

The Steeple Chimes

OCTOBER 2020 EDITION

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

Thank You Arnold and Polly Hinckley!

Our September annual meeting marks the conclusion of Arnold Hinckley's 5th term as our C.C.C. council President since 1965 when he and Polly joined our church.

During the past 55 years Polly and Arnold have given generously of their time, talents and treasure to the vitality and ministries of our church.

During that time Arnold has also served for multiple years as a trustee, music committee member, choir member, bell choir member, search committee member, funeral sexton, chair of our church men's club breakfasts, church fair craftsman, member of the Tolland Association Laymen and C.C.C. representative to the 50th Anniversary General Synod UCC.

Polly has served multiple years as deacon, church historian, choir member, music committee member, church fair committee member and bookkeeper, member of two search committees and women's guild member and president.

Together Polly and Arnold for many years have served as our delegates to the Tolland Association, provided and prepared our Easter morning breakfasts, produced our annual Memorial Day plant sale fundraisers, and promoted Silver Lake church youth opportunities.

Arnold and Polly parented Cindy, one of our church endowment fund contributors, and Bernie, one of two most recent ordained ministers raised in our church - The Rev. Bernard Hinckley, pastor of the Trinitarian Congregational Church UCC of Norton, MA.

Thank you Arnold and Polly for your 55 years and counting of dedicated service to our church!

May God bless you and keep you in his care as we give thanks for you and keep you in our prayers.

*Second Saturday Sustenance -
October 10th*

Corn Chowder and Pumpkin Bread

to go!

ORDER and PAY **BEFORE Oct. 5th** & PICK UP **Oct. 10th**



Pay by **Check**
with completed order form*

or PayPal:

<https://columbiacongregationalchurch.org/Sustenance Saturdays>



ANNUAL CROP WALK

Please plan on joining the annual CROP Walk for Hunger.

This is our 29th year for the Andover-Gilead-Columbia walks! This year will be a virtual walk thanks to Covid19. We will miss the community and joy of being together and the community dinner, but we will walk because the need is greater than ever.

You can walk with friends where ever you would like whenever you would like, just before October 4th. Please take a picture or two to share with the church members. I will be walking even if it's just me and my dog!!

Here is the link if you would like to donate:

www.crophungerwalk.org/columbiact.

You may also give your donation to any member of the Board of Christian Concern: Sally Reuf, Joyce Nasin, Holly Baker, or Susan Milici



WARMING FEET & HEARTS ALL
MONTH LONG FOR THE CLIENTS
OF THE WINDHAM AREA NO-
FREEZE SHELTER.

OCTOBER 1 - 31

Thanks for your support!
Austin Stone

A box is in the church for your
donation.

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

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. Thanks to Michele for being available to confirm our information with them.

<https://columbiacongregationalchurch.org/>

Church Calendar

We would like to keep the church calendar on the website updated as much as possible. Please email Michele with any scheduled meetings.

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**

**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