

THE STEEPLE CHIMES

Columbia Congregational United Church of Christ

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
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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.*



FROM THE PASTOR'S PORCH

The katydids have been singing “katydid, katydidn’t” for some time now. As I sat out on the porch last night, their song was loud and mixed with others made by relatives in the cricket family. Summer is coming to an end, I thought.

The bright yellow of goldfinches have been darting from the sunflowers in our vegetable garden to various trees. These birds are one of the last, if not the last birds to nest because they require thistle seeds as well as bugs to feed their young. Yes, summer is coming to a close.

Along the roadway, a few trees have already turned color. Summer is giving way to autumn. In scripture the word “sign(s)” appears many times and means a symbol for something, a directive toward something else, or a miracle.

Besides the signs in nature that foretell the end of summer and the approach of winter, we also have signs that our new year has begun, since our fiscal year begins in September. Students have returned to school and new college students have had their orientation and begun their first semester. We have Rally Day, the Annual Meeting, the commissioning of teachers and dedications of board/committee members on various Sundays in September. This year we also have baptisms on two Sundays in September. Baptisms of course are a sign, through our visible actions, of the invisible act of God claiming the child. They also show the welcome extended to the child into the fellowship of the faith community.

In addition, the now regularly attended breakfast is a sign that the community enjoys the food and fellowship. All the activities over the past year are a sign that we are a very busy faith community. September – December already have many events scheduled - events in which everyone can be involved in the work of the church and in the joy filled fellowship they bring. Some are activities to serve others, while some are activities to reach our budget goals so that we can continue our mission and ministry.

As you read through this newsletter and as you hear announcements on Sunday morning, consider what you might find interesting and plan to participate. Whether you chose to sing in the choir, bake for our fellowship hour after church, walk in the Crop Walk, read scripture during worship, or any number of other things during the year, you can more fully enjoy our church community and be part of the sign of God’s love right here in Columbia.

Looking forward to another exciting year,

Pastor Betsey

September 2013

Sunday 10:00 AM Worship**SEPTEMBER 1**

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Communion Sunday

Worship Leader: Rev. Art Dunham

Deacon: Tim Bassett

Lay Reader: Tim Bassett

Greeters: Tim Bassett, John Polglase, Millie Ramsey, and Kathy Chapman.

Loaves and Fishes Fellowship Hour follows Worship Service in the Parish Hall.**SEPTEMBER 8/RALLY DAY**

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Worship Leader: Pastor Betsey Polglase

Deacon: Tim Bassett

Lay Reader: Tim Bassett

Greeter: Tim Bassett

Loaves and Fishes Fellowship Hour follows Worship Service in the Parish Hall.**SEPTEMBER 15/CHURCH SCHOOL BEGINS**

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Worship Leader: Pastor Betsey Polglase

Deacon: Tim Bassett

Lay Reader: Tim Bassett

Greeter: Tim Bassett

Loaves and Fishes Fellowship Hour follows Worship Service in the Parish Hall.**SEPTEMBER 22**

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Worship Leader: Pastor Betsey Polglase

Deacon: Tim Bassett

Lay Reader: Tim Bassett

Greeter: Tim Bassett

Loaves and Fishes Fellowship Hour follows Worship Service in the Parish Hall.**SEPTEMBER 29**

NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Worship Leader: Pastor Betsey Polglase

Deacon: Tim Bassett

Lay Reader: Tim Bassett

Greeter: Tim Bassett

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, SEPTEMBER 7TH Church School Teacher's Workshop 8:30AM – 12:30PM/Parish Hall.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8TH – RALLY DAY! Register children for Sunday School and learn about church activities and enjoy good food and fellowship.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14TH CHURCH BREAKFAST 8:00AM- 11:00AM/Parish Hall (note change in time)

5th Annual Shred-A-Thon 9:00AM – 1:00PM (In front of the Old Fire House)

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15^H – CHURCH SCHOOL BEGINS! Dedication of Church School Teachers.

ANNUAL MEETING follows immediately after worship service.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21ST PIG ROAST! To Benefit Andover Food Pantry.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27TH AUCTION PREVIEW 3PM-5PM CHURCH AUCTION BEGINS AT 7:00PM/Parish Hall

September 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

SEPTEMBER – Tim Bassett

TRUSTEE OF THE MONTH

SEPTEMBER – Ralph Tangarone

GREETERS AND USHERS

SEPTEMBER 1- **Deacons:** Tim Bassett, John Polglase, Millie Ramsey, and Kathy Chapman.

September 8 – **Volunteers needed**

September 15 - Volunteers needed

September 22 - Volunteers needed

September 29 - Volunteers needed

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.



September 2013

ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE

The members of the Columbia Congregational Church of the United Church of Christ, Columbia, Connecticut, are hereby notified that the **ANNUAL MEETING** of the Church will be held immediately following morning worship on Sunday, **September 15, 2013** for the following purposes:

1. To receive the reports of all Officers, Boards, Committees, and Organizations of the Church, and take any action relative thereto;
2. To act upon the nominations presented by the Nominating Committee to fill Offices, Boards, and Committees.
3. To act upon the proposed budget for the 2013 fiscal year (September 1, 2013 – August 31, 2014);
4. Other Business.

Dated this date, August 26, 2013
Arnold Hinckley, Council President

September 2013

Worship Schedule –September 2013

(Subject to change at pastor's discretion)

Date	Scripture	Sermon Title	Worship notes
Sept 1	Art Dunham Preaching - Pastor Betsey on vacation		
Sept. 8	Jeremiah 18:1-11 Psalm 1	"The Potter and the Clay"	RALLY DAY
Sept 15	Luke 15: 1-10	"Our Living Hope"	Dedication of Teachers Annual Meeting Baptism
Sept. 22	Psalm 139: 1-6, 13-18 1 Timothy 2: 1-7	"One World Under God"	Dedication of Boards and Committees Baptism
Sept. 29	Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16 Jeremiah 32: 1-3, 6-15	TBA	

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

September 2013

Rally Day is a time to welcome back the children to Church School and celebrate the year ahead. We will celebrate the Fruit of the Spirit where Jesus is growing in us and through us.

“Fruit of the Spirit” is a term that sums up the nine visible attributes of our faith. Galatians 5:22-23, tells us the attributes are love, peace, joy, faithfulness, gentleness, goodness, patience, self-control and kindness. As the fruit nourishes our body and soul we must not pick and choose which attribute we like most but in order to grow in God’s love we must choose all.

RALLY DAY: SEPTEMBER 8, 2013

- Children we meet upstairs in the Parish Hall during Worship Service.
- Meet the teachers
- Scavenger Hunt
- Bring a fruit with you: grapes, strawberries, pear, orange, etc.
- Crafts
- Registration: Parents meet with teachers after Service to register.
- Tell a friend or better bring a friend to join us as we celebrate God’s Love in our lives.

CHURCH WORLD SERVICE SCHOOL BAG KITS: Church School will be collecting school supplies to fill the bags for the month of **September**. There will be a collection basket in the front foyer to place the collected items in. The items needed to fill one bag are:

- 1 pair blunt scissors
- 3 spiral notebooks
- 1 eraser
- 1 sharpener
- 1 24 pack of crayons
- 6 pencils
- 1 ruler

We are giving to help those children who have none of these items to start school with. It is a good and kind thing to help those who are in need.

Looking forward to seeing all of you soon!

God Bless,

Jean Murphy

September 2013

Calling All Youth of Columbia Congregational Church!!

The youth group will start it's year this year on September 8th at Rally Day. Come and see our booth which will offer all of the information and forms to join the youth group which is open to anyone in 7th -12th grades. We will also be selling the bracelets that we designed to signify our faith and raise monies for our mission trips. We would like to take a trip to Haiti for the Restavec Freedom Alliance; we will also have information on this and other mission ideas.

We have great plans for this year. Team building events, service projects and fun events like movies, laser tag and more, come see what fun we can have together!!

All current youth group members please contact Mrs. Lambert at 860-966-1374 (you can txt) or email me at rene4396@gmail.com to let me know if you can assist with our booth at Rally Day. Also feel free to forward any pictures you may have of our events last year so they can be added to our info board.

I am looking forward to another great year! See ya soon!



Rene Lambert

September 2013

Rally Day/ Casual Sunday

September 8th

Mark your calendars and plan to be here on September 8th for our **Rally Day/ Casual Sunday** kick off to our church year. **Bring a friend.** The more the merrier!

Worship will be festive and, immediately following, we will have a **Pot Luck lunch and fun activities** for children of **all** ages.

“O give thanks to the Lord, for God is good.” Psalm 118

Let us start the program year with rejoicing and being glad in our faith community.

September 2013

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

Saturday, September 14, 2013

8:00A.M to 11:00AM

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

September 2013

Dear Members,

Congratulations on your wonderful monthly community breakfasts. What a great idea! The interfaith Sewing Group has turned them into a “Breakfast Club,” looking forward to each month’s very enjoyable event.

I remember Arnold cutting white birch logs for the Advent workshop. So impressed with the progress you’ve carried out with the Heifer Project and the continuation of the CWS School Kits, glad we still can provide bags. The continued support of a dedicated Church School staff under Jean’s direction and interesting up to date bulletin boards are still all apparent. Keep up the good work!

I do have fond memories of Columbia Congregational Church and like to stay in touch. See you at breakfast!

Fondly,

Barbara Leary

September 2013

SHRED-A-THON

**Saturday, September 14th
9AM – 1PM**

(In Front of the Old Fire House on Route 66)

Watch your old papers get shredded.
Suggested donation \$5.00/per bag.

September 2013

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 me 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

September 2013

ANDOVER FOOD PANTRY

PIG ROAST FUNDRAISER

Long Hill Road Ball Field in Andover

Saturday, September 21, 2013

Noon – 5:00 p.m.



\$10.00 Adult \$5.00 Children

Baseball Game

20 Antique Cars

Pie Eating Contest

Bouncy Houses

Parachute Games

Face painting

And more!

Please bring a canned good for the pantry.

(The Andover Food Pantry is open to Columbia Residents)

September 2013

Columbia/Gilead/Andover CROP Walk – October 6, 2013

Great news for CROP Walkers! Church World Service now has online registration and donation capabilities. Now folks can use paypal or credit cards instead of cash and it makes it easier to track donations. Walkers can register individually or as a team. Check out the CWS Columbia/Gilead/Andover Walk page at www.crophungerwalk.org/columbiact

Also check out the CROP walk video on Youtube for more info and ideas. We have a link on our church website at www.colcch.org.

We are also looking for volunteers to serve as spotters for the route intersections, cooks for the potluck and clean-up crew for potluck at Camp Asto Wamah. If you are interested in walking, donating or volunteering please see any member of the Board of Christian Concern. Thanks!

September 2013

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: 860.228.9306

Andrea Stannard: 860.228.9248

September 2013

SIMPLY SMILES COFFEE IS BACK!

Come to Rally Day on September 8th and taste the new Simply Smiles Coffee. We will have brewed coffee available for tasting. Money from the sale of coffee goes to Simply Smiles to aid in Oaxaca, Mexico or The Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Reservation in South Dakota. Learn more about their organization at 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 1:1:30 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.

September 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 next 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.**

September 2013

The Rev. Betsey Polglase, PASTOR

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