

CHURCH EVENTS FOR THE WEEK

SUNDAY - December 13

- 8:30 Worship, Rev. Barnes preaching
- 10:00 Worship Kristen Marquardt, meditation
- 11:15 Stewardship Information Meeting (Lounge)
- 11:00 Jr. Choir Rehearsal
- 11:30 Jr. High Youth Group

MONDAY - December 14

- 10:30 Bible Study (Office)
- 7:00 Boy Scouts (Stage/Jerusalem/Gym/Emmaus)
- 7:30 AA Meeting (Library)

TUESDAY - December 15 – CRIER DEADLINE

- 10:00 New London Clergy Meeting (Lounge)
- 4:00 Tai Chi (Stage)
- 6:30 Diaconate (Sanford Home)

WEDNESDAY- December 16

- 10:00 My Brother's Keeper (Jerusalem)
- 6:00 Pastor-Parish Relations (Emmaus)
- 7:00 Discipleship (Lounge)
- 7:30 AA Step Meeting (Library)

THURSDAY - December 17

- 10:00 AA (Library)
- 5:00 Chime Choir
- 7:00 Choir Rehearsal

FRIDAY - December 18

- 8:30 NA (Jerusalem)

SATURDAY - December 19

- 9:00 AA/AI-Anon (Stage/Jerusalem/Library)
- 2:00 Children's Pageant Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

SUNDAY - December 20

- 8:30 Worship, Rev. Barnes preaching
- 10:00 Children's Christmas pageant
- 11:00 Junior Choir Rehearsal

OFFICE HOURS You can reach our office manager Tom Evans at the church office at 537-5189. Office hours are Monday through Thursday from 10:30 am–3:30 pm. Email is colchesterfederate@sbcglobal.net (note: no second "d"). Rev. Linda Barnes' email is Lubarnes6@sbcglobal.net.

Do you have questions, concerns, ideas about CFC's budget and finances?

We would like to hear from you! There will be a meeting in the lounge sponsored by Stewardship and Fundraising today December 13th, following the 10 a.m. service. Just grab your coffee and join us. If you can not make the meeting but have questions or concerns, please use the colored note cards that are in the pews to write any comments or questions you may have. Then drop your note card in any of the Stewardship boxes placed at the front and back of the sanctuary, and at coffee hour. Thank-you!

2009 Pledge Campaign Update

Many thanks to all who have returned their pledge forms and time and talent cards. Your support is very much appreciated! To date, we have received **60 commitments, including 8 new pledging units.** These commitments total **\$96,299.** Last year, at this time, we had received 56 pledging units. Currently, the Ministry of Stewardship is working on the 2010 budget. Although they are still working on details, they project a goal of **\$130,000** in pledges will be needed to support our staff and current level of programs and operations. That's only about \$33,000 more! **If you have not filled out your pledge form and time and talent card, please do so as soon as you are able.** Extra pledge packets are available in the back of the sanctuary and the church office. Your pledge is confidential, seen only by our church treasurers. If you have questions, you may contact Tom Evans (Treasurer), Steve Bradstreet (Asst. Treasurer), Jim Caronna (Stewardship) or Diane Capasso (Pledge Campaign Committee) Thank-you.

Socks, Hats & Mittens

The hat, mitten, and sock tree is in the sanctuary . If you see any good deals for your family please pick up an extra hat, pair of mittens or pair of socks for the Colchester Federated Church's Christmas tree. You can hang them on our tree or put them in the basket under the tree. The proceeds will be offered first to Colchester programs for the holidays and Colchester Social Services, whatever Colchester does not need will be distributed to local shelters. Thank you.

WORSHIP AT THE COLCHESTER FEDERATED CHURCH

www.ColchesterFederatedChurch.org Phone 537-5189

Rev. Dr. Linda U. Barnes, Pastor
Patricia Korenkiewicz, Director of Music

Third Sunday of Advent

December 13, 2009

10:00 a.m.

TOLLING OF THE BELLS *Prayerfully prepare for worship.*

PRELUDE Ave Maria Shubert
Soloist, Donna Wink

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASSING THE PEACE The peace of Christ be with you

SACRED DANCE INTROIT Promises to Keep
Carrie Archambault, Laura Marvin,
Tiffany Neilson and Katie Marquardt

CALL TO WORSHIP

Tracy Bausum, Deacon of the Month, Leader

One: We are blessed, O God, for you keep your promises to our ancestors in faith, Abraham and Sarah, and to Mary, the mother of Jesus. You love us, and:

All: **We rejoice in you!**

One: We are blessed, in this Season of Advent, to think about the coming of Jesus, and in the coming days, to celebrate his birth two thousand years ago. In him, we learn that you love us:

All: **We rejoice in you!**

Leader: So come now open and ready to receive that love that is the light of the world. Come let us worship God.

UNISON INVOCATION

God of grace, like Mary, we prepare our hearts for the coming of your Holy Child. Help us to see the holy in the ordinary things around us. Help us to be filled with hope and trust, so that we, like Mary, may also do your will. Amen.

*OPENING HYMN

People Look East

#14

SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: One fact remains unchanging—God has loved us, is loving us, and will always love us. That is the good news that brings us new life.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSE **Emmanuel, Emmanuel,
His name is called Emmanuel.
God with us, revealed in us,
His name is called Emmanuel.**

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE OF JOY O'Neil Family

Child: We have lit again the two candles in our Advent wreath, to remind us of God's gifts of hope and peace. Today we will light the third candle, the candle of joy.

Adult: As we wait for Christmas, the birth of Jesus, we look forward to the joyful celebrations we will share with those we love. The prophet Zephaniah calls us to shout for joy, because God will transform the people. When Jesus was born in Bethlehem, the angel told the shepherds not to be afraid. The angels brought "good news of a great joy, which shall be to all people." The good news of Jesus' birth and the promise of Shalom are still "tidings of great joy" for us today.

Child: Paul reminds Christians, "Rejoice in the Lord always." The third candle reminds us of our joy in the coming of Jesus Christ. *(Child and adult light the pink third candle.)*

Congregation: God of Joy, Thank you for the excitement and delight we experience at this joyful time of year. Help us to share your joy with others, so that they too will be filled with your Spirit. Amen.

CHILDREN'S TIME The Real Thing Tracy Bausum
Children go downstairs for Sunday School activities.

ANTHEM The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came Basque Carol

SCRIPTURE Luke 1:26-33, 38, 46-55

*HYMN **Song of Mary** #600

MEDITATION ON MARY by Kristen Marquardt
with Sacred Dance by Lyndsey Johns
accompanied by Steve Marquardt

*HYMN **Gentle Mary Laid Her Child** #27

JOYS & CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE, THE LORD'S PRAYER (trespass)

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY Sing of Mary Hebble

*DOXOLOGY *(tune of #591)*
**All praise, eternal Christ, to thee
Whose Advent sets thy people free:
Once more upon thy people shine,
And fill the world with love divine.**

UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**Receive these gifts and use them by the power of your Spirit
to spread your joy throughout the world. We pray in the
name of Jesus. Amen.**

*HYMN **O Little Town of Bethlehem** vs. 3 & 4 #43

BENEDICTION *(Please gather in a circle around the sanctuary.)*

POSTLUDE Fugue Buxtehude

**Indicates that all who are able may stand.*

Colchester Federated Church

Affiliated with the
United Church of Christ and American Baptist Churches
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Patricia Korenkiewicz, Director of Music



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537-5189

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**10:00 a.m. Worship
Third Sunday of Advent
December 13, 2009**

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December 13, 2009
8:30 a.m.

TOLLING OF THE BELLS *Prayerfully prepare for worship.*

PRELUDE Sing of Mary Hebble

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASSING THE PEACE The peace of Christ be with you

CALL TO WORSHIP

Tracy Bausum, Deacon of the Month, Leader

Leader: We need not be afraid anymore.

People: God is with us!

Leader: We will be changed by God's presence.

People: God is with us!

Leader: Let us worship and give thanks to the God who comes to be among us.

*OPENING HYMN **Angels from the Realms of Glory #22**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One: John the Baptist called upon people to repent.

Two: Repent means to turn around.

One: We are called to change our lives.

Two: To turn away from old ways of doing things and turn back to God.

One: Let us think about things in our lives that need changing
(*pause*)

Two: When we do things that are wrong, God is sad and wants us to change.

One: The Bible tells us that God sent Jesus into the world to love us, and to teach us to walk in God's way.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: One fact remains unchanging—God has loved us, is loving us, and will always love us. That is the good news that brings us new life.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

*GLORIA PATRI

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE OF JOY

Lillian and Frank LaVech

Leader 1: We have lit again the two candles in our Advent wreath, to remind us of God's gifts of hope and peace.

Today we will light the third candle, the candle of joy.

Leader 2: As we wait for Christmas, the birth of Jesus, we look forward to the joyful celebrations we will share with those we love. The prophet Zephaniah calls us to shout for joy, because God will transform the people.

Leader 1: Paul reminds Christians, "Rejoice in the Lord always." The third candle reminds us of our joy in the coming of Jesus Christ. (*Light the pink third candle.*)

Congregation: God of Joy, Thank you for the excitement and delight we experience at this joyful time of year. Help us to share your joy with others, so that they too will be filled with your Spirit. Amen.

SCRIPTURE Zeph. 3:14-20; Luke 3:7-18; Phil. 4:4-7

SERMON Be Transformed

HYMN **O Come O Come Emmanuel #9**

JOYS & CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE, THE LORD'S PRAYER (trespass)

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY

(tune of #591)

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Whose Advent sets thy people free:
Once more upon thy people shine,
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UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION **Receive these gifts and use them by the power of your Spirit to spread your joy throughout the world. We pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.**

*HYMN **O Little Town of Bethlehem** vs. 3 & 4 **#43**

BENEDICTION *(Please gather in the center aisle.)*

POSTLUDE

**Indicates that all who are able may stand.*

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8:30 a.m. Worship
Third Sunday of Advent
December 13, 2009

Gift for Church Staff

It takes many talented people, working very hard to keep our church home clean, to organize our office, to lead our worships and to guide our musical praise to the Lord. This is only a small list of the tremendous efforts put forth by our church staff everyday. We would like to celebrate the work of our church staff everyday. We would like to celebrate the work of our church staff and need your help. In the pews for the season of Advent you will find envelopes marked Gift for Church Staff. Donations given in these envelopes will go directly to the staff in the form of a monetary gift. The donations collected will be pooled together and divided among the staff.

*** In Appreciation ***

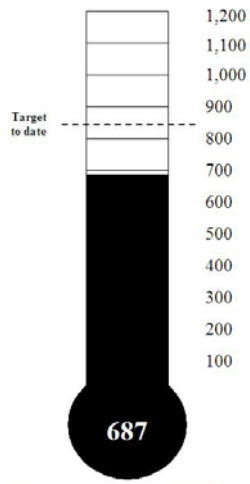


Greeting today is Sheri Sevigny and her daughter, Serena. The Sevigny family lives near the Moodus Reservoir where this past Sunday they enjoyed ice skating. They also enjoy skiing and vacationing in Nantucket. Sheri is employed by Azure Day Spa, her family-owned business in Manchester. Her husband Ray is an architect. Serena is in the 3rd grade in the East Haddam school system. She takes piano lessons and is a student of Miss Allison's Dance Studio.

The flowers this week are provided by Lorraine, Mark and Michelle in loving memory and honor of Jennifer Neri Lorette's birthday.

Food Bank Challenge

We're catching up on our goal of 1,200 food items for the Colchester Food Bank by the end of the year, but we're still behind with 3 weeks to go! Last week we collected 157 food items, bringing our total to 687 items. Do you have items you keep forgetting to bring in? If so, try putting them in the car when you get home today while it's fresh in your mind...then they'll be there when you come next week!



Help us meet our goal of 1,200 items by the end of the year!

Anything you can provide is always welcome, but the items most needed are protein sources (like dry or canned beans, tuna, soups/stews, peanut butter, rice), 100% juice products, and paper goods (toilet paper, paper towels). Thanks to everyone for your continued support. Let's keep up the good work toward our goal of providing this precious gift to those in need in our community!

Hunger Fact: One out of five children in Connecticut, 102,000 youngsters, under the age of twelve, are hungry, or at risk of hunger.

Spread Some Cheer with CFC Holiday or All-Occasion Cards!

Our own Tom Evans has created beautiful CFC Holiday Cards and All-Occasion Cards that are now for sale. Order sheets and sample cards will be available after the 8:30 service in the narthex, and at coffee hour following the 10:00 service. The holiday selection is \$5.00 for a set of 4 cards and envelopes. The all-occasion cards are \$10.00 for a set of 8 cards and envelopes. You may also order individual cards for \$1.25 each in any quantity that you wish.