958.

Eileen started working at the Grand Union Grocery Store while in high school and continued full time employment with the company, retiring after 38 faithful and dedicated years with the Brattleboro Store.

With her husband, she was a member of Centre Congregational Church on Main Street. Eileen was a former communicant of Saint Michael's Catholic Church, where for many years she was active with the Daughters of Isabella, Ave Maria Circle #128.

Eileen loved people, especially children. With a large extended family and lots of friends, she had an abundance of children to look after and keep track of. She was known for her pleasant personality and spirit of friendship.

Eileen's passion was cooking and she spent lots of time baking and creating delicious meals. She loved to feed people and many enjoyed her wonderful creations.

Of her other leisure time activities, she loved to take trips to the casinos and thought pulling the slot machine handle was good exercise. Many times she beat the odds, bringing home some handsome earnings which she generously shared, treating her family to dinners out at their favorite restaurants.

On November 19, 1960 in Ashuelot, she was married to her high school sweetheart, Arthur E. "Art" Freeman.

Besides her faithful and devoted husband of almost 63 years, she leaves: her four children, Debbie Kennedy and husband Will of Montpelier, VA, James Freeman and wife Angie of Vernon, Daniel Freeman and wife Kim of Brattleboro and Brian Freeman also of Brattleboro; one sister, Mary Jane Sykas of Ludlow, MA; six grandchildren and five great grandchildren. Additionally, she leaves many nieces, nephews, cousins, and their children.

She was predeceased by two sisters, Dawn Bokum and Debbie Millerick, and two brothers, Owen "Tanny" Lord and Terry Lord.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in Eileen's name may be made to: Centre Congregational Church (Book of Remembrance), 193 Main Street, Brattleboro, VT 05301; or to: Windham County Humane Society, P.O. Box 397, Brattleboro, VT 05302.

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

We have decided to indefinitely postpone painting a Noah's Ark in the Faith-In-Action (Riverside) room. We will focus instead on planning activities for our children and their parents; and some of those will include projects that connect us with our sister parish. Check eNEWS for details.

-Laura Slate, Chair

## FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

As of the end of August, 2023, 32 households have contributed over \$2,300 to the Centre Church Welcome Center Non-Event. A huge thanks to all who have sent a donation.

The *September Summer Salad Supper* was a tremendous success with over 20 people making salads, five different kinds of blueberry cobbler with ice cream, and pot-loads of yummy corn on the cob! It was enjoyed by more than 45 people on a beautiful night. Many thanks to all that helped, especially with the difficult task of setting up before hand, and cleaning up at the end of the evening. All is greatly appreciated.

The quilting group has been working very hard each Thursday to prepare beautiful handmade items for the Christmas Bazaar December 1&2. Be sure to save the date.

Thank you, The Fundraising Committee.

## GREEN@CENTRE

We have a busy and fun month to look forward to. It starts with Gallery Walk on **October 6**, with a beautiful exhibit of antique and vintage silk Kimonos and light jazz music by the group Asante in the parlor. There will also be snacks.

On **October 14** we will have our annual Flea/Craft Fair. On **October 21** we are having the first of many themed fundraising dinners. The theme on **October 21** is Greek, with three different musicians playing each hour from 6:00-9:00pm. There will also be some dancing, optional. This is a pre-register event. Menu and price details will be coming soon.

Please come to one or all these events. Your attendance is appreciated. Thank you!

Love, Bonnie



## PARTNERS FOR SACRED PLACES UPDATE



We will hold a meeting on **Sunday, October 1**, after worship to present a Report and discussion led by April Harkness and Lynn Herzog. All are encouraged to attend!

## MEMBER CARE

### **Coffee Hour-Fellowship Time-HOSPITALITY TIME**

Call it any of the above and it was held in the parlor following worship. Second Sunday was when Duo served up her special Chinese food. Duo cooked and prepared all this at her home. Carolyn Smith brought her and all the food to church .

We gladly filled our plates with all kinds of different Chinese dishes. There were many items that I couldn't name, but they were delicious! Duo does not feel that she can continue preparing these monthly lunches, but has offered to be available for some special occasions. Many thanks to Duo for all the past lunches following our church service. Thanks also to Carolyn who drove her to church and helped Duo haul in all the food she had prepared.

This September we had the annual Ice Cream Social, hosted by the Board for Christian Education. It's a happy occasion to continue having to start off Christian Education with America's favorite dessert.

In making the chart telling which board or committee hosts Hospitality Time, we listed Brattleboro Center for Children to host in November. But, Nan Mann contacted me explaining that because BCC receives federal funding for some of their programming, that income stream forbids BCC from taking part in any religious activities. "Unfortunately," she writes, "that means that the Center's board cannot do the church's hospitality hours." Maybe in 2024 we can call on individuals who are BCC board members to serve individually.

**October:** Choir / Music Committee

**November:** Endowment & Finance Committees

**December:** Personnel & Local Church Discernment Committees.

And that takes us up to the end of the year.

Blessings, Marion Daley – Chair

# OCTOBER 2023

\*\*ZOOM events  
\*Holy Communion

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 9 <sup>00</sup> Book Discussion 10 <sup>00</sup> Worship* 11 <sup>15</sup> Sacred Places Report/Discussion	2 7 <sup>00</sup> Christian Theology	3 11 <sup>00</sup> Staff meeting 11 <sup>30</sup> Loaves & Fishes 7 <sup>00</sup> Dharma evening	4 eNews Deadline 7 <sup>00</sup> VT Humanities First Wednesday	5 1 <sup>00</sup> Quilting ministry 4 <sup>00</sup> Women's Spirit 5 <sup>30</sup> Choir Rehearsal	6 11 <sup>30</sup> Loaves & Fishes 1 <sup>30</sup> Muslim Prayer 5 <sup>00</sup> Gallery Walk/ Green @Centre	7
8 9 <sup>00</sup> Book Discussion 10 <sup>00</sup> Worship/FIA 11 <sup>15</sup> Hospitality Time 11 <sup>15</sup> Sermon Discussion	9 <b>INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY OFFICE CLOSED</b>	10 11 <sup>30</sup> Loaves & Fishes 7 <sup>00</sup> Dharma evening	11 eNews Deadline 11 <sup>00</sup> Staff meeting 6 <sup>00</sup> Mission & Service	12 1 <sup>00</sup> Quilting ministry 3 <sup>30</sup> BCC Board 4 <sup>30</sup> Women's Spirit 5 <sup>30</sup> Choir Rehearsal	13 <b>CB DEADLINE</b> 11 <sup>30</sup> Loaves & Fishes 12 <sup>30</sup> L&F Board 1 <sup>30</sup> Muslim Prayer	14 9 <sup>00</sup> Brattleboro Literary Festival 9 <sup>00</sup> Flea Market
15 9 <sup>00</sup> Book Discussion 10 <sup>00</sup> Worship / FIA 11 <sup>15</sup> Hospitality Time 11 <sup>15</sup> Sermon Discussion 4 <sup>30</sup> Groundworks Meal	16 1 <sup>00</sup> Compassionate Brattleboro	17 11 <sup>00</sup> Staff meeting 11 <sup>30</sup> Loaves & Fishes 7 <sup>00</sup> Dharma evening	18 eNews Deadline 6 <sup>00</sup> Church Council	19 1 <sup>00</sup> Quilting ministry 4 <sup>00</sup> Women's Spirit 5 <sup>30</sup> Choir Rehearsal	20 11 <sup>30</sup> Loaves & Fishes 1 <sup>30</sup> Muslim Prayer	21 9 <sup>00</sup> Buddhist 1/2 day Sitting 6 <sup>00</sup> Greek Dinner Fundraiser
22 9 <sup>00</sup> Book Discussion 10 <sup>00</sup> Worship / FIA 11 <sup>15</sup> Hospitality Time 11 <sup>15</sup> Sermon Discussion	23	24 11 <sup>00</sup> Staff meeting 11 <sup>30</sup> Loaves & Fishes 7 <sup>00</sup> Dharma evening	25 eNews Deadline <b>MAIL CB</b> 12 <sup>00</sup> Help Fund 6 <sup>00</sup> WWA salon	26 1 <sup>00</sup> Quilting ministry 4 <sup>00</sup> Women's Spirit 5 <sup>30</sup> Choir rehearsal	27 11 <sup>30</sup> Loaves & Fishes 1 <sup>30</sup> Muslim Prayer	28 9 <sup>00</sup> NE Network for Justice in Palestine
29 9 <sup>00</sup> Book Discussion 10 <sup>00</sup> Worship / FIA 11 <sup>15</sup> Hospitality Time 11 <sup>15</sup> Sermon Discussion	30	31 <b>Halloween</b> 11 <sup>00</sup> Staff meeting 11 <sup>30</sup> Loaves & Fishes 7 <sup>00</sup> Dharma evening <b>Scott sabbatical ends</b>				

LISE'S SERMONS can be accessed at the church website: [www.centrechurhvermont.org](http://www.centrechurhvermont.org) -or-  
facebook page: <http://www.centrechurhvermont.org/audio--video.html> -or-  
[https://www.facebook.com/pg/Centre-Congregational-Church-Brattleboro-VT-632678343519640/notes/?ref=page\\_internal](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).

## PEOPLE

### BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Steve Fecto
- 5 Duo Xi



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 September 26.

**Dorothy (Dot) Vander Meulen**

1 Harvest Circle #301, Lincoln, MA 01773  
781.430.6210 / 617.866.0953 (m)

**Alice Stockwell** – Vernon Hall

13 Greenway Dr., Vernon, VT 05354  
802.254.8091

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

### NEW CONTACT INFORMATION

**Holly MacLean:** 802. 579.5628

### OCTOBER LECTIONARY TEXTS

**Sunday, October 1**, 18th Sunday after Pentecost  
Ex 17:1-7 and Ps 78:1-4, 12-16 or Ezek 18:1-4, 25-32 and  
Ps 25:1-9; Phil 2:1-13; Matt 21:23-32

**Sunday, October 8**, 19th Sunday after Pentecost  
Ex 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20 and Ps 19 or Isa 5:1-7 and  
Ps 80:7-15; Phil 3:4b-14; Matt 21:33-46

**Sunday, October 15**, 20th Sunday after Pentecost  
Ex 32:1-14 and Ps 106:1-6, 19-23 or Isa 25:1-9 and Ps 23;  
Phil 4:1-9; Matt 22:1-14

**Sunday, October 22**, 21st Sunday after Pentecost  
Ex 33:12-23 and Ps 99 or Isa 45:1-7 and  
Ps 96:1-9, (10-13); 1 Thess 1:1-10; Matt 22:15-22

**Sunday, October 29**, 22nd Sunday after Pentecost  
Deut 34:1-12 and Ps 90:1-6, 13-17 or Lev 19:1-2, 15-18 and  
Ps 1; 1 Thess 2:1-8; Matt 22:34-46

*Centre Bells* is published monthly by  
**Centre Congregational Church, UCC**

News items, articles, address changes, and requests to  
be added or removed from the *Centre Bells* mailing list  
should be submitted to the church office:

802.254.4730 / [admin@centrechurhvt.org](mailto:admin@centrechurhvt.org)

# OCTOBER



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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

**CENTRE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

193 Main Street, Brattleboro, VT 05301-2842

**Office Hours:** M – F / 8:30am–12:30pm

**Scott's days off:** Friday and Saturday

**Church Office:** 802.254.4730 / [admin@centrechurchvt.org](mailto:admin@centrechurchvt.org)

**Website:** [www.centrechurchvt.org](http://www.centrechurchvt.org)

**Facebook:** [Centre Congregational Church-Brattleboro VT](https://www.facebook.com/Centre-Congregational-Church-Brattleboro-VT)

**Current news/information in the larger UCC Community:**

VT Conference: [www.vtcucc.org](http://www.vtcucc.org) / National: [www.ucc.org](http://www.ucc.org)

**CHURCH STAFF AND LEADERSHIP**

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