

The Steeple Chimes

Columbia Congregational United Church of Christ

MARCH 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

Pastor Betsey

The Steeple Chimes **Columbia Congregational Church**

MARCH 2015

Sunday 10:00 AM Worship

MARCH 1/COMMUNION

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

Worship Leader: Pastor Betsey Polglase

Deacon: Kim Foss

Lay Reader: Kim Foss

Greeters: Kim Foss, Sally Ruef, Jack Sabine, and Janice Knight.

Coffee Hour follows Worship Service in the Parish Hall.

MARCH 8

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

Worship Leader: Pastor Betsey Polglase

Deacon: Kim Foss

Lay Reader: Kim Foss

Greeter: Kim Foss

Coffee Hour follows Worship Service in the Parish Hall.

MARCH 15

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Worship Leader: Pastor Betsey Polglase

Deacon: Kim Foss

Lay Reader: Kim Foss

Greeter: Kim Foss

Coffee Hour follows Worship Service in the Parish Hall.

MARCH 22

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Worship Leader: Pastor Betsey Polglase

Deacon: Kim Foss

Lay Reader: Kim Foss

Greeters: Kim Foss

Coffee Hour follows Worship Service in the Parish Hall.

MARCH 29

PALM SUNDAY

Worship Leader: Pastor Betsey Polglase

Deacon: Kim Foss

Lay Reader: Kim Foss

Greeters: Kim Foss

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

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS!

SUNDAY, MARCH 8TH

SPRING FORWARD.

SATURDAY, MARCH 14TH

CHURCH BREAKFAST

8:00AM – 11:00AM/Parish Hall

WAIM WORKDAY

9:00AM -12:00PM/Willimantic

THURSDAY, MARCH 19TH

CORNER BEEF DINNER

5:30PM – 7:00PM/Parish Hall

SATURDAY, MARCH 21ST

Church School Teachers Meeting

10AM – 12PM/Lounge

SUNDAY, MARCH 29TH

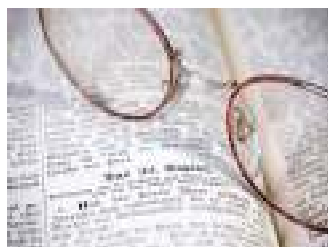
PALM SUNDAY

LENTEN POTLUCK

Immediately Following Worship Service!

The Steeple Chimes **Columbia Congregational Church**

MARCH 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

MARCH – Kim Foss

TRUSTEE OF THE MONTH

MARCH – Dave Pearce

GREETERS AND USHERS

MARCH 1 – **Deacons:** Kim Foss, Sally Ruef, Jack Sabine, and Janice Knight.

MARCH 8 – Kim Foss

MARCH 15 – Kim Foss

MARCH 22 – Kim Foss

MARCH 29 – **PALM SUNDAY** – Kim Foss

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.

Lenten Activity 2015

Our Western Wall

Lent is a time for reflection, confession and seeking redemption. It is a time of thinking about who we are, of our link to Christians around the world, or our small role in the great expanse of the universe and to remember to whom we belong and consider who we have been called to be.

Look for the Prayer Wall that will be going up on the Parish Hall Altar. In line with the Western Wall in Jerusalem, this will be a place where you can bring your prayers to God. You can write your prayer at home, during Joys and Concerns, or on the paper that will be provided at the wall, and then roll it up and place it in the wall.

The invitation is open to everyone: children and adults. This is an intergenerational activity.

While I cannot promise the prayers will not be read by others, the Parish Hall is a very public place, it is hoped that all will respect the privacy of these prayers.

At the end of Lent, the prayers will be burned, the smoke carrying the prayers into God's eternal care.

Worship Schedule

MARCH 2015

(Subject to change at pastor's discretion)

<u>DATE</u>	<u>SCRIPTURE</u>	<u>SERMON TITLE</u>	<u>WORSHIP NOTES</u>
March 1	Psalm 22:23-31 Mark 8:31-38	<i>"Game Changer"</i>	Communion Handbells
March 8	Psalm 19 1 Cor. 1:18-25	<i>"A Fool for Jesus"</i>	Third Sunday In Lent
March 15	Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22 Ephesians 2:1-10	<i>"God is Rich in Mercy"</i>	Fourth Sunday In Lent
March 22	Psalm 51:1-12 Jeremiah 31:31-34	<i>"A New Covenant"</i>	Fifth Sunday In Lent
March 29	Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29 Mark 11:1-11	<i>"Loud Hosannas"</i>	PALM SUNDAY

Sights and Sounds of the Seasons
Artistic Look at the Seasons
Intergenerational Perspectives

Hard as it may be to picture spring and summer while we are still buried in the accumulation of weeks of snow, the first day of spring is just twenty days away. What a February we have had! But that's **New England, full of the highs and lows of all four seasons.** While photographs are an easy way to capture those moments that leave you in awe and wonder, there are many ways that we can be moved to express what we see and hear.

So give your creative-self free reign. Look through all those photos you took during the year, or take some now; find that poem you jotted down about the sunrise, or the feel of cool water on a hot day, or your child's laughter; or finish up that painting, and then bring them in to display in our Fellowship Hall after Easter.

It is time to reveal **our creative reflection of what we observed**, be it in photographs, watercolors, collages, woodcarving, stitchery, poetry or short story. Your creative work can be brought in beginning March 30 and throughout April. It would be great if we can begin hanging things before our April 11th breakfast.

Our children will be presenting the Creation Pageant on Children's Sunday and a full display of God's creative gifts would be a great compliment. We'll keep the display up until after Children's Sunday.

The Steeple Chimes
Columbia Congregational Church

MARCH 2015

~CHRISTIAN EDUCATION~

What's the buzz in church school? This year for our Heifer International project we are focusing on Bees (\$30.00). There is a slow decline in bees around the world and the threat is one that could see them become extinct. This is a threat to the production of honey, to produce and other vegetation. With the purchase of bees we are helping protect against this threat. When we send the gift of bees the recipient will receive a bee box, a package of bees and someone who will educate them on how to be a beekeeper. We will also choose other animals to help families in their quest to becoming self-reliant and to help other families with the promise to pass on the first off spring of their animal. Our goal is to help end hunger and poverty around the world.

We are called to be faithful stewards of God's Grace by helping others. It's impossible to not feel great when you do good for other people. Our children understand the importance of giving to those who are in need and that the gift of hope is the most precious gift of all. Through Heifer International we are helping give that gift and helping make a difference in the world.

CHURCH SCHOOL CALENDAR

FEB. 22 INTRO TO HEIFER/RECEIVE ARK BANKS

MAR. 8 HEIFER BAKE SALE

MAR. 22 HEIFER BAKE SALE

MAR. 29 PALM SUNDAY/RETURN ARK BANKS/PALM PARADE

APR. 5 EASTER/LIVING CROSS/BRING FLOWERS

HEIFER CARWASH: TBA

Prayer Wall: Express your prayers in writing and place them on the Prayer Wall. What a wonderful way to talk to God about our joys and concerns. The church school appreciates your support in their quest to make a difference.

Jean Murphy

The Steeple Chimes
Columbia Congregational Church

MARCH 2015

On Saturday, March 14 from 9AM - Noon we are scheduled as a church congregation to volunteer our time at the Windham Area Interfaith Ministry (WAIM). We need at least 6 volunteers to help accept and sort donations and shelve the donated items.

WAIM is a charity that serves the needs of area people who struggle because they don't have adequate financial resources. WAIM redistributes, free of charge, donated clothing, household goods, furniture, appliances, computers, etc.

Please let me know if you would be able to help out on Sat., March 14. As always, thanks for your continuing support to our church missions. Dixie Silvestri

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.

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MARCH 2015

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

Saturday, March 14, 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

The Steeple Chimes
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MARCH 2015



**CORNER BEEF AND
CABBAGE DINNER**

THURSDAY MARCH 19th

From 5:30 to 7:00 pm



\$12.00 per person

MENU:

Corned Beef & Cabbage
Rolls
Salad
Dessert.



**To Benefit
the Bell Choir**



Columbia Congregational Church
325 Rte 87
RSVP: ccchurch@snet.net
or 860 228-9306

The Steeple Chimes
Columbia Congregational Church

MARCH 2015

Lenten
Wrap-up
Potluck
Luncheon



Palm Sunday, March 29th
Following the service

**Bring food to share to the church
and drop it off in the parish hall .**

**AND DESSERTS...DON'T
FORGET DESSERT**



Drinks, cups, plates, and silverware will be provided.



Please RSVP to Denise
All are welcome on Potluck Sunday

Sponsored by the Deacons

The Steeple Chimes Columbia Congregational Church

MARCH 2015

Easter Flowers



Easter – April 5, 2015

The Flower Committee will begin accepting flower orders used to adorn the church for Easter services. This year there are four selections, listed below. Flower dedications will be printed within the Easter Service bulletin.

The Flower Committee requests that you **place your order by Sunday, March 22.** Checks may be made out to Columbia Congregational Church (memo: Easter plant) or money may be given to Debbie Francis or Nelisa Reagan after church service. You may also leave your order in the Flower Committee mailbox. If you prefer to mail an order, please send your completed form and payment to:

Debbie Francis
23 Heritage Road, Columbia, CT 06237

<u>Type of Flower</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Quantity</u>
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6" White Lily	\$9.50	_____
6" Pink Lily	\$9.50	_____
6" Tulip	\$8.00	_____
4" Pansy	\$4.00	_____

Please **PRINT** your dedication message **NEATLY** in the space below. Also include phone number in case we have any questions.

Dedication From:

Dedication Message:

Contact Name/Phone#: _____



**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

March 11, 25

April 8, 22

May 6, 20

June 3, 17

Baptist Fellowship Church

195 Route 6, Columbia

1:15 – 1:45PM

March 5, 19

April 2, 16, 30

May 14, 28

June 11, 25

Hebron Interfaith Human Services

1 Main St., Hebron

11:00 – 11:30AM

March 10, 24

April 7, 21

May 5, 19

June 2, 16, 30

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

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.

“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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Pastor's email: pastorbetsey.ccchurch@gmail.com

The Rev. Betsey Polglase, PASTOR

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