

# The Steeple Chimes

## DECEMBER 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

# **CALL TO A CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

**Of the Columbia Congregational Church United Church of Christ Sunday December 13, 2020 following the 10am worship service.**

You are hereby notified that the purpose of the congregational meeting is to vote on the possible selection of a candidate for the full-time position as the Settled Pastor of our congregation. The candidate for Settled Pastor will be leading the worship service preceding the meeting.

The worship service and meeting will be conducted through the Zoom and telephone links provided below. Please mute your computer microphone or phone during the service.

**Zoom link:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81588487926>

**Phone link:** 929-205-6099

**Meeting ID:** 815 8848 7926#

If circumstances permit in-person attendance at the worship service, the service will be conducted at the Parish Hall and via the Zoom and phone links set forth above. If in-person attendance will occur, it will be announced via email and other means designed to reach members without email addresses.

The called meeting will occur via the same Zoom and phone links. You simply need only to remain connected following the service or stay at the Parish Hall.

**PLEASE PLAN TO ATTEND EITHER VIRTUALLY OR IN PERSON**

# *Second Saturday Sustenance - December 12th*

Order our **Jar Soup Mixes** and **Cookie Mixes** to go!

ORDER and PAY **BEFORE** Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> & **PICK UP** Dec. 12<sup>th</sup>

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

[https://columbiacongregationalchurch.org/Sustenance Saturdays](https://columbiacongregationalchurch.org/Sustenance%20Saturday)



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



**Second Saturday Sustenance -  
December 12<sup>th</sup>**

Order our **Jar Soup Mixes** and **Cookie Mixes** to go!

Pre-ordered, drive-thru pick-up service  
only



ORDERS & PAYMENT must be received **BEFORE DEC. 6<sup>th</sup>**

**Pick up** at Columbia Congregational Church between **1 and 3 PM Saturday  
Dec. 12th**

**\*\*\*\*\* Order form \*\*\*\*\***

- #\_\_\_ Friendship Soup Mix @ \$8 each \$\_\_\_\_\_
- #\_\_\_ Taco Soup Mix @ \$8 each \$\_\_\_\_\_
- #\_\_\_ Cranberry Nut Hootycreek Cookie Mix (2 dozen) @ \$6 each \$\_\_\_\_\_
- #\_\_\_ Sand Art Cookie Mix (2 dozen) @ \$6 each \$\_\_\_\_\_
- #\_\_\_ Chocolaty Pecan Cookie Mix (3 dozen) @ \$8 each \$\_\_\_\_\_

Total #\_\_\_ items

Total \$\_\_\_\_\_

*Note:*

*The soup mixes contain a variety of beans, spices and grains. Just add meat and canned tomatoes.*

*The cookie mixes contain wheat. The ones with nuts are noted above, but the nuts will be packaged separately.*

*Just add butter/margarine, egg, and vanilla.*

Name:
Phone:
Email:

**Pay by Check:**

Mail your completed order form with check payable to: **Columbia Congregational Church Fair P.O Box 177 Columbia, CT 06237**

Use our website to fill out your order and pay online with **PayPal:**

[https://columbiacongregationalchurch.org/?page\\_id=16952](https://columbiacongregationalchurch.org/?page_id=16952)



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

# Columbia Cardless Holiday Find

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

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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):

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*(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**

## Christmas Baskets

Please consider donating either turkeys, hams, veggies or a grocery store gift cards for Christmas baskets for folks in need in Columbia.

As always, thanks in advance for your help. Donations need to be received by December 20<sup>th</sup>. Contact either Debby Smith or Dixie Silvestri with any questions.

## SOCK-TOBER SOCK DRIVE

Austin wants to say thanks to all who donated to this year's Sock-tober sock drive. Because of your generosity he was able to deliver 212 pairs to Avery Lenhart at the No Freeze shelter.



## December Church School Update



We continue meeting virtually with the children the last Sunday of every month. We start the class all together, then we split the children into 2 groups, Pre-K thru 2<sup>nd</sup> grade and 3<sup>rd</sup><sup>h</sup> thru 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Weekly lessons are available on Google Classroom for self-study, including a bible story and activities for all ages.

Stay tuned for updates for December, since we would like to meet before Christmas. We are also busy planning a virtual pageant to share with the congregation.

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

Wendy Tomlinson

## Update on the 300<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Book

We printed 85 copies of the anniversary book and they are all gone! We did save one for the new pastor, for whenever he or she may arrive. Please leave your name and contact information with Michele if you want one in the future. We can't re-order just one or two copies, but can order a small batch, if there is enough interest. Hope you all enjoyed the publication as part of our "Covid" anniversary celebration. Jan Thibodeau

## 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/>



## 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](mailto:revdbf@gmail.com)**

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

