

The Steeple Chimes

NOVEMBER 2020

Columbia Congregational Church

United Church of Christ

Established in 1720



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.

Staff:

The Rev. Don Francois, Interim Pastor

Cell: 860-416-5134 eMail: revdbf@gmail.com

Alexander Chiu, Organist and Choir Director

Michele LaBrec, Administrative Assistant

Phone: 860-228-9306 eMail: ccchurch@snet.net

A Message from Carmen

It appears that we will be able to hold church services outside again this Sunday Nov. 1. However, please know that the Church Council is preparing for when the service is moved indoors. The Trustees have prepared a list of protocols that will be followed to help keep those who attend safe. The Trustees are also arranging for how and when the Church is cleaned. Our computer guru Dave Parmenter is in charge of seeing that you may hear/see the service at home if you have a computer or you may listen from your car in the parking lot if that works best for you.

We recognize that many of you (including myself) choose not to come inside because of being at high risk either because of age and/or preexisting medical conditions of yourself or significant others. We will make every effort to keep everyone involved and knowledgeable about Church happenings as the year progresses.

Carmen



A new and interesting Church School year has begun...

As 2020 continues with its challenges, we are holding virtual classes on the last Sunday of the month at 4:00 P.M. We start the class all together, then we split the children into 2 groups, Pre-K thru 2nd grade and 3rd^h thru 8th grade.

We are using Google Meet for virtual class and Google Classroom for the curriculum. Weekly lessons are available on Google Classroom for self-study, including a bible story and activities for all ages. Many of the activities require printing, i.e. puzzles, coloring, etc. If it would help, we can supply printed materials. Please let me know if you would like to receive printed materials.

Did you notice our decorative and colorful church stairs? The Parmenters donated pumpkins, so every child in the church school could paint one and help decorate the church. Thank you to the Parmenters and all that participated.

If you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions, please feel free to contact me.

Wendy Tomlinson



*Second Saturday Sustenance -
November 14th*

**Butternut Squash Soup and
Cranberry Bread to go!**

ORDER and PAY BEFORE Nov. 8th & PICK UP Nov. 14th

Click here to download an
order form or place your online
order!

<https://columbiacongregationalchurch.org/SustenanceSaturdays>



Any questions? **Email us at CCChurchFair@gmail.com**

Thanksgiving Baskets

Please consider donating either turkeys/chickens or grocery store gift cards for the Thanksgiving baskets for folks in need in Columbia. As always, thanks in advance for your help. Contact either Debby Smith or Dixie Silvestri with any questions.

Update on the 300th Anniversary Book

The 300th Anniversary Book is almost sold out. There are only a few copies left and we don't plan to order more at this time. If you still want one, please contact Jan at 860- 228-4509.

Church Website

The church Website is now secure, we have a valid Certificate and HTTPS: as part of our Domain name. (**HTTPS** (Hypertext Transfer Protocol Secure) is an internet communication protocol that protects the integrity and confidentiality of data between the user's computer and the website.) Basically this means any data on our site is secure and encrypted for our member's safety. I have received notes before from members who were afraid to make online donations or pledges because our site was displayed as "Not Secure" in their web browsers. This has been corrected and our site is now been certified by our web host and in independent certification company.

<https://columbiacongregationalchurch.org/>

Columbia Congregational
United Church of Christ
P.O. Box 177
Columbia, Connecticut 06237
Phone: (860) 228-9306

November 2020



November 2020 marks the 45th year of the annual **Columbia Cardless Holiday Fund**. Many families have benefited from your donations in the past, and your continued generosity is greatly appreciated. This year has been especially hard for all of us. Your donations are needed more than ever to help your neighbors in need.

The idea behind the **Cardless Holiday Fund** is to contribute to the fund instead of sending cards to your friends and family in town. Your name will then be listed in the Town of Columbia quarterly newsletter *Columbia Views*.

The purpose of the **Cardless Holiday Fund** is to help Columbia families in need. These situations present themselves more often than we would like to believe, and as government programs have been reduced, the need for the local community to respond has become greater. Join your neighbors in continuing or even increasing your support

This past year alone the fund has been used to help with holiday food baskets for Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas, back to school supplies, emergency food supplies and help with electrical bills.

Thank you for your continued caring and God Bless You!

Sponsored by the Columbia Congregational Church

Mail to:
Columbia Cardless Holiday Fund
c/o Dixie Silvestri
70 Johnson Rd
Columbia, CT 06237

Please accept my donation of \$_____ to the "**Columbia Cardless Holiday Fund**"

___ Do not list my name in the *Columbia Views* **OR**

___ I would like my listing in the *Columbia View* to appear as (names only please):

(Please print clearly)

Please make checks payable to the "**Columbia Cardless Holiday Fund**"
Donations are tax-deductible.

DONATIONS ARE ACCEPTED YEAR ROUND
Deadline for printed listing Dec. 20, 2020

Pastoral Search Committee

*Please pray for the committee as
they seek to discern
the next pastoral leader for our
congregation.*

*Dave Coley - Joyce Nasin
Denise Parmenter - Dave Pearce
Brian Pedersen - Lynn Sharpe -
Audrey Tuttle*

**To contact Pastor Don
Please Call or Text Directly:
860- 416-5134
eMail: revdbf@gmail.com**

**To contact Michele LaBrec
Now working from home: Please
Call or Text Directly:
860-734-3899
eMail: mlabrec2018@yahoo.com**

**REMEMBER OUR
HOME BOUND AND
FRIENDS RESIDING IN
CARE CENTERS . . .**

Dot Davis

Mansfield Center
for Nursing and Rehabilitation
100 Warren Circle
Storrs, CT 06268

Jean Peters

Hattie Ide Chaffee Home
200 Wampanoag Trail, Room 15
East Providence, RI 02915

Mary Jane Johnston

C/O Westview Health Care Center
150 Ware Road
Dayville, CT 06241



HAPPY
THANKSGIVING

