

THE STEEPLE CHIMES

Columbia Congregational United Church of Christ

NOVEMBER

2013

Pastor Betsey Polglase

Church: 860.228.9306

Pastor Betsey's

Office Hours:

Mon. – Thurs.: 9:30-12:30

Pastor's email:

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Church Office

Contact Information

Phone 860.228.9306

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Mon. – Fri.: 9:30–1:00

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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.

UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST



FROM THE PASTOR'S PORCH

Though late in October, the day was relatively warm, the brilliant sun resting on everything and anything it could. Many leaves had already drifted down, been blown down, been tossed about into crisp piles, swished into blankets over grass and ground-cover alike. My cherry tomato plants are still producing and the petunias still blooming, appearing out of place now we are deep into the fall season. The cat, Elliot, and I sat in the soul soothing sun, cushioned by the fading floral pillows on the deacon's bench on the porch. A couple of months ago, I would have had to retreat to the cool of the house and soon it will be too cold, but, this day, this day, it was perfect.

As I watched another golden leaf dance its descent, I remembered raking leaves with our daughters, building great piles for them to disappear into so they could then burst out like a roaring monster ready to eat me alive. We raced around the yard, only to fall back into the now-not-so-big pile, tossing handfuls of brown, gold and red at each other. Our black lab, Toby, would get so excited she would run around in circles, leaves rustling and flying, as she barked madly at our crazy antics.

Now, sitting on the porch, I realized I have shifted into being a spectator. Smiling knowingly as the children walking on the path between the library and gazebo, shuffling their feet, swooshing leaves about, finding joy in the sound, I take great pleasure in the season, but I am not out there in it.

Certainly, I am older - and you might be too. Racing about, rolling in leaves, and chasing friends or children through the rustling of leaves may be something you physically can't do. And being a spectator is not all bad. After all, most of us never played in the NFL, or the NHL; became the first violinist or a member of the Hartford Symphony; a prima-ballerina, or a member of the corps de ballet. But, as spectators, we can feel the thrill of the game; enjoy the concert, or the ballet.

Church, however, is not intended to be a spectator sport; although there are times in our lives (life challenges, diminished capability) when being a spectator is right where we belong. In general though, being church, the Body of Christ, the community of the faithful, calls for active participation. In worship we sing, pray, listen, and read together. Even here there is room for greater involvement: reading the scripture (you don't have to be a Deacon), giving the children's message, offering a joy or concern, sing in the choir. Participating in the activities of the church - serving on a committee or board, working at the breakfast, or attending special activities will all make you, and the church, richer. UCC minister Rev. Molly Baskette wrote "get out of spectator mode and find the courage to be really seen."

As we approach this season of thanksgiving, we, as a church and as individuals, can find much to be thankful for, not the least of which for the blessing of God's presence in our everyday lives. Those now in the late season of their lives may be more limited in the ways they can participate than those in the spring and summer of their lives. However, we can all dance like the leaves of fall for all to see the freedom and joy in which we live, using God-given gifts and talents, courage and wisdom.

Come to the church fair (Nov. 2)(bake, sell, or come and see/buy). Enjoy fellowship and the shrimp dinner at the Biloxi Shrimp Boil (Nov. 5). Help at the church breakfast (Nov. 9). Join our neighbors in Andover for our Community Thanksgiving Service on November 26 here at Columbia Congregational Church at 7:00 pm. Then plan to enter Advent as an active member of this Body of Christ, full of anticipation and awe as we search together for the significance of this season and of our lives in Christ. Thankful for all of you and what you do, have done, and will do and for being everything God has intended you to be,

Pastor Betsey

November 2013

Sunday 10:00 AM Worship**NOVEMBER 3**

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Communion Sunday

Worship Leader: Pastor Betsey Polglase

Deacon: Sally Ruef

Lay Reader: Sally Ruef

Greeters: Sally Ruef, Tim Bassett, Charlotte & Jack

Sabine. Confirmands: Chloe Weston and Hannah

Bassett.

Loaves and Fishes Fellowship Hour follows Worship Service in the Parish Hall.**NOVEMBER 10**

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Worship Leader: Pastor Betsey Polglase

Deacon: Sally Ruef

Lay Reader: Sally Ruef

Greeter: Sally Ruef

Loaves and Fishes Fellowship Hour follows Worship Service in the Parish Hall.**NOVEMBER 17**

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Worship Leader: Pastor Betsey Polglase

Deacon: Sally Ruef

Lay Reader: Sally Ruef

Greeter: Chloe Weston

Loaves and Fishes Fellowship Hour follows Worship Service in the Parish Hall.**NOVEMBER 24/THANKSGIVING SUNDAY**

REIGN OF CHRIST

Worship Leader: Pastor Betsey Polglase

Deacon: Sally Ruef

Lay Reader: Sally Ruef

Greeters: Ellie Foss and Hannah Bassett

Loaves and Fishes Fellowship 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. Thank you for supporting this ministry.

**SATURDAY, November 2nd****CHURCH FAIR 10AM – 3PM/Parish Hall****SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3rd – Daylight Saving Time Ends.**

Remember to set clock back 1 hour on Saturday night.

EVERY MONDAY BIBLE STUDY CLASS - 7PM -8PM/Lounge**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5TH - BACK BAY SHRIMP BOIL****DINNER 6:00PM – 8:00PM/Parish Hall****SATURDAY, November 9th CHURCH BREAKFAST**

8AM – 11:00AM/Parish Hall

SATURDAY, November 16th Church School Teacher's**Meeting 10AM-12PM/Lounge****SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24th – 3PM Salvation Army****Thanksgiving Baskets Set-Up/Foyer.** Delivery of Baskets on Monday.**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 26th – 7PM Combined****Thanksgiving Service with Andover Church! Sanctuary**

November 2013



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

NOVEMBE – Sally Ruef

TRUSTEE OF THE MONTH

NOVEMBER – Dave Pearce

GREETERS AND USHERS

NOVEMBER 3- **Deacons:** Sally Ruef, Tim Bassett, Charlotte and Jack Sabine.

Confirmands: Chloe Weston and Hannah Erickson.

November 10 – Volunteers needed

November 17 - Chloe Weston

November 24 - Ellie Foss and Hannah Erickson

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.

November 2013

Worship Schedule November 2013

(Subject to change at pastor's discretion)

Date	Scripture	Sermon Title	Worship notes
Nov. 3	Psalm 119: 137-144 Luke 19:1-10	"Up a Tree"	Communion
Nov. 10	Psalm 145:1-5, 17-21 2 Thess. 2:1-5, 13-17	"Chosen by God"	
Nov. 17	Psalm 98 Isaiah 65: 17-25	"Setting Things Right"	
Nov. 24	Psalm 46 Colossians 1: 11-20	"Pleased To Dwell with Christ"	Thanksgiving Sunday Bringing in Harvest
Nov. 26	TBA	TBA – Rev. Ray Kostulias Preaching Community Thanksgiving Worship at CCC at 7:00 PM Columbia Congregational & Andover Congregational together	
Nov 28	HAPPY THANKSGIVING! May you find much for which to give thanks, by God's grace.		

November 2013

~CHRISTIAN EDUCATION~

Each week we have been discussing the Fruit of the Spirit words. This month we talked about goodness, kindness and patience. These are the things Jesus wants for us to have in order to grow in our Christian faith.

Goodness represents love, honesty and compassion to others and allows us to do the right thing. Kindness is an active of love. A simple smile, hug or kind word lets others know you are a good and caring person. Patience is hard because it requires waiting. Children who find patience early in life deal better with conflict than those who do not such as dealing with their siblings or waiting for something they want and can't have right away. We strive through God's love to find the patience to overcome difficult times. We ask God for patience and love as we teach our children how to grow in their faith.

November brings singing and chiming giving thanks and preparing for the Holiday pageant. Listen for us on November 24 as we sing "I've Got That Joy Down In My Heart". If you got joy in your heart I hope you will sing along with us as I know I will be singing.

Thanksgiving is a time for giving thanks and being grateful for all the wonderful blessings in our lives. I am thankful for all those who help make a difference in our Church School.

God bless you always,

Jean

Fruit of the Spirit

Today I learned
Jesus is the Vine
With Him I grow
fruit very fine

Love and Joy and Peace
are three
of the fruits
Jesus wants from me

Patience, Kindness
Goodness too
These are the things
Jesus wants me to do

Faithfulness, Gentleness
Self-Control,
These are the fruits
Jesus wants me to grow

November 2013

BAKERS WANTED
FOR
FAIR ON NOVEMBER 2ND

Small and large pies are popular. Really, all fresh baked goods are popular. If you would like to include a recipe, that would be a plus.

Baked goods may be brought in Friday night until 7:00PM and after 8:00AM Saturday morning. We appreciate your continued support.

November 2013



Saturday November 2
10 AM to 3 PM

**Professional Crafter's
Booths**

**Church Bazaar and
Bake Sale**

**World famous
Deacon's Diner**

Attic Treasures



November 2013

Shrimp Boil



To benefit the Backbay Mission, Biloxi, MS

**Shrimp, garlic bread,
salad, and dessert**

Tickets

\$10.00 adult
9.00 seniors
8.00 children

Call for reservations: 860-228-9306

Backbay Mission speaker
Immediately following dinner

November 2013

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

Saturday, November 9, 2013

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

November 2013



BRING IN THE HARVEST

Thanksgiving Sunday

November 24, 2013

Please bring in fruits and vegetables to decorate our sanctuary.

Produce will be taken to the Soup Kitchen

After Community Worship on Tuesdays

During the Prelude,

**Children will process with the harvest and put it
around the table.**

Adults may follow.

Apples, oranges, potatoes, winter squash, etc.

November 2013

CARE TEAM – Looking for a rewarding, caring volunteer activity? How about serving as the coordinator for our church Care Team? Please see John Polglase for details.

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.

The Board of Christian Concern is running a program called FLOWER POWER. We are offering a wide variety of bulbs for sale and 50% of the profits come back to the church. You can review all of the bulbs on our website or contact Dixie, Holly, Denise, Tony or John Polglase to place your orders. The funds raised will go to help support our mission work with “Simply Smiles” Wounded Warriors, Restavec and others. Thank you for participation in this effort.

John Polglase

Chair BOCC

November 2013

SIMPLY SMILES COFFEE IS BACK!

Simply Smiles Coffee is available in the Parish Hall. Purchase of the coffee helps support Simply Smiles missions in Oaxaca, Mexico and Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Reservation in South Dakota. For more details on the mission, see their website <http://www.simplysmiles.org>

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. Also, thanks to all who have planted, watered, and tended the garden.

Check out the gardens on the side of the church. We have already given over ten heads of lettuce, and some collard, and parsley to the Soup Kitchen.

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: **November 14 and December 12 & 26.** 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.

November 2013

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

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.**

November 2013

The Rev. Betsey Polglase, PASTOR

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