

The Steeple Chimes

Columbia Congregational United Church of Christ

APRIL 2014

Pastor Betsey Polglase

Church: 860.228.9306

Pastor Betsey's

Office Hours:

Mon. – Thurs.:9:30-12:30

Pastor's email:

pastorbetsey.ccchurch@gmail.com

Church Office

Contact Information

Phone 860.228.9306

Office Hours:

Mon. – Fri.:9:30–1:00

Church email:

ccchurch@snet.net

website:

colcch.org

Mission Statement

The Columbia

Congregational United Church of Christ as part of the United Church of Christ and the worldwide Christian Church is called by God to be disciples of Jesus, the Christ. Therefore, the mission of the Columbia Congregational United Church of Christ is to worship God and to preach and teach the Gospel of Christ: to promote Christian fellowship among our members and friends, and to live in Christian fellowship with the Church Universal and the whole creation; that we might live faithfully, serving God and humanity, and striving for righteousness, justice, and peace.



FROM THE PASTOR'S PORCH

This winter seems to be hanging on forever. Spring has arrived according to the calendar but the cold and dark of winter won't let go its grip on us. One day last week, as I walked to the church, bird song filled the air and the sweet smell of earth announced spring has come, but then cold descended once again. I love winter but I have had enough!

With all my complaining, I am finding this unrelenting winter appropriate for the Lenten journey. We have little control as we wander in our personal reflections on our relationship with God and one another. We watch and wait and become impatient. When flashes of realizations break into our lives, we struggle to understand. Within us lies the seed of new life waiting to burst forth. We tire of the journey and want to get to Easter, and all the freedom and joy it will bring.

Finally, in the middle of the month, Holy Week begins on Palm Sunday (April 13) with our celebration of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem. The service will reflect that joy but will conclude on a more somber note. It is a mistake to leap from the joy of Palm Sunday to the rejoicing of Easter. The in-between time is important. We move with Jesus from triumphal entry through His betrayal by Judas, His arrest by the authorities, the denial by Peter, and finally Jesus' trial and painful execution on the cross. Without entering this dark valley, Easter's significance is lost. I encourage you to come to the Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services at 7 pm and open yourselves to the most important story of our faith. Then on Easter morning, you will know Jesus' victory over death and the promise of salvation and eternal life, and together we can sing "Alleluia" once again.

Easter morning we have two services. Easter Dawn Service is at 6:00 a.m. over looking the lake at Camp Asto Wamah on Route 87. (Beware of the speed bumps as you drive in.) Easter Service will be at the church at 10:00 a.m and will include some special music. In between is the Easter breakfast served at 6:45 in the Parish Hall (sign up REQUIRED by Palm Sunday).

As we continue to experience winter, we receive promises of warmer weather. As we continue through Lent, we know the promises of Easter. Continue the journey in peace, knowing Christ is always with us and that celebration is right around the corner.

Longing for the day of resurrection, **Pastor Betsey**

Sunday 10:00 AM Worship

APRIL 6

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Communion Sunday

Worship Leader: Pastor Betsey Polglase

Deacon: Kim Foss

Lay Reader: Kim Foss

Greeters: Kim Foss, Sally Ruef, John Polglase and Millie Ramsey.

Coffee Hour follows Worship Service in the Parish Hall.

APRIL 13/PALM SUNDAY

SIXTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Worship Leader: Pastor Betsey Polglase

Deacon: Kim Foss

Lay Reader: Kim Foss

Greeter: Kim Foss

Coffee Hour follows Worship Service in the Parish Hall.

APRIL 20

EASTER

Worship Leader: Pastor Betsey Polglase

Deacon: Kim Foss

Lay Reader: Kim Foss

Greeter: Kim Foss

Coffee Hour follows Worship Service in the Parish Hall.

APRIL 27

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

Worship Leader: Pastor Betsey Polglase

Deacon: Kim Foss

Lay Reader: Kim Foss

Greeters: Kim Foss

Coffee Hour follows Worship Service in the Parish Hall.

COMING EVENTS

For our **COFFEE HOUR** contributions of finger foods are encouraged.

Donations in the Coffee Hour basket helps fund the coffee, milk, sugar and paper goods. Thanks for supporting this ministry.



BIBLE STUDY CLASS

Returns after Lent

7PM -8:30PM/Parish Hall

**SATURDAY, APRIL 12TH
CHURCH BREAKFAST**

8AM – 11:00AM/Parish Hall

SATURDAY, APRIL 19TH

Church School Teachers Meeting 10AM – 12PM Lounge

PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 13TH

Worship Service with Palm Parade

MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 17TH

7PM Worship Service with communion

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 18TH

7PM Worship Service

EASTER, APRIL 20TH

Worship Service with Special Music by our Choirs and an array of Easter flowers.

There will be NO Church School Classes, so that families might celebrate together the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

The Steeple Chimes **Columbia Congregational Church**

April 2014



LAY READER – Anyone wishing to share in the leadership of worship by reading the Scripture or bringing a children’s sermon, please sign-up on the appropriate list on the bulletin board by the elevator door **and** speak with Pastor Betsey Polglase.

DEACON OF THE MONTH

APRIL – Kim Foss

TRUSTEE OF THE MONTH

APRIL – Doug Erickson

GREETERS AND USHERS

April 6 – **Deacons:** Kim Foss, Sally Ruef,
John Polglase and Millie Ramsey

April 13 – Hannah Erickson

April 20 – Chloe Weston

April 27 – Elizabeth Foss

PARISH NOTICES

The return of Pledge Cards to support the budget for 2014 is always welcome. Cards may be left in the Stewardship box, given to any member of the Stewardship Committee or handed into the Church Office. Extra pledge cards are available in the Stewardship box upon request. We invite your generosity in supporting the 2014 budget.

WAIM is frequently in need of the volunteer services of skilled craftspeople. If you are skilled as a carpenter, painter, electrician, plumber, sheet rocker, heating systems, computer technician, etc. and would be willing to become part of a craftsperson resource guide for WAIM please see Anthony White, Sr. for survey form.

FOOD PANTRY IN URGENT NEED OF FOOD: The Church is collecting food for the Soup Kitchen and the Columbia Food Pantry. Items especially needed: Soups, Pastas and Cereals. If you would like to contribute, please leave items in the basket found at the front of the sanctuary or deliver directly to the Soup Kitchen.

Worship Schedule APRIL 2014

(Subject to change at pastor's discretion)

To get the full impact of Holy Week and to truly rejoice on Easter morning, attendance at all services is suggested.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>SCRIPTURE</u>	<u>SERMON TITLE</u>	<u>WORSHIP NOTES</u>
April 6	John 11:1-45	“See The Glory Of God”	Communion
April 13	Matthew 21:1-11	“Humble And On A Donkey”	PALM SUNDAY
April 17	Various	MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE – The Office of Tenebrae (Shadows)	Communion 7:00PM
April 18	Various	GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE	7:00PM
April 20	John 20:1-18 Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24	EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE Camp Asto Wamah	6:00AM
		EASTER SERVICE With Special Music “Seeing Is Believing	10:00AM
April 27	John 20:19-31 Psalm 16	“Believing Is Seeing” ”	Baptism

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~CHRISTIAN EDUCATION~

We are truly blessed to have such wonderful teachers. They are dedicated to enriching the lives of our children with the love of God and instilling the values of being a good Christian. They teach because they love the children and want to help give them a strong foundation in their faith journey. We spend one Saturday a month sharing and preparing the month ahead. What a joy to have a time where we Eat, Laugh and Plan.

On Teacher Appreciation Sunday I usually spend a lot of time talking about each of our teachers and they asked please not to make a big fuss about them because what they do is all for the children. The children should be the ones who get the recognition for coming and learning the wonderful things that God has to offer. I with much trepidation, kept my word. So in appreciation of our teachers and children we all sang together "Who Built the Ark". It was very uplifting to all our spirits.

We want to thank the Board of Christian Education for all their support and for the delicious breakfast they prepared in appreciation for the teachers.

HEIFER INTERNATIONAL: APRIL 6TH FIELD TRIP TO OVERLOOK FARM IN RUTLAND, MA.

- **FIELD TRIP TO OVERLOOK FARM**
- **SUNDAY APRIL 6TH**
- **COST: \$10.00 PER PERSON**
- **11:30 DEPARTURE/4:30 RETURN**
- **PICNIC LUNCH**
- **SEE THE ANIMALS**
- **SEE GLOBAL VILLAGE**

This trip will give a better understanding of where the animals go and how they affect the lives of those living in hunger and poverty. Hopefully we will get to see some of the newborns and even some animals we normally don't get to see. (Camels, Yaks and Water Buffalo)

HEIFER BAKE SALES: MARCH 16TH AND MARCH 30TH

In an effort to purchase 2 Heifers(\$500.00), 2 flocks of Chicks(\$20.00), a Pig(\$120.00), a Llama(\$250.00), Bees(\$60.00), a Goat(\$120.00), a Water Buffalo(\$250.00) and a Sheep(\$120.00). The children are hosting bake sales, a car wash and saving money in their arks. They are off to a good start. The first bake sale raised \$200.00 and the gift of a Sheep. **The children thank you for helping support this wonderful gift of hope!** Spring offers new life and new beginnings. Enjoy!

Happy Easter,

Jean

Family and Friends
Get Together Breakfast
Come and linger for a while.

Saturday, April 12, 2014
8:00A.M to 11:00A.M
Columbia Congregational Church
Parish Hall, Route 87

“C’mon people now, Smile on your Brother,
Everybody get together. Try and love one another
right now.” Youngblood, Kingston Trio, J. Collins

Breakfast Buffet Menu: Belgian waffles, omelets, eggs, toast,
Bacon, sausage, ham, potatoes, juice, milk, coffee, tea,
Fruits, homemade muffins & coffee cakes
Suggested free will offering: \$8.00 per person
\$24.00 - 2 adults and 2 children

Easter Food Baskets

We are seeking donations for the Easter Food Baskets for area families. Hams, turkeys or roasting chickens, potatoes, stuffing and fresh or canned veggies would be appreciated. Gift cards for area grocery stores would also be appreciated. Please see either Debby Smith or Dixie if you have any questions. Donations can be deposited in the green plastic bin outside of the coat closets. With the exception being the meat/poultry which should go in the refrigerator with clear labeling that they are for the food baskets. **Deadline for donations is Palm Sunday, April 13. Thanks and God Bless you.**

EASTER BREAKFAST

Will be served in the Parish Hall immediately following Sunrise Service. We expect to start serving at approximately 6:45AM. In order that we may have enough food to feed everyone, it will be necessary for those attending to make **RESERVATIONS** There will be a sign-up sheet by the elevator. You may also make reservations by calling the Church Office at 860.228.9306 or Polly Hinckley ay 860.228.3757 by **PALM SUNDAY APRIL 13, 2014**

EASTER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

PALM SUNDAY

APRIL 13th

10:00AM - Worship Service, Giving of Palms,
a Palm Parade by our Church School, and Special Music.

MAUNDY THURSDAY

APRIL 17th

7:00PM Worship Service with Holy Communion,
and Tenebrae (gathering darkness), a most meaningful experience.

GOOD FRIDAY

APRIL 18th

7:00PM Worship Service that will focus on Christ,
Who died for each of us.

EASTER SUNDAY

APRIL 20th

Join us to Celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Sunrise Service - 6:00AM led by our Confirmation Class at Camp Asto Wamah
off Route 87 on the shores of Columbia Lake.

Easter Breakfast – 6:45AM In our Parish Hall follows the Sunrise Service.

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED.

Easter Worship Service – 10:00AM in our Sanctuary with Special Music by our
Choirs and an array of Easter flowers. There will be NO Church School Classes,
so that families might celebrate together the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

**NOTE: There will be NO Fellowship Hour after Easter
Worship Service.**

**COLUMBIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
ANNUAL POTLUCK SUPPER
MEETING AND PROGRAM**

Friday, April 25, 2014

6:00PM

**Columbia Congregational Church
325 Route 87, Columbia**

**Program: Columbia's Eleazer Wheelock and The First
Great Awakening**

~How the Rev. Wheelock influenced an international revival that united the American colonies and changed the British Empire.

~The First Awakening was the first inter-colonial cultural event.

~Presented by Connecticut Historians Tom and Deborah Berrill.

**JOIN US FOR FUN, GOOD FOOD, AND A FASCINATING
PROGRAM! BRING YOUR FAVORITE APPETIZER,
MAIN DISH, OR DESSERT.**

THIS EVENT IS FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!

The Church Fair Committee Could Use Some Help:

Publicity help: newspapers, newsletters, web site, distribute signs and/or posters—someone to do year-round publicity would be wonderful. The good part is that you don't have to do crafts to help out.

Do some **Food Crafts**: Make up mixes, snowman soup ideas, tea gifts, come up with interesting ways to wrap candy or popcorn that would make cute, inexpensive gifts. Brainstorm some ideas or run even just one workshop just before the fair.

Attic Treasures: Ask for treasures and set up a time and place for people to bring them, set up the rooms on the Thursday before the fair, check Friday night for additional donations and Saturday morning for additional donations and you can open way before the fair... usually 9 am or whenever you see someone pop in. We don't usually put prices on everything. If something special comes in, it is ok to do that. Most of the time is it dickering. And you can schedule people to work the room. We have suggestions. Also we know where to donate which items that don't sell. This only takes up a few days around fair time and makes close to 20% of the fair's profits.

Run an **evening workshop**. You don't have to meet every week. You can meet once a month or just often enough to finish one project or to start a project and send it home with group members (and making sure you get everything back.) If you can look at an item, read the directions, and work from a kit, we can make up kits for you. You could help make up the kits, if that's your style.

We are looking for **different ideas to add to the fair to make it more fun**. In the past, we have had a Scarves and Jewelry Room; a pie-making workshop for the bake sale (this year we would like to have two pie workshops;) a Country Store with cheese, candy, and home canned goods. Perhaps you have been to a fair or bazaar somewhere and have seen something different that you could share with us. And... we have **day workshops** on Wednesday mornings from 10 to noon. Stop in and visit.

Church Fair needs:

We are still collecting those white plastic tags that hold bread or roll wrappers together. We didn't get quite enough last year.

Crayons...old and/or broken, anyhow...unwanted crayons.

Altoid tins.

Those little rounded Y shaped clips that keep pump bottles from squirting lotion or hand soap all over your grocery sacks on the way home. You remove them to use the lotion and never know what to do with them afterward. We will be happy to sell these things back to you at next year's fair when we are done with them.

Summer Outdoor Fun - Silver Lake Conference Center, located in Sharon CT, is the Outdoor Ministry of the Connecticut Conference of the UCC, **Children ages 8-18** can experience a week-long "camp community with 'unplugged' friendship-making, outdoor fun, participation in creating the all-camp worship, serving one another, and creating sustainable connections with the environment, each other, and God. Colorful brochures are available at the church. More information, including downloadable registration forms can be accessed at www.silverlakect.org. Most conferences cost \$435 and run Sunday afternoon to Saturday morning. If financial assistance is needed, please speak with Pastor Betsey.

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Photos of Church Events Wanted. We are looking for photos of our church activities to be posted on the Bulletin Board outside the Parish Hall and to be used on promotional flyers and ads. Please send photos electronically to Denise at ccchurch@snet.net, or send/bring in prints to the church office.

GREEN TEAM – We are looking for members to serve on our Green Team. The focus of our Green Team is to empower and motivate people to make a difference environmentally. If you are passionate about our environment and are willing to share your efforts with our congregation, please see John Polglase to volunteer.

FOODSHARE VAN

The mobile FoodShare Van now has a stop at the Baptist Fellowship Church on Route 6 in Columbia. **The van will be stopping every other Thursday from 1:00 pm - 1:30 pm in the lower church parking lot.** Upcoming distribution dates: Please be sure to circulate the word to people you know. The program needs a minimum of 50 people participating. **The FoodShare Van will continue to stop at the Andover Congregational Church on Route 6 every other Wednesday.** Please bring your own grocery bags.

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April 2014

The Rev. Betsey Polglase, PASTOR

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