

The Steeple Chimes

Columbia Congregational United Church of Christ

MAY 2015

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:

columbiacongregationalchurch.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

It is Earth Day as I write this. We have had a few beautiful spring days, which brought the daffodils into bloom. The deacon's bench on our screened-in porch is uncovered from its protective tarp and the other furnishing washed down. I'd be sitting out there now except the wind has been strong and the temperatures dropping, but I look forward to many days and evenings sitting on the porch. But I am thinking of the good earth and all its beauty. Even though the snow was beautiful in its way this year, I am glad to move on to looking at raindrops on tree buds, the red hue that now glows where stretches of maple trees grow, and at the spring flowers.

I have also been thinking about the scriptures for this coming Sunday, which include Psalm 23, and about how on Monday I start a week vacation. Rev. Kathy Peters wrote an interesting "Spirited Wednesday" article on Psalm 23.

She tells how someone asked her once, "If we believe God loves us just the way we are, why do we need to keep coming to church and hear sermons?" Her answer was "because ...we need to be reminded of this Shepherd who always has our back!" Then, in her closing prayer, she asks God to "move us to take time to "lie down" and rest in you...stop, breathe, believe and enjoy the restoration your love offers." I thought, yes, this is what I need right now and why I have decided to take a vacation week. I hope the weather cooperates and I can go off to a spot full of God's glory to soak in, breathe in, rest in God's presence.

This is something we all need to do. It is not just a clergy thing. Certainly, how each of us does this is different. Whatever method fits our personality, we need to take time to really strengthen our relationship with God and our faith community. Yes, with the community.

How are you strengthening the church so it can strengthen you? Your presence is important, and so is your monetary support. But also, the community of faith needs your involvement in the running of the church: singing/playing in the choirs, serving on a committee, volunteering to read scripture or giving a children's message, or teaching in our Sunday School. Maybe you have done all those things and feel it is time for the younger folks to take on the task. You can still join us at the potluck lunches, bringing something to contribute if you can. Perhaps right now in your life, attending worship is all you can do. That too is very important to building up the community of faith. For others, it may feel like squeezing one more thing into an already busy life. Including church may actually put balance into that life.

In the chaos of life, be sure to set time aside to be with our Good Shepherd; sink your roots into the good earth; notice the birdsong; stop, breath, believe and be restored.

Enjoying spring,

Pastor Betsey

The Steeple Chimes **Columbia Congregational Church**

MAY 2015

Sunday 10:00 AM Worship

MAY 3

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Worship Leader: Rev. Bob Woodward

Deacon: Tim Bassett

Lay Reader: Tim Bassett

Greeters: Tim Bassett, Charlotte Sabine,
Millie Ramsey, and Kim Foss.

**Coffee Hour follows Worship Service in the
Parish Hall.**

MAY 10/MOTHER'S DAY

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Worship Leader: Pastor Betsey Polglase

Deacon: Tim Bassett

Lay Reader: Tim Bassett

Greeter: Tim Bassett

**Coffee Hour follows Worship Service in the
Parish Hall.**

MAY 17

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Worship Leader: Pastor Betsey Polglase

Deacon: Tim Bassett

Lay Reader: Tim Bassett

Greeter: Tim Bassett

**Coffee Hour follows Worship Service in the
Parish Hall.**

MAY 24

PENTECOST SUNDAY

Worship Leader: Pastor Betsey Polglase

Deacon: Tim Bassett

Lay Reader: Tim Bassett

Greeters: Tim Bassett

**Coffee Hour follows Worship Service in the
Parish Hall.**

MAY 31

TRINITY SUNDAY

Worship Leader: Pastor Betsey Polglase

Deacon: Tim Bassett

Lay Reader: Tim Bassett

Greeters: Tim Bassett

**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.



MONDAY'S - BIBLE STUDY CLASS

7:00PM -8:30PM/Parish Hall

SATURDAY, MAY 9TH

CHURCH BREAKFAST

8:00AM – 11:00AM/Parish Hall

AND

HEIFER FUNDRAISER CAR WASH

8AM – 12PM – In Front of the Old Fire House

SUNDAY, MAY 10TH – MOTHER'S DAY

Worship Service with **BLANKET SUNDAY COLLECTION!**

SATURDAY, MAY 16TH

Church School Teachers Meeting

10AM – 12PM/Lounge

SUNDAY, MAY 17TH

CHURCH SCHOOL TEACHERS RECOGNITION during worship service.

SUNDAY, MAY 24TH

GARDEN SUNDAY POTLUCK Sponsored by the Bd. Of Christian Concern. 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

MAY – Tim Bassett

TRUSTEE OF THE MONTH

MAY – Ralph Tangarone

GREETERS AND USHERS

MAY 3 – **Deacons:** Tim Bassett, Charlotte Sabine, Millie Ramsey and Kim Foss.

MAY 10 – Tim Bassett

MAY 17 – Tim Bassett

MAY 24 – Tim Bassett

MAY 31 – Tim Bassett

PARISH NOTICES

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 Dixie Silvestri 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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Worship Schedule
MAY 2015

(Subject to change at pastor's discretion)

<u>DATE</u>	<u>SCRIPTURE</u>	<u>SERMON TITLE</u>	<u>WORSHIP NOTES</u>
May 3	Genesis 1:1-5, 20-31 Genesis 2:15-17	<i>"To Cherish and Caress The Earth"</i>	Rev. Bob Woodward
May 10	Psalm 98 John 15:9-17	<i>"Friends Together"</i>	MOTHER'S DAY
May 17	Psalm 47 Acts 1:1-11	<i>"Promises of Jesus"</i>	TEACHERS APPRECIATION DAY
May 24	Psalm 104:24-34 Romans 8:22-27	<i>"Spirit for All"</i>	PENTECOST MEMORIAL DAY
May 31	Psalm 29 Isaiah 6:1-8 John 3:16-17	<i>"Holy Power"</i>	TRINITY SUNDAY

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~CHRISTIAN EDUCATION~

The month of May is a time for ending our Heifer project, showing our appreciation for our wonderful teachers and preparing for our Church School program.

The Church School is preparing for our annual carwash to benefit Heifer International. We are so proud of the children in their efforts to help those living in poverty and hunger, through saving money in their ark banks, bake sales and generous donations from our Congregation. We have currently raised \$1,092 and we hope to reach our goal of \$1500 at our carwash. I want to thank our busy bees Elizabeth Tangarone, JoJo and Matthew (Chevy) Milici for helping serve at the Church Breakfast and to Wendy Tomlinson, Terry Tangarone and Nancy Douton for their help and supervision. We all wore bee headbands, Courtesy of Wendy Tomlinson, so when the breakfast diners asked what they were for we could tell them about Heifer and the importance of the animals and why we were raising money for them.

CAR WASH: MAY 9, 2015: OLD FIREHOUSE: 8:00AM TO 12:00PM: \$5.00 PER CAR: TELL A FRIEND OR BUY THEM A TICKET!

Teacher Appreciation is a wonderful time to thank our teachers for their dedication and nurturing of our children's faith journey. It is a true blessing to work with these wonderful women. They bring joy, love and caring to our Church School. They represent the Fruit of the Spirit and patience being the most special virtue of all. It is without a doubt that they go above and beyond the term volunteer. I would hope everyone would reach out and thank them for their awesome work.

TEACHER APPRECIATION: MAY 17, 2015

TEACHERS:LYNN SHARPE, WENDY MCDONALD, ROSALIE BISSANTI, ANNE ROBINSON, WENDY TOMLINSON, TERRY TANGARONE, ANDREA STONE, HANNAH BASSETT(NURSERY) AND NANCY DOUTON (MUSIC).

The children have learned a lot about creation and how to be good stewards of the earth. They have reached out to those in need and helped make the world a better place to live. The Church school will be presenting the Creation Pageant and welcomes anyone who would like to participate. Please see Jean Murphy if you are interested. It is a wonderful time to celebrate God's Creation! **We are in need of large stuffed animals! If you have any to share we would appreciate it (they will be returned).**

CHURCH SCHOOL PROGRAM: JUNE 14, 2015

Jean Murphy

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

Saturday, May 9, 2015
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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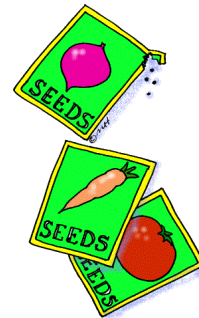
**Garden
Sunday
Potluck**



**Sunday, May
24th**

After the service

**Wear your gardening clothes,
bring tools and seeds and let's
plant the garden we use to supply
the Covenant Soup Kitchen with
produce all summer long!**



HOT DOGS for the kids!!!



**Please RSVP to Denise if you are
participating in either the potluck
and/or the garden project.**

The Board of Christian Concern

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**WELCOME TO THE
MOBILE FOODSHARE AT**
www.foodshare.org

Andover Congregational Church
359 Route 6, Andover
(Corner of Rt 6 & Long Hill Rd.)
9:00 – 9:30AM
May 6, 20
June 3, 17

Baptist Fellowship Church
195 Route 6, Columbia
1:15 – 1:45PM
May 14, 28
June 11, 25

Hebron Interfaith Human Services
1 Main St., Hebron
11:00 – 11:30AM
May 5, 19
June 2, 16, 30

Bring your own bags; must be 18 years old to receive food.

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Are you redecorating this spring?? Getting rid of towels, sheets, pots/pans or other household items? **Please consider donating gently used items to WAIM.** Furniture or kitchen appliances can be dropped off at WAIM or call them to schedule a pick up. **Thanks and God Bless.**

The Fair Committee thanks you for your support –

We have enough bread tags- Now we are looking for glass baby food jars (any size) with covers, a large old mirror and or wooden windows (30” or smaller), small (interior) shutters in any condition, large wooden picture frames. Please contact Jackie Kittle 860-707-3155.

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.silverlakeect.org. Most conferences cost \$550 and run Sunday afternoon to Saturday morning. If financial assistance is needed, SLCC has discounts and scholarships, or you can speak with Pastor Betsey.

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“I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you show love to one another.”
John 13:34-35

We seek to be a loving and caring church community, contributing our time, our resources, and our love to help and support each other in times of need. This is the goal of our Care Team. We have a group approximately 12 members of our congregation that have signed up to offer their help with transportation, meals, short term chores or just a presence offering concern and fellowship. These volunteers do not replace Pastoral visits or calls. **Should you or anyone that you know need a little TLC from our Care Team, please contact Sue Milici at 860-228-4427 or email smilici@earthlink.net** New volunteers are always welcome.

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.

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The Rev. Betsey Polglase, PASTOR

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