

The Steeple Chimes

Columbia Congregational United Church of Christ

FEBRUARY

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

The snow has been falling for some time, the driveway and the lawn already dusted white. The porch light reflected by each crystal creates a sea of sparkling stars, even more than can be seen in the sky. All sounds have been muffled; the world now a quiet and gentle place, at least from where I stand on the porch attached to my warm home.

Often when I drive along the snow covered landscape, the hymn "In the Bleak Mid Winter" comes to mind, but today I hear "All Things Bright and Beautiful." The snow is bright and beautiful. Each flake uniquely formed; each falls to its place on tree limb, bush, field, or roadway; each alone effecting little but laying side by side all the other flakes becomes an expanse of glittering white.

In the midst of the cold beauty, some creatures hibernate, some put on heavy coats, and some retreat into cozy shelters, relying on stored up nuts or berries until they can get out into nature's grocery store once again. Even the plants which provide us with so much food rest quietly under the hard earth waiting for the return of warmth and bright sun. While I love winter, I, too, soon will be waiting for that shift toward spring and rebirth. But for now, I am marveling at the intricately made snow flakes, and thinking how each of us is equally unique and how, when we are joined with others, we can make a real change in our "landscape."

While getting one gift for \$19,000 to replace the elevator seemed impossible, as we all contributed what we can to this important mission of our church, together we have raised the funds needed. Alleluia! Leaving the church budget to one person is not only unwise but a heavy burden to the one, while the group of the Finance Committee with the support of the Church Council makes the mission of using our funds wisely a manageable task. While one good soloist can bring lovely music to our worship, a choir allows more to live out their joy of song with others while augmenting the worship. While leading weekly services is the responsibility of the pastor, worship is richer with the help of the choirs, the Deacons, the children, the flower and decorating committees. The monthly breakfast, with its fabulous opportunity for fellowship not only with church members but the greater community, depends on the volunteers who serve and clean up and offer welcoming smiles and cheery words to all.

Together we sparkle as the United Church of Christ in Columbia. Together with other churches we offer hope and peace and promise to the world through our joint ministries. Jesus called the ordinary individuals to gather together and become fishers for people, men and women and children, by reflecting the light of Christ and the joy of living in God's grace in all seasons of life.

I look forward to joining you in church and in our various activities.

Pastor Betsey

The Steeple Chimes
Columbia Congregational Church

February 2014

Sunday 10:00 AM Worship

FEBRUARY 2

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY
Communion Sunday
Worship Leader: Pastor Betsey Polglase
Deacon: Jack Sabine
Lay Reader: Jack Sabine
Greeters: Jack & Charlotte Sabine, Sally Ruef,
Tim Bassett and CONFIRMANDS: Chloe Weston and
Sydney Lambert.
Coffee Hour follows Worship Service in the Parish Hall.

FEBRUARY 9

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY
Worship Leader: Pastor Betsey Polglase
Deacon: Jack Sabine
Lay Reader: Jack Sabine
Greeter: Hannah Erickson
Coffee Hour follows Worship Service in the Parish Hall.

FEBRUARY 16

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY
Worship Leader: Pastor Betsey Polglase
Deacon: Jack Sabine
Lay Reader: Jack Sabine
Greeter: Jack Sabine
Coffee Hour follows Worship Service in the Parish Hall.

FEBRUARY 23

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY
Worship Leader: Pastor Betsey Polglase
Deacon: Jack Sabine
Lay Reader: Jack Sabine
Greeters: Jack Sabine
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.

EVERY MONDAY BIBLE STUDY CLASS
7PM -8:30PM/Parish Hall

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8TH
CHURCH BREAKFAST
8AM – 11:00AM/Parish Hall

Saturday, February 15TH
Church School Teachers Meeting 10AM –
12PM Lounge

WAIM SPAGHETTI DINNER – 5:30PM-
7:00PM
Parish Hall

MARCH NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
February 15TH

If you are unable to meet this deadline,
your submission can be included in the
following Newsletter.



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

FEBRUARY – Jack Sabine

TRUSTEE OF THE MONTH

FEBRUARY – Ralph Tangarone

GREETERS AND USHERS

FEBRUARY 2 - **Deacons:** Jack & Charlotte Sabine, Sally Ruef,

Tm Bassett and **CONFIRMANDS:** Chloe Weston and Sydney Lambert.

February 9 – Hannah Erickson

February 16 - **Volunteers needed**

February 23 - Volunteers needed

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 FEBRUARY 2014

(Subject to change at pastor's discretion)

| Date | Scripture | Sermon Title | Worship notes |
|----------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------|
| Feb. 2 | Micah 6:1, 6-8 Matt. 5:1-12 | "In God's World" | Communion |
| Feb. 9 | Psalm 112:1-10 Matt. 5:13-20 | "Salt, light, righteousness" | |
| Feb. 16 | Matt. 5:21-37 | "Let's Switch It Up" | |
| Feb. 23 | Psalm 119:33-40 Matt. 5:38-48 | "Eye, Tooth, Cheek, Coat & Love" | |

~CHRISTIAN EDUCATION~

In this New Year we have been talking about the love we have in our hearts and how that love helps reach out to others. We decorated and filled our World Service School Bags and shared with each other how fortunate we are that we can help others who are in need. Sharing this love is one of the many ways we can make a difference.

We will be reaching out to the Congregation with our Valentine Card project. Each child will be reminded how wonderful and loving our Church is and how our love as a church family makes a difference in the lives of others. On Sunday February 16 the children will be handing out valentine cards to the congregation to show their love for our Church family.

We are very happy to have Daena Parmenter back in Church School and we continue to pray for her health and the doctors who care for her and her loving family. We are inspired by how she courageously fights each battle and by how much she lifts our spirits with her smile.

I leave you this very heartfelt message of how love is not always seen but simply felt.

Always blessed, Jean Murphy

Why do we close our eyes
when we pray? When we cry?
When we dream? Or when
we kiss? Because we know
that the most beautiful things
in life are not seen, but felt by
heart.

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THANK YOU!

We would like to thank the congregation for your generous donations to local families for the holidays. Your donations helped to make the holidays special for many families that are struggling this year. It takes special people like you to make a difference. Wishing you all a very happy and healthy New Year! Debby Smith & Dixie Silvestri on behalf of the Salvation Army holiday food and gift drives.

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.



February 2 our Youth will be standing at the exits after worship with pots and pans collecting for the **Souper Bowl of Caring**. Your generous donations will go to the Covenant Soup Kitchen in Willimantic.

THE ELEVATOR FUND - We have raised over \$18,467 of the \$19,000 needed. Additional checks can be made payable to the church with a note "elevator fund." **Thanks to many individuals committed to making our church safely handicapped accessible.**

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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Columbia Congregational Church

February 2014

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

Saturday, February 8, 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

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SPAGHETTI DINNER



SAT Feb 15th 5:30 to 7:00 pm

MENU: Spaghetti, salad, garlic bread

Desserts

Coffee, tea, iced tea, and lemonade

Tickets are \$8 per person

Columbia Cong. Church 325 Rte 87

RSVP: ccchurch@snet.net or 860 228-9306

Proceeds are to benefit WAIM

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CORNERD BEEF AND CABBAGE DINNER



SATURDAY MARCH 15th

From 5:30 to 7:00 pm

MENU:

Corned Beef & Cabbage
Rolls
Salad
Dessert.



\$10.00 per person

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325 Rte 87

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or 860 228-9306



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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The Rev. Betsey Polglase, PASTOR

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