



November 2017
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centerchurchmeriden.org

The Lighted Tower

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Center Congregational Church
The Lighted Tower
October 19, 2017

Dear members and friends of Center Church, each Sunday we conclude worship by standing and saying together, “We covenant with the Lord...And we will consecrate our time, talent, income...”

These are promises we make to God and to one another. But, are these just nice sounding words, or do we really mean what we say? Churches and synagogues across our country are closing every day because of loss of membership, poor attendance and lack of financial support. This church, in which so many of you were baptized, confirmed, married and bid farewell to loved ones and friends may not exist in the future the way it has in the past without your personal and financial commitment.

Your leadership, volunteers and staff of Center Church are working hard to inspire a new vision for this and future generations, revitalize church programs, create new outreach opportunities, care and educate our young people, and welcome all who come through our doors, no matter who they are or where they are on life’s journey. But, none of this will happen without you.

If you aren’t coming to church at least once a month, what can you do to change that? If you have been hurt, offended or disappointed by things that have happened in the past, think about how often God forgives us, and how can you forgive those who have trespassed against you?

Finally, how can you help support the mission and goals of Center Church? How important is the church to you and your family, and your future? All that is asked is that everyone who loves this church give what they are able. Every little bit will help, and God loves a cheerful giver.

Center Church is at a tipping point. The success of this campaign of generosity will be an important indicator of the future. Give as you are able and come to the Annual Meeting on November 12. God loves you, and so do we.

In faith,

The Rev. Joseph Tobin
Interim Minister

Center Congregational Church
474 Broad Street
Meriden, CT 06450
203-235-1389

The Mission of Center Congregational Church is to Honor God and Grow in Christ; Putting into action the message of God's love, welcoming all, serving the community and world through outreach ministry, and acknowledging the worth of All People

MISSION MOMENT

Thank you to everyone who donated money and items to Meriden/Wallingford Chrysalis last month. With the state budget crisis, many non-profit agencies are having difficulty with the lack of funds for their organization. Thank you, too, for your donations to Neighbors in Need.

In October, the Missions Committee approved donating \$1,000 to the UCC hurricane relief efforts in Puerto Rico. These efforts have included first aid kits, electric generators, drinking water, water filters, non-perishable food, and battery-powered radios to 20 communities and over 5,000 persons in Puerto Rico.

The Missions Committee designated November donations for the Soup Kitchen. Center Church usually hosts the Soup Kitchen on Veteran's Day, but we will be unable to do so this year because Veteran's Day falls on a Saturday when the Soup Kitchen is closed. Instead, we will pay for the Soup Kitchen

meal on either November 2nd or 16th when Center Church volunteers provide the meal. We will also collect canned goods and non-perishable food items during November to be given to the Soup Kitchen and one of the food banks in Meriden. There are eight food banks in our area.

COMMUNICATIONS/ MARKETING COMMITTEE

A Communications/Marketing Committee has been established by the Church Council. The members are Betty Leidy, Barbara Brooks, Joan Gordon, Lorraine White and Chelsea Trella. The goal of this committee is to solidify communications and events between all committees and groups and create a calendar and publicity for events.

Fellowship News

KOINONIA will meet on Thursday November 2 starting at 10 am to set up for the Church Fair.

Koinonia will meet on Tuesday, November 14 at 10 am in the church parking lot for a Holiday Shopping Trip to the Christmas Tree Shops, L.L. Bean and Talbots. Sign up with Pauline Blakeslee 203-265-0271. Anyone in the church is more than welcome to join us.

OTHERS will meet twice in November. They will meet on November 2nd to help set up for the Fair. They will also meet on November 9th at San Souci to celebrate Betty Leidy's birthday

CENTERITES Please watch the **Bulletin**, for where they will be going on November 9th.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Thank you to the CCC Youth Group and members of the Board of Christian Education for running another successful Community **Halloween Party!**

In November, our **Sunday School**



classes we are studying *The Battle of Jericho.*

Confirmation classes will meet after coffee hour on **Nov 5th & 19th.**

There will be Youth Choir & **Christmas Pageant rehearsals** immediately after church on **November 5th, 19th and 26th.**

LOL class will meet on **November 19th.**

CCC Youth Group will be off to **Laser Tag** on **November 26th, 11:45-2:30**

Save the Date!
Potluck Luncheon and **Advent Workshop December 3rd**



**DON'T FORGET TO TURN
BACK YOUR CLOCKS –
Sunday, November 5**

Upcoming Events

- Adult Bible Study – Wednesday mornings at 10:30 a.m.
- November 2 – Koinonia at 10 am to help set up for the fair.
- November 2 -Others help set up for Fair.
- November 4 – Church Fair
- November 5 – Confirmation Class
- November 9 – Others
- November 9 – Centerites
- November 12 – Generosity Sunday
- November 12 – Warm Coat Sunday
- **November 12 – Annual Budget Meeting**
- November 14 – Koinonia 10:00 a.m. – Shopping Trip
- November 19 – Thanksgiving Sunday
- November 19- Confirmation Class
- November 19 – Dead-line for Lighted Tower.
- November 26 – Youth Group Laser Tag

Sunday Worship

- 8:30am - Chapel Service – enter by rear parking lot, 30-minute service – Communion 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month.

- 10:00 am. - Worship in Sanctuary
- Holy Communion first Sunday of each month and all are welcome

In Our Thoughts and Prayers



Dorothy LeGendre
Betty Karpinski
Dorothy Churchill
Gloria Iwerks

The Family of Charlie and Pamela Kline on the passing of Charlies mother.

The Family of Tom Clancy on the death of his grandfather, Yvon Dionne.



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|----|------------------|
| 1 | Gregory Iwerks |
| 2 | Jim Chapman |
| 5 | Amy Whitehead |
| 6 | Marie Tompkins |
| 7 | Patrick Hatch |
| | Cindy Donsbough |
| 11 | Maureen Hamilton |
| 17 | Joan Gordon |
| 18 | Betty Leidy |
| 19 | Karen Krick |
| 22 | George True |
| 23 | Sandra Wadsworth |
| 29 | Marguerite Stack |
| | Katie Hamilton |
| 30 | Virginia Mahoney |
| | Sarah Stack |



This Month's Scripture Focus

(Includes at least one of the following: 1st Testament Reading, Psalm, Epistle, and Gospel)

November 5 Twenty- Second Sunday after Pentecost

**Josh 3:7-17, Psalm
107:107, 33-37,
Matthew 23:1-2**

November 12 – Twenty- Third Sunday after Pentecost

**Josh 24:1-3a- 14-25,
Psalm 78:1-7
Matthew 25:1-13**

November 19- Twenty- fourth Sunday after Pentecost

**Judge 4:1-7, Psalm 123
Matthew 25:14-30**

November 26 - Twenty- fifth Sunday after Pentecost

**Ezek. 34:11-16, 20,24
Psalm 100,
Matthew 25:31-36**



**Come to the Colonial
Tymes Christmas Fair
A Christmas Fair in
Celebration of our
Colonial Heritage**

**Saturday, November 4th,
9:00 AM – 3:00 PM**

Come one, come all, come to our annual Church Fair. Come for **Food, Fun, and Fellowship**. We have something for every age and every taste.

Come for our delicious **FOOD**. Start the morning with a muffin and a drink (coffee, tea, or something cold) from our **KITCHEN**. For lunch have a **lobster roll**, one of our **homemade soups** including Rhode Island clam chowder, vegetable beef soup, chicken rice soup, and corn chowder, **sandwiches**, or hot dogs and then choose something yummy for dessert. You may pre-order **lobster rolls** for \$12 and **apple pies** for \$12 – call the church office (203-235-1389).

Visit our **TEA CUP AUCTION** and take a chance on lots of hand made or interesting new items. Chances can also be taken on several **giant baskets of goodies** at our **BASKET TABLE**.

Next visit our **CRAFT** area. We have items in all price ranges. Get some early Christmas shopping done (it's a good place to buy something unique for your child's teacher), buy something for your home, or buy hand made

Christmas ornaments for your tree. **Knit articles** are there in abundance – mittens, scarves, and more.

Visit our **BAKED GOODS, CHEESE, AND PECAN TABLES**. There will be plenty of homemade pies, cakes, breads, jams and jellies. Don't forget to buy **Vermont Grafton Cheddar Cheese** and **Georgia Pecans** – buy some for your Thanksgiving pecan pie. Look for the **KNIFE TABLE** where, as usual there will be two different size knives for sale plus a special knife for slicing tomatoes, and more.

IN THE FEDERAL ROOM:

Go for a **COOKIE WALK** and fill a can with **delicious cookies** to eat now or freeze for Christmas.

USED BOOKS – maybe you'll find just the book you've been meaning to read.

The **YOUTH** will be selling **plants**.

PARISH NURSES will be in the center office room off the Federal Room. Nurses will check your blood sugar(A1C), blood pressure, and review your medications for interactions and the best times of day to take them.

IN THE PRESCHOOL ROOM:

THE KIDS FAIR – \$5 lets you do all the activities - **tattoos, crafts, and games**. Parents should accompany small children under five. Open 11-2 p.m.

IN THE LOWER LEVEL:

ATTIC TREASURES and the **TAG SALE**. You

might just find that special item you've been looking for.

EVERYONE please **COME** and **ENJOY**.

Fair meeting – Sunday,
October 29th after church.

At The Church Fair

November 4, 2017 9-3

Apple Pies

Pre-order

\$12.00 each

Call the church office

203-235-1389

To place orders



At The Church Fair

November 4, 2017 9-3

Lobster Rolls \$12.00

Lobster Roll Dinner \$13.00

Includes – bag of chips

And

Coleslaw



Pre-order call the church office

203-235-1389