

The Steeple Chimes

Columbia Congregational United Church of Christ

JULY-AUGUST 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

Last year in July our daughter, Becca, came for a visit and spent a lot of time on the porch. We were reminded how lucky we are to have such a nice place to live. Like us, she enjoyed watching the hummingbirds zoom to and from the feeder and the various other birds feasting on the berries on the trees in our front yard. What struck me was her great delight in seeing fireflies blinking in the dark. It brought back memories of her childhood here in New England. I couldn't imagine there were no fireflies in Seattle and so did a little research. Is this another species headed toward extinction?

There are fireflies in the northwest, only that species lacks the ability to produce light. There are around 2,000 species of fireflies. Each species has its own pattern of light flashing, if they have the ability. Some even synchronize their flashing. The yellow, or green, or orange light is the most efficient light in the world. 100% of energy from the chemical reaction which produces the light is emitted as light.

However, there has been a decline in the numbers of fireflies. The reasons given in various articles is too much artificial lighting and destruction of habitat. Where fireflies used to be seen, towns and cities have sprung up and artificial lighting has invaded the darkness making the fireflies small blinking light invisible. The fireflies simply can't find each other. Even if they are blinking away, we can't see them either. Also, the stretches of grass, field and woodlands where the fireflies lived have been dug up, paved over, or built on destroying their habitat. Unlike some species that can migrate to another location, the fireflies who once frequented these places are destroyed forever.

That got me to thinking about the light of Christ. When we are Spirit-filled with the light of Christ, can anyone see us? Or, do all the artificial or secular lights/attractions in our world today overpower that life-giving, life-saving, peace-giving light that draws others to the faith, or simply let's us know who else is a light-bearer of Christ? It is not that these secular lights are all bad. New developments in medicine, technology and teaching can be good and worthy of our adaptations, but we can't let these other lights wash out the light of the Spirit. I also wonder, if we eliminate those places where we can gather in faith – churches, family dinners, night time prayers, funerals and weddings, pot luck lunches – will the source of faith vanish for good in our lives? I am not suggesting the Spirit ever leaves us, but we can be blind to it and disconnected from it.

So through the summer months, consider how you are flashing your light. Can others see your faith and the calm and strength it gives? Also, consider where you can go to recharge that glorious light of Christ within you.

May your summer be filled with moments of peace and serenity and may you be the bearer of Christ's light wherever you are.

See you in church,

Pastor Betsey

The Steeple Chimes **Columbia Congregational Church**

JULY-AUGUST 2015

Sunday 10:00 AM Worship

JULY 5

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Worship Leader: Pastor Betsey Polglase

Deacon: Janice Knight

Lay Reader: Janice Knight

Greeters: Janice Knight, Millie Ramsey,
Charlotte and Jack Sabine.

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

JULY 12

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER
PENTECOST

Worship Leader: Pastor Betsey Polglase

Deacon: Janice Knight

Lay Reader: Janice Knight

Greeter: Janice Knight

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

JULY 19

EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Worship Leader: Pastor Betsey Polglase

Deacon: Janice Knight

Lay Reader: Janice Knight

Greeter: Janice Knight

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

JULY 26

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Worship Leader: Pastor Betsey Polglase

Deacon: Janice Knight

Lay Reader: Janice Knight

Greeter: Janice Knight

**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/MONDAY'S
7PM -8:30PM/Parish Hall

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

SATURDAY, JULY 25TH
YOU'RE INVITED – 1PM – 3PM
Afternoon Garden Tea on the
Church lawn!

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

ANNUAL REPORTS DUE DEADLINE
Monday, August 17TH!

SUNDAY, AUGUST 23RD
Worship Service with Rev. Bob Woodward.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 30TH
Worship Service with Rev. Jamie Harrison

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6TH
Worship Service with Rev. Mike Lake

The Steeple Chimes **Columbia Congregational Church**

JULY-AUGUST 2015

Sunday 10:00 AM Worship

AUGUST 2

TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Worship Leader: Pastor Betsey Polglase

Deacon: Millie Ramsey

Lay Reader: Millie Ramsey

Greeters: Millie Ramsey, Sally Ruef, Janice Knight, and Charlotte Sabine.

Coffee Hour follows Worship Service in the Parish Hall.

AUGUST 9

ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Worship Leader: Pastor Betsey Polglase

Deacon: Millie Ramsey

Lay Reader: Millie Ramsey

Greeter: Millie Ramsey

Coffee Hour follows Worship Service in the Parish Hall.

AUGUST 16

TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Worship Leader: Pastor Betsey Polglase

Deacon: Millie Ramsey

Lay Reader: Millie Ramsey

Greeter: Millie Ramsey

Coffee Hour follows Worship Service in the Parish Hall.

AUGUST 23

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Worship Leader: Rev. Bob Woodward

Deacon: Millie Ramsey

Lay Reader: Millie Ramsey

Greeters: Millie Ramsey

Coffee Hour follows Worship Service in the Parish Hall.

AUGUST 30

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Worship Leader: Rev. Jamie Harrison

Deacon: Millie Ramsey

Lay Reader: Millie Ramsey

Greeters: Millie Ramsey

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.



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7PM -8:30PM/Parish Hall

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CHURCH BREAKFAST
8AM – 11:00AM/Parish Hall

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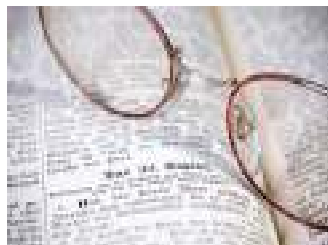
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6TH
Worship Service with Rev. Mike Lake

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12TH
CHURCH BREAKFAST
8AM – 11:00AM/ Parish Hall

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13TH
RALLY Day. Register and Meet Church School Teachers.

The Steeple Chimes **Columbia Congregational Church**

JULY-AUGUST 2015



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 – Janice Knight

AUGUST – Millie Ramsey

TRUSTEE OF THE MONTH

JULY – Don Doucette

AUGUST – Doug Erickson

GREETERS AND USHERS

July 5 – **Deacons:** Janice Knight, Millie Ramsey, Charlotte and Jack Sabine.

July 12 – Janice Knight

July 19 – Janice Knight

July 26 – Janice Knight

GREETERS AND USHERS

August 2 – **Deacons:** Millie Ramsey, Sally Ruef, Janice Knight, and Charlotte Sabine.

August 9 – Millie Ramsey

August 16 – Millie Ramsey

August 23 – Millie Ramsey

August 30 – Millie Ramsey

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 2015 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
JULY-AUGUST 2015
(Subject to change at pastor's discretion)

<u>DATE</u>	<u>SCRIPTURE</u>	<u>SERMON TITLE</u>	<u>WORSHIP NOTES</u>
July 5	Mark 6:1-13	<i>“Going Together”</i>	Communion/Intinction*
July 12	Psalm 24 2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12-19	<i>“Dance for Joy”</i>	
July 19	2 Samuel 7:1-14	<i>“Tenting”</i>	
July 26	John 6:1-21	<i>“Abundant Presence”</i>	
August 2	John 6:24-35	<i>“Bread of Life ”</i>	Communion/Intinction*
August 9	Ephesians 4:25 5:2	<i>“Imitating God”</i>	
August 16	Psalm 111	<i>“God’s Gift”</i>	
August 23	Luke 10:25-37	<i>“Who is Our Neighbor? A Surprising and Challenging Portrait!”</i>	Rev. Bob Woodward
August 30			Rev. Jamie Harrison
September 6			Rev. Mike Lake

***Communion by intinction – individuals come up to the table to receive the bread and dunk it into the fruit of the vine before returning to their seats. Those unable to come forward will be served at their seat.**

The Steeple Chimes **Columbia Congregational Church**

JULY-AUGUST 2015

~CHRISTIAN EDUCATION~

I am very grateful to be a part of such an amazing Church School. The children bless us with a smile every Sunday and provide us with an enthusiastic spirit. I am so proud of the job they did with Church School Sunday and their part in presenting “The Creation Story” and thanks to the Congregation for their participation.

As Church School takes leave for the Summer I want to thank everyone who took part in helping the children save the bees, fill school bags and for listening to their beautiful voices and the beautiful music made with the chimes.

God bless the teachers of this wonderful Church School for they are the reason our children learn and grow in God’s great big love.

*Church World Service School Bag Kits: Please remember when school items go on sale in August to buy items for our Kits so that every child can go back to school with the items they need.

One School Bag Contains:

1. 1 pair blunt scissor
2. 1 eraser
3. 1 ruler
4. 24 pack of crayons
5. 3 spiral notebooks
6. 6 pencils

****Scissors and crayons are most needed**

I want to extend my gratitude to the Choir, Alex Chiu and Nancy Douton (music) and Hannah Bassett (Narrator) for making our Creation story so beautiful.

Have a safe and wonderful Summer.

**Blessings to All,
Jean Murphy**

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

Saturday, July 11, 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

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

Saturday, August 8, 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

**CONGRATULATIONS
GRADUATES!
2015**



- **Sage Armstrong**
Bolton High School

- **Adam Coley**
Eastern Connecticut State University
Bachelors Degree in English

- **Justin Foss**
Horace W. Porter School

- **Keira Francis**
Horace W. Porter School

- **Gabrielle Petrone**
Horace W. Porter School

- **Danielle Vanasse**
University of Connecticut
Bachelor of Science in Molecular
and Cell Biology

- **Zachary Weston**
E.O. Smith High School



The Stewardship committee would like to thank all those who have submitted pledges for the coming year. We also encourage those who have not yet pledged to do so. Our Church depends on the pledges of each of us, no matter how big or small, to carry out our mission and plan our programs for the coming year.

Reminder From Stewardship

Summer is here and the end of the Church fiscal year is approaching (August 31st). We ask that all who've made pledges for the 2014-2015 fiscal year make an effort to fulfill their pledge by August 31st.

Even though contributions after that date will be figured into calendar year giving for tax purposes, late giving cannot be figured into the Church's income for the appropriate fiscal year. If you are away or unable to attend, pledge contributions may be mailed to:

Columbia Congregational Church
325 Rte 87
Columbia, CT 06237

Thank You
The Stewardship Committee

The Steeple Chimes
Columbia Congregational Church

JULY-AUGUST 2015

You're invited to an Afternoon Garden Tea on the church lawn. Saturday, July 25th from 1 - 3 p.m. Everyone is invited and there will be a children's table. We will need volunteers to help make tea sandwiches, scones and desserts. Please contact Dixie Silvestri or Sue Milici if you can help with food, set up, serve or clean up. It should be a great day. Thanks and God Bless.

Are you redecorating?? 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.**

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.** 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.

**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

July 1, 15, 29

August 12, 26

September 9, 23

October 7, 21

November 4, 18

December 2, 16, 30

Baptist Fellowship Church

195 Route 6, Columbia

1:15 – 1:45PM

July 9, 23

August 6, 20

September 3, 17

October 1, 15, 29

November 12

December 10, 24

Hebron Interfaith Human Services

1 Main St., Hebron

11:00 – 11:30AM

July 14, 28

August 11, 25

September 8, 22

October 6, 20

November 3, 17

December 1, 15, 29

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

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.

The Steeple Chimes **Columbia Congregational Church**

JULY-AUGUST 2015

The Church Secretary will be off Monday, August 10 thru Friday, August 14. The Church Office will be closed during this time; although Pastor Betsey will be in her office most mornings.

Pastor Betsey will be off Monday, August 17 thru September 7. If you have a pastoral need please call the Church Office or Janice Knight, Senior Deacon. **Rev. Bob Woodward will be at the pulpit on August 23, Rev. Jamie Harrison will be at the pulpit on August 30, and Rev. Mike Lake will be at the pulpit on September 6.**

PLANNING AHEAD SEPTEMBER

Sept 13 - Rally Day, children register for Sunday School

Sept 20 - Church School Teachers Dedication; Annual Meeting

Sept. 27- Dedication of leaders

Oct. 11 - CROP Walk

“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.

Covenant Community Vegetable Garden The vegetable garden is now planted. If all of you gardeners would take a moment to stop by and weed and water as necessary it would be of great help. The water barrels are full and the hose is operating . Remember, all the produce we raise go to the Covenant Soup Kitchen in Willimantic which can use anything we can provide. Thanks for your help. John

The Steeple Chimes
Columbia Congregational Church

JULY-AUGUST 2015

The Rev. Betsey Polglase, PASTOR

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