

# *THE STEEPLE CHIMES*

*Columbia Congregational United Church of Christ*

JULY/AUGUST

2013

## **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](mailto: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](mailto:ccchurch@snet.net)

website:

[colcch.org](http://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**

Protected by the screened porch, I was comfortable on the beige and pink cushions on the Deacons' bench as the thunderstorm approached. We've had quite a number of those this June. Everything was still, except the ever darkening clouds. Then I could smell the rain. As the drops fell and the wind picked up, I was reminded of sitting on the screened porch at the house my family rented on the lake in New Hampshire when I just a girl in pigtails. I loved to watch the rain come across the water, darkening the surface as it approached. Then that wonderful smell of rain dropped on pine needles and rich earth would drift through the screen.

There are other things that take me back. The smell of toast often reminds me when my mother fixed milked toast for my upset stomach. A delicious cup of English Afternoon tea takes me to my English grandmother's house where we had tea and cookies; a jar of M & Ms takes me to my other grandmother's where there was always a tin jar of them on the coffee table. The scent of a certain fragrance of pipe tobacco reminds me of my father reading in his armchair. As I was walking this past week, a sweet fragrance swirled around me, triggering a very distant memory. It wasn't until I saw the yellow and white flowers of the honeysuckle that the memory came tumbling back: the backyard near the clothesline when I was 3 or 4 years old. Within an overgrown garden, the honeysuckle tenaciously grew and cast its sweetness on the summer breeze.

All these little triggers that transport me to fond memories make me wonder what reminds me of God in my life. I think my first real awareness of God was when I was around six sitting in my favorite apple tree with the tangy fragrance of its blooms and the hum of the bees filling my senses, and watching the clouds drift across the sky. What could be more perfect? Only a being like God could create such wondrous things. Through out the subsequent years, God's presence has been made known to me in various ways, some small, some in knock-me-off-my-feet ways; some while I have been alone and some while in community.

I expect you too have had some of these experiences, when the hair on the back of your neck stood up, or you got goose bumps, or you felt a gentle presence, or your fear or worry was suddenly replaced by peace. I invite you during these summer months to consider in what ways you have encountered God in the past and also to be aware and open to God's presence each day.

May you experience God's blessings all around you in these summer months.

***Pastor Betsey***

July/August 2013

**Sunday 10:00 AM Worship****JULY 7**

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Communion Sunday

Worship Leader: Pastor Betsey Polglase

Deacon: Millie Ramsey

Lay Reader: Millie Ramsey

Greeters: Millie Ramsey, and John Polglase

**Loaves and Fishes Fellowship Hour follows****Worship Service in the Parish Hall.****JULY 14**

EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Worship Leader: Pastor Betsey Polglase

Deacon: Millie Ramsey

Lay Reader: Millie Ramsey

Greeter: Millie Ramsey

**Loaves and Fishes Fellowship Hour follows****Worship Service in the Parish Hall.****JULY 21**

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Worship Leader: Pastor Betsey Polglase

Deacon: Millie Ramsey

Lay Reader: Millie Ramsey

Greeter: Millie Ramsey

**Loaves and Fishes Fellowship Hour follows****Worship Service in the Parish Hall.****JULY 28**

TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Worship Leader: Pastor Betsey Polglase

Deacon: Millie Ramsey

Lay Reader: Millie Ramsey

Greeter: Millie Ramsey

**Loaves and Fishes Fellowship Hour follows****Worship Service in the Parish Hall.****COMING EVENTS**

**FAMILY SUNDAY** will continue to be Loaves and Fishes Fellowship Hour. Each family is asked to bring in one appetizer/finger food to share on our buffet table (cookies, cheese & crackers, veggies & dip, mini sandwiches...nothing that needs to be warmed or eaten with a utensil). Bring **ONLY** enough servings to feed 8-12 people.



**SATURDAY, JULY 13<sup>TH</sup> CHURCH BREAKFAST**  
8:00AM-12:00PM/Parish Hall

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 10<sup>TH</sup> CHURCH BREAKFAST**  
8:00AM-12:00PM/Parish Hall

**ANNUAL REPORTS DUE DEADLINE – Monday, August 19<sup>th</sup>!**

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 25<sup>TH</sup> Worship Service with Rev. Bob Woodward.**

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 1<sup>ST</sup> - Worship Service with Rev. Art Dunham.**

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7<sup>TH</sup> 8:30AM – 12:30PM, Church School Teacher's Workshop.**

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8<sup>TH</sup> – RALLY DAY!** Register and meet your Church School Teachers.

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14<sup>TH</sup> CHURCH BREAKFAST**  
8:00AM – 12:00PM/Parish Hall **AND 5<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL SHRED-A-THON 9AM-1PM** (In Front of The Old Fire House in Columbia)

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## **Sunday 10:00 AM Worship**

### **AUGUST 4**

ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Communion Sunday

Worship Leader: Pastor Betsey Polglase

Deacon: Millie Ramsey

Lay Reader: Millie Ramsey

Greeters: Millie Ramsey, and Janice Knight

**Loaves and Fishes Fellowship Hour follows Worship Service in the Parish Hall.**

### **AUGUST 11**

TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Worship Leader: Pastor Betsey Polglase

Deacon: Millie Ramsey

Lay Reader: Millie Ramsey

Greeter: Millie Ramsey

**Loaves and Fishes Fellowship Hour follows Worship Service in the Parish Hall.**

### **AUGUST 18**

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Worship Leader: Pastor Betsey Polglase

Deacon: Millie Ramsey

Lay Reader: Millie Ramsey

Greeter: Millie Ramsey

**Loaves and Fishes Fellowship Hour follows Worship Service in the Parish Hall.**

### **AUGUST 25**

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Worship Leader: Rev. Bob Woodward

Deacon: Millie Ramsey

Lay Reader: Millie Ramsey

Greeter: Millie Ramsey

**Loaves and Fishes Fellowship Hour follows Worship Service in the Parish Hall.**

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15<sup>TH</sup> Church School Begins!**  
Dedication of Church School Teachers.

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15<sup>TH</sup> – ANNUAL MEETING**  
immediately following worship service.

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**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**

JULY – Millie Ramsey

AUGUST – Millie Ramsey

**TRUSTEE OF THE MONTH**

JULY – Don Doucette

AUGUST – Doug Erickson

**GREETERS AND USHERS**

July 7– Deacon – Millie Ramsey, John Polglase

**July 14 – Volunteers needed**

**July 21 – Volunteers needed**

**July 28 – Volunteers needed**

**GREETERS AND USHERS**

August 4- Deacons: Millie Ramsey & Janice Knight

**August 11 - Volunteers needed**

**August 18 - Volunteers needed**

**August 25 – Volunteers needed**

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## PARISH NOTICES

The return of Pledge Cards to support the budget for 2013 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 2013 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.

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## Summer Reading

### 2013

**The Chronicles of Narnia by C.S. Lewis** may be considered children's books (age 8 and up) but, read from a faith perspective by adults, they take on new meanings.

**Clive Staples Lewis**, known as C.S. Lewis and as Jack by friends, was a novelist, poet, academic, medievalist, literary critic, essayist, lay theologian, and Christian apologist from Belfast, Ireland.

Baptized in the Church of Ireland (Anglican), he became an atheist in his teen years. At age 32 he joined the Church of England. His faith had a profound effect on his work, and his wartime radio broadcasts on the subject of Christianity brought him wide acclaim.

He is best known both for his fictional work, especially The Screwtape Letters, The Chronicles of Narnia, and The Space Trilogy, and for his non-fiction Christian apologetics, such as Mere Christianity, Miracles, and The Problem of Pain.

I invite you to read the first of the 7 volumes of ***The Chronicles of Narnia, The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe*** this summer. We will set a time for discussion sometime in September. Feel free to read the rest of the volumes, but our conversation will focus on this first volume. Those who read on can inform the others where the chronicles go.

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## Worship Schedule – July/August 2013

(Subject to change at pastor's discretion)

<b>Date</b>	<b>Scripture</b>	<b>Sermon Title</b>	<b>Worship notes</b>
<b>July 7</b>	Galatians 6: 1-16	"Walking Side by Side"	Communion
<b>July 14</b>	Luke 10: 25-37	"Responding with Faith"	
<b>July 21</b>	Psalm 52 Luke 10: 38-42	"Sisters"	
<b>July 28</b>	Luke 11: 1-13	"Guided Through Prayer"	
<b>Aug. 4</b>	Luke 12: 13-21	"Soul Investment"	Communion
<b>Aug. 11</b>	Hebrews 11: 1-3, 8-16	"Living into the Promise"	
<b>Aug. 18</b>	Psalm 80: 1-2, 8-19	"Restore Us"	
<b>Aug. 25</b>	TBA	Rev. Bob Woodward preaching – Pastor Betsey on Vacation	
<b>Sept. 1</b>	TBA	Rev. Art Dunham preaching – Pastor Betsey on Vacation	

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## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

If you missed Church School Sunday you missed an amazing Service! The children did a fantastic job sharing with the Congregation the importance of letting our Light shine and how over the course of the year they let their Light shine.

I had a vision of Lights shining in the dark and I got twenty six! I wanted a cross lit for all to see who really the true Light of the world is and I saw it! I wanted to hear the children tell how they let their light shine and I got it in a song, in a poem, in the many outreach programs we support and in an interview. When interviewed the youngest children used simple gestures such as a smile, a hug, being respectful and loving one another. Sometimes the smallest things mean the most. The 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade class shared how we help those in need through Heifer, Crop Walk, School Bags, and Nickels for Nets. There was a lot of energy and excitement from this class and it showed in the program. The 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade composed and sang a song and it was amazing (Sydney, Chloe, Ellie and Hannah). The poem "Our Deepest Fear" was read by the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade class and it reminds us: "We are all meant to shine, as children do. We were born to make manifest the glory of God that is within us. It's not just in some of us; it's in everyone. **And as we let our own light shine, we unconsciously give other people permission to do the same.** As we are liberated from our own fear, our presence automatically liberates others."

I was moved to tears with our music selection. The Children sang "This Little Light of Mine" and chimed "Sweet Hour of Prayer" and it was wonderful. As the congregation sang "Here I am Lord" I found myself so moved. In the end we sang "I Am One Light Shining" it was improvised from "I Am One Voice Singing" Sydney Lambert was our one light and was joined by Chloe Weston as two lights shining and the remaining children came out of the darkness and became a hundred lights shining and the congregation joined in as a thousand and a million lights shining and back to Sydney as one. It is true that we are not alone in letting our Light Shine!

I had to share all of this with you because there was so much love and time that went into this program and the people who worked to make this possible are simply amazing! Thank you to: **Lynn Sharpe** for all your time and effort and for helping make my vision real, **Wendy Tomlinson** for keeping everyone informed on our schedules and for her wonderful guidance with our little ones, **Nancy Douton** for her musical talents and bless her for listening to me trying to sing the song "I am One Voice", **Terry Tangarone** for her

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guidance with the youth and their song, [Anne Robinson](#) for keeping everyone in order and for the wonderful work in preparing our young children for their interview, [Anthony White, Sr.](#) for his guidance and for providing the cross, [Andrea Stone](#) for her support and guidance with our little ones and help with the interview, [Rosalie Bissanti](#) and [Wendy McDonald](#) for their guidance with a very exuberant class, [Alex Chiu](#) for his musical talents and our [Church School Children](#) you all Shine!

Remember: The Light that shines in us is meant to be shared! Here I am Lord send me!

**Have a safe and happy summer.**

**Blessings to All**

[Jean Murphy](#)

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### **CHURCH WORLD SERVICE SCHOOL BAGS**

**COLLECTION FOR SCHOOL ITEMS BEGINS IN [SEPTEMBER](#)**

**SCHOOL ITEMS GO ON SALE IN AUGUST - REMEMBER TO STOCK UP ON ITEMS FOR OUR SCHOOL BAGS!**

#### **SCHOOL ITEMS NEEDED TO COMPLETE ONE BAG**

- |                             |                               |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| * 1 BLUNT <b>SCISSOR</b>    | * 1 <b>24 PACK OF CRAYONS</b> |
| * 1 <b>ERASER</b>           | * 1 <b>PENCIL SHARPENER</b>   |
| * 3 <b>SPIRAL NOTEBOOKS</b> | * 1 <b>RULER</b>              |

**FYI - WE ARE ALL SET WITH PENCILS FOR THIS YEAR!**

**LAST YEAR WE WERE SHORT ON RULERS AND CRAYONS.**

THE CHURCH SCHOOL APPRECIATES AND **THANKS** YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT IN THIS VERY NEEDED MISSION!

July/August 2013

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

*Saturday, July 13, 2013*

*8:00A.M. to NOON*

*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

July/August 2013

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

*Saturday, August 10, 2013*

*8:00A.M. to NOON*

*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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**SAVE THE DATE!**

**CHURCH AUCTION**

**September 27 7:00PM**

**C.C.C. Parish Hall**

**R. J. Weston, Auctioneer**

**DONATE!**

**GOODS – SERVICES – FOOD**

**Art, Antiques, Gift Cards, Desserts,**

**Furniture, Vacations, etc., etc.**

**Questions/Donations Call:**

**Church Office: 860.228.**

**Andrea Stannard: 860.228.9248**

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## **ATTENTION CHURCH MEMBERS**

Year to Date through April, Pledged Income is \$9,000 behind the commitment from our Pledging Members. This income shortfall is contributing greatly to our budget deficit year to date. Board of Finance kindly requests pledge commitments be brought current where possible. Anyone experiencing difficulty in meeting their current year pledge commitment is asked to contact any member of Stewardship Committee.

**Thank you for your continued support!**

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## **The Women's Guild is selling potted Chrysanthemums**

An eight inch pot is \$5.00 and a four inch pot is \$4.00. There is no choice of color.

Please have your order to us by August 28<sup>th</sup> with a check made out to the Women's Guild for the correct amount. Please place in Guild mailbox. The Chrysanthemums will be available for pick-up on September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2013. There will be no extra ones available.

I want to order \_\_\_\_\_ **four inch** pots at **\$4.00** a piece.

I want to order \_\_\_\_\_ **eight inch** pots at **\$5.00** a piece.

**Total Order** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address & Telephone Number**

\_\_\_\_\_

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## How YOU Can Help Oklahoma Tornado Victims:

1. Pray for the people and communities impacted by tornados and storms and all those who serve as first responder emergency personnel.
2. Make a gift payable to Columbia Congregational Church marked for Tornados/Storms, with the request they should be sent through your Conference Office on to the United Church of Christ, Financial Services, 700 Prospect Avenue E, Cleveland, OH 44115. OR
3. Send gifts, payable to the United Church of Christ and marked in the memo portion Tornado/Storms, to United Church of Christ, Financial Services, 700 Prospect Avenue E, Cleveland, OH 44115.

OR

4. Make a secure on-line gift to Tornado/Storms Relief by donating to Emergency USA on the UCC website. Please note: Tornados/Storms in the comment section.

**Check out this bulletin insert on the UCC page.**

<http://www.ucc.org/disaster/Oklahoma-Bulletin-Insert.pdf>

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## Covenant Community Vegetable Garden

Thanks to all who helped to make our raised garden beds for our church vegetable garden. Eileen and Ted McManus of Coventry donated the soil and Brendan Boyle donated the services of his dump truck to pick it up and fill our gardens. We also give special thanks to the Coley family for the compost bin and the Parmenter and Doucette families for the new water barrels.

We are ready to plant. If you would like to donate either plants or money to this project, please see any member of the Board of Christian Concern (John Polglase, Anthony White, Denise Parmenter, Dixie Silvestri or Holly Weston). There is also a signup sheet in the Parish Hall for anyone willing to give some time weeding and watering the garden.

We also want to give a big thanks to all who worked to clean up the memorial garden and the garden on the side of the church near the parking lot.

## 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 1:1:30 pm in the lower church parking lot.** Upcoming distribution dates: **July 11 & 25, August 8 & 22.** 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.** Upcoming distribution dates: July 3, 17 & 31. Please bring your own grocery bags.

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## Follow Up on April Apple Tree Planting at Szegda Farm

### Excerpt from e-mail to Pastor Betsey

"...Since our orchard planting we have been very busy getting the garden area prepped. Thanks to you and the other volunteers from the church the vision of an orchard became a reality. In time I hope the trees will enhance the natural beauty of the land and be a reminder of our community spirit." Bob Ulkus

**Bob will be putting together a watering plan for summer care of the trees. If you can help, please let the church know.**

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**The Advent Workshop** is looking for a nice 5-6" log or two. Enough to make several dozen 3" thick slices to use for advent wreaths next December. We would like white birch logs, if possible. **Please contact Jackie Kittle if you have some logs.**

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**The Church Fair Committee** holds a workshop on Wednesday mornings, from 10 to noon. All are welcome. You don't have to commit to every week. We would be glad to see you any time you can make it. We have fun, we paint stuff and glue things together. Come join us.

The Committee is looking for Altoids tins and the little white plastic tags used to hold bread or roll bags shut. There will be some at-home projects for those who are unable to make it in the mornings. **In the fall, there will be food projects to do and some evening workshops may be scheduled if there is enough interest.**

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## Blessing of the Gardens



As spring unfolds and our thoughts turn to garden planning, preparation, clean up and care, consider asking Pastor Betsey to bless your garden. Whether you plant flowers or vegetables for your own pleasure or to share, you are participating in God's creation. Asking for the wisdom in the planting and care as well as for adequate rainfall and sunshine to sustain your garden, along with praising God for all the possibilities made available to us is appropriate. Contact Pastor Betsey to set a date and time.

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## 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](http://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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# **PIG ROAST**

**Saturday, September 21<sup>st</sup>**

**(To benefit Andover Food Pantry)**

For more information contact Dixie Silvestri.

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# **CROP WALK**

**Sunday, October 6<sup>th</sup>**

For more info please go to

[www.churchworldservice.org](http://www.churchworldservice.org)

and click under Columbia/Gilead/Andover Walk.

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**The Rev. Betsey Polglase, PASTOR**

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Pastor's email: [pastorbetsey.ccchurch@gmail.com](mailto:pastorbetsey.ccchurch@gmail.com)

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