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Colchester Federated Church  
60 Main Street  
Colchester, CT 06415

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*THE*

# *CRIER*

*A Monthly Newsletter*

**January 2011**



EPIPHANY



MARTIN  
LUTHER  
KING JR.  
*Day*



**Colchester Federated Church**

Affiliated with the United Church of Christ  
and  
American Baptist Churches

The Rev. Dr. Linda U. Barnes, Pastor  
(860) 537-5189 ColchesterFederate@sbcglobal.net

# January 2011

January 2011							February 2011						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28					
30	31												

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						January 1, 2011 9:15am AA - Al-Anon Babysitting (Library) 9:15am Al-Anon (Jerusalem) 9:15am AA (Stage Room)
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Blood Pressures (after service) 8:30am Worship 10:00am Worship	10:30am Bible Study (Office) 6:45pm Boy Scouts (Stage/Nazareth/Jerusalem) 7:30pm AA - Sisters of Sobriety (Library)		10:00am My Brother's Keeper (Jerusalem) 11:00am Staff Meeting (Office) 7:30pm AA (Library)	10:00am AA (Library) 6:30pm Cub Scouts (Jerusalem) 7:00pm Senior Chior Rehearsal (Sanctuary)	12:00pm AA (Library)	9:15am AA - Al-Anon Babysitting (Library) 9:15am Al-Anon (Jerusalem) 9:15am AA (Stage Room)
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
8:30am Worship 10:00am Worship 11:15am Rev Penn-Strah Discussion 12:00pm Discipleship (Lounge) 2:00pm Girl Scout Training (Stage) 6:00pm Girl Scout Leader Meetings	10:30am Bible Study (Office) 1:30pm Mission & Witness (Emmaus) 6:30pm Living the Questions 6:45pm Boy Scouts 7:30pm AA - Sisters of Sobriety	6:30pm Church Life (Lounge) 7:00pm Ministry of Education (Emmaus)	10:00am My Brother's Keeper (Jerusalem) 7:00pm Stewardship (Emmaus) 7:30pm AA (Library)	10:00am AA (Library) 6:30pm Cub Scouts (Jerusalem) 7:00pm Senior Chior Rehearsal (Sanctuary)	12:00pm AA (Library)	CRIER DEADLINE 9:15am AA - Al-Anon Babysitting (Library) 9:15am Al-Anon (Jerusalem) 9:15am AA (Stage Room)
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
8:30am Worship 9:00am Teacher Breakfast 10:00am Worship 11:00am Reception for Pat (Stage) 11:30am Taking Down the Greens 1:00pm Cub Scouts (Gym)	OFFICE CLOSED 6:45pm Boy Scouts (Stage/Nazareth/Jerusalem) 7:30pm AA - Sisters of Sobriety (Library)	7:00pm Diaconate (Lounge)	10:00am My Brother's Keeper (Jerusalem) 7:00pm Pastor Parish (Lounge) 7:30pm AA (Library)	10:00am AA (Library) 6:30pm Cub Scouts (Jerusalem) 7:00pm Senior Chior Rehearsal (Sanctuary)	12:00pm AA (Library)	Discipleship Works Soup Kitchen 9:15am AA - Al-Anon Babysitting (Library) 9:15am Al-Anon (Jerusalem) 9:15am AA (Stage Room)
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
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30	31					
8:30am Worship 10:00am Worship 11:30am Annual Budget Meeting and Pot Luck (Stage)	10:30am Bible Study (Office) 6:45pm Boy Scouts (Stage/Nazareth/Jerusalem) 7:30pm AA - Sisters of Sobriety (Library)					

# CRIER

*A community of faith  
in the heart of Colchester.*



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## Special Events January

- **Regional Minister Guest Preacher and Discussion** – Jan 9<sup>th</sup>
- **Reception for Pat** – Jan 16<sup>th</sup>, 11:30
- **Budget Meeting and Pot Luck Lunch** – Jan 30<sup>th</sup>, 11:30

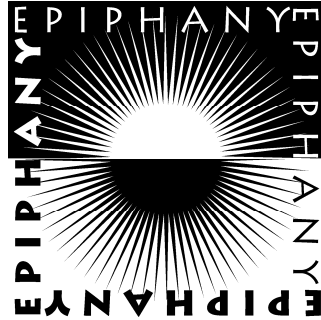
Pastor Linda U. Barnes

Pat Koreniewicz, Music Director  
Tracy Bausum, Director of Christian Education  
Tom Evans, Office Manager

60 Main Street  
Colchester, CT 06415  
Office: 860-537-5189

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Web: ColchesterFederatedChurch.org

Dear Members and Friends of Colchester Federated Church,



In this season of Epiphany, may God's Light shine in your lives, our church and community, and the world. As we think of the Magi journeying to find the Messiah of their hopes and dreams, the Promised One of God—may we, in this New Year 2011, journey toward the Light of Christ—finding new ways to express God's gifts to us, in this cycle of giving and receiving, of living in the Spirit.

As we prepare for our church's annual budget meeting after worship the last Sunday in January—this year it's Jan. 30<sup>th</sup> -- we rely on listening for God's Word instructing our actions and giving us hope. We pray that we may live in God's abundance—knowing how to trust in times of need and share in times of plenty. May we find the blessing of following God's will as our first priority.



We give thanks for the music ministry of our church and especially for the years of dedicated service by our gifted music director Pat Koreniewicz. She has touched our lives and hearts in so many ways. We pray for God's blessing upon Pat and her family, as she moves to Rochester to be with John as his work continues there. For our church in this time of music leadership transition, we pray for trust, discernment and patience. We pray that in this time, and at all times, our congregation, may be guided by God's Wisdom and Grace.

May the Light of Christ be with you,  
*Rev. Linda U. Barnes*

# January Worship Schedule

## January 2

8:30 Worship and Communion,  
Rev. Barnes preaching  
10:00 Worship and Communion,  
Rev. Barnes preaching  
Scriptures: Isaiah 60:1-6; John 1:10-18 [or  
Matthew 2:1-12]  
Theme: Epiphany Celebration

## January 9

8:30 Worship, Rev. Mike Penn-Strah preaching  
10:00 Worship, Rev. Mike Penn-Strah preaching  
*Rev. Penn-Strah is our Regional Minister for CT.  
Conference UCC (see box to the right)*  
Scriptures: I Corinthians 12:4-13, John 14:15-20  
Theme: "People of the Covenant"  
11:15 Open discussion led by Rev. Penn-Strah  
(Stage Room)

## January 16

8:30 Worship, Rev. Barnes preaching  
10:00 Worship, Rev. Barnes preaching  
Giving Thanks for the Music Ministry  
of Pat Korenkiewicz  
Scriptures: Psalm 40:1-11; Isaiah 49:1-7  
Theme: God's Steadfast Love and Faithfulness

## January 23

8:30 Worship, Rev. Barnes preaching  
10:00 Worship, Rev. Barnes preaching  
Scriptures: Psalm 27; Matthew 4:12-23  
Theme: Called Together

## January 30

8:30 Worship, Rev. Barnes preaching  
10:00 Worship, Rev. Barnes preaching  
Scriptures: Micah 6:1-8; Matthew 5:1-12  
Theme: The Vision Beautiful

**11:30 Annual Congregational Budget Meeting  
and Pot Luck Lunch**

On January 9<sup>th</sup>, our regional minister the Rev. Dr. Mike Penn-Strah will join Rev. Barnes in leading our Sunday morning worship. He'll serve as the morning preacher at both services.

After the 10:00 a.m. worship service he will meet with church leaders and interested members to discuss the blessings and challenges of ministry in this setting. He will help us reflect on how we can be in ministry together. We look forward to this opportunity to worship and grow in faith together.

The Reverend Dr. Michael S. Penn-Strah has been our South Central Regional Minister of the Connecticut Conference since August 1, 2007. The South Central Region encompasses 69 churches in the New Haven, New Haven East, Middlesex and New London Associations. The Regional Minister's primary work is with congregations in transition and crisis and providing leadership resources. He works with clergy and congregations of the Region in offering counsel, support and advice as well as pastoral care. He serves as staff resource to the four Association Committees on Ministry in the Region.

Dr. Penn-Strah received his M. Div from Chicago Theological Seminary and his Th.D. from Boston University. In more than 40 years as an ordained minister in the United Church of Christ he has served suburban and inner-city congregations from 120-1200 members, including a new church start he co-pastored with his wife, Reverend Dr. Sara Penn-Strah. Sara is the Senior Pastor of First Church of Christ, UCC, in Woodbridge. The Penn-Strahs have 4 children and four grandchildren.

Mike's office is in Woodbridge, and he can be reached at 203-389-1193, or by email at [mikeps@ctucc.org](mailto:mikeps@ctucc.org).



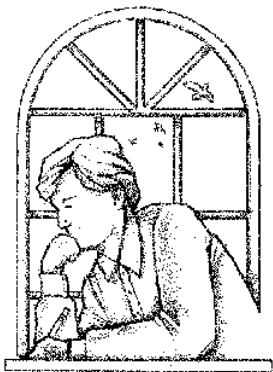
**The flower schedule for the Sanctuary is as follows:**

Month	Name	Phone	Email
January	Evelyn Plecan	(860) 537-0625	evelynplecan@snet.net
February	Necia Stopa	(860) 537-2814	nstopaharp@yahoo.com
March	Jennifer Mitchell	(860) 460-6443	msginger89@hotmail.com
April	Christine Miskell	(860) 537-6314	cmdvm@yahoo.com
May	Renee Misbach	(860) 537-9118	rouillette01@snet.net
June	Val Sullivan	(860) 537-8195	valiesullivan@sbcglobal.net

If you would like to supply flowers or some other type of decoration for a special occasion or remembrance, please contact the appropriate person listed above. Also, please advise Tom Evans how you would like the notice to read in the bulletin.



January 2	8:30 Mitch & Lori Koziol 10:00 Joey Bradstreet Steve Bradstreet	January 23	8:30 Gerry Caron 10:00 Frank Tomlinson Patrick Dooley
January 9	8:30 Mary Tomasi 10:00 Jim Caronna Gordon Archambault	January 30	8:30 Mary Tomasi 10:00 Jim Caronna Tom St. Louis
January 16	8:30 Mitch & Lori Koziol 10:00 Lynne McCune Theodore Ball	We are still in need of some folks to serve as ushers. This is not a complex responsibility, but one that needs to be fulfilled every week. If you are interested, please speak with Jim Caronna, Pastor Linda or any of the ushers.	



# In our thoughts & prayers

There are Church members and friends who need our prayers, cards or a telephone call. If you should know one of these people, please send a card or call; if you know someone in need of spiritual help, please tell the Pastor.

## ***Those sick or recovering:***

Aaryn & Amanda Bolgrihn  
Rosie Bosse  
Sue Emory  
Marion Fletcher  
Amy and Karl Ferling  
Wilma Fedus  
Emily Grundy  
John Jesmonth  
John Koes  
Charlie Munson  
Heidi Tripp

## ***Our friends in Nursing and Convalescent Homes:***

Bob Fletcher (Apple)  
Helen Hayden (Harrington)  
Betty Koes (Harrington)  
Aaron Turner (Harrington)  
Sam Turner (Harrington)

- In this season of Epiphany, may God's Light shine in our lives, communities and the world.
- We give thanks for our new church members and pray for God's blessing and guidance upon them.
- We give thanks for the music ministry of our church and especially for the years of dedicated service by our gifted music director Pat Korenkeiwicz. We pray for God's blessing upon her and her family.
- For our church in this time of music leadership transition, we pray for trust, wisdom, guidance and patience.
- As we prepare for our church's annual budget meeting the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in

January, we rely on listening for God's Word instructing our actions and giving us hope.

- We pray that we may live in God's abundance—knowing how to trust in times of need and share in times of plenty. May we all learn to set following God's will as our first priority.
- We pray that in this time, and at all times, our congregation, may be guided by God's Wisdom and Grace.
- We pray for all who grieve, particularly in the cold wintertime.
- For all who are homeless, hungry, cold, in need of medical care, or other needs that are unattended, we pray—and for those who reach out in compassion and service.
- We pray for those suffering due to the ongoing financial woes of the nation and the world--be they confronting the loss of a job, struggling with housing, or working to find just resolutions.
- Our prayers go out to all those serving in the Armed Forces, particularly those serving or living in war or conflict zones around the world.
- Our prayers continue for those joys and concerns during worship services.

*If you know of someone in the hospital or in need of a pastoral visit, please call Rev. Barnes or the church office. We'd much rather be told twice, than be unaware and not able to respond with care. Thank you. Epiphany Blessings to you all.*



## Stewardship Pledge Campaign Update

*"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."  
Matthew 6: 21*

We greatly appreciate all those who have returned their pledge forms. The following is a Pledge Campaign up-date as of December 12<sup>th</sup>.

- **65 pledges have been received for a total of \$88,110.**
- Final pledge totals last year were 77 pledges for total of \$125,105.
- We have received 12 new pledges. Thank-you! (Can we add you to this list of new pledgers?)
- The Ministry of Stewardship has a first draft of the 2011 budget and its goals. To maintain our current levels of ministry, staff, programming and building maintenance,

**our goal is \$125,000.**

This would allow us to have a balanced budget for the end of this year and for next.

**To date, we have reached 70% of our goal.**

If you haven't had the chance to turn in your pledge form, we encourage you to do so at your earliest convenience. Extra forms are available in the narthex and church office. Your pledge is confidential, seen only by our treasurers. If you have questions, please feel free to contact Tom Evans, Treasurer, Steve Bradstreet, Assistant Treasurer, Jim Caronna, Chair of Stewardship or Diane Capasso. If everyone helps in this effort, we will be able to meet our goals. Thank-you!

Many thanks to **Steve Bradstreet** for all his work in recording and up-dating us, to **Tom Evans** for all his work as Treasurer, and to the **members of the Ministry of Stewardship (Jim Caronna, Mark Bosse, John Hirsch and Chuck Maynard)** who have been working hard on our 2011 budget.  
*The Pledge Campaign Committee*

### 2010 Giving Status

*As of November 30, 2010:*

**Pledged: \$115,902.32**  
**Received: \$103,934.60**

**Difference: \$11,967.72**

**90%**

## Church Work Day

The sanctuary was filled with the sounds of choirs from around the world as the ladies began the sanctuary clean up. In they came with bags of cleaning supplies. Lori washed the table glass, while Emma cleaned the pencil marks. Cheryl washed the window sills. The ladies were hard at work, when in came Jen to aid in all the cleaning. Nancy, Karen and Diane whipped that Narthex into shape while, Christine came in and offered us a donut break. Then back to work we went. Our work was just about finished, when to our eyes appeared, Taylor saying "lunch is ready". We packed our things and headed for the stew.

As they walked past the windows they peered out to see...John and Chris holding a tarp. Scot, George, Mark and Mike raking leaves. But wait, weren't there eight guys out there earlier. Then out the corner of their eyes they caught a glimpse of the others. There leaning against the fence was Jim and Tom. (We were assured they were planning the next work day activities).

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO HELPED!!!!!!!

George Aronstamm, Scot Alexander, Tom St Louis, Jim Caronna, Mark Bosse, Mike McPherson, Chris wink, John Clarke, Lori Koziol, Emma Wink, Cheryl Anderson, Nancy Dooley, Karen Monteleone, Diane Capasso, Jen Mitchell, Christine Miskell, Olivia & Evan



## Bringing In The New Year

*"...For we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it, but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these." (1 Timothy 6:7-8 NRSV)*

We have become a culture of collectors. We know that in some cultures, status is given to those with access to water. In other cultures, higher standing is given to those with livestock. In our Western monetary culture, status seems to be given with those who have money which is then displayed in homes, cars, etc.

With or without money, many of us in this country collect "stuff," following the bumper sticker that states, "the one who dies with the most toys wins." We have a yard sale on one Saturday to get rid of stuff and then end up going to a yard sale on the following Saturday to collect more. But we are reminded of the Jesus words, "Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions." (Luke 12:15)

The New Year calls us to take a fresh look at ourselves and at our lives. This is traditionally the time of year we make resolutions to be different in some way from the way we are right now. Perhaps a quest for living more simply could be our New Year's resolution for 2011. Seeking a simpler lifestyle is a form of discipleship, and it also implies generosity toward our God. By letting go of things, we will be less encumbered with "stuff" and subsequently be more able to share of ourselves with others and especially with God.

"A devout life does bring wealth, but it's the rich simplicity of being yourself before God." (1 Timothy 6:6)

## Winter Safety Tips

Ice and snow are pretty, but not a friend when it comes to walking safely. Here are some tips in preventing falls that can lead to a devastating injury.

1. Stay on top of the weather. Shovel vigilantly, removing ice and snow, keep walking areas clear, and well salted and sanded.
2. Keep your hands out of your pockets when you walk. If you slip, you will need your arms to restore balance. If you fall, your arms will help you to break your fall and land safely. When walking in a parking lot, walk next to the cars. This allows you to have something to place a hand on in case you start to feel like you are falling. It also allows some more protection from moving cars, if one starts skidding on ice you don't want to be walking in the middle of the lane in its path.
3. Wear the proper footwear. Although it may not be fashionable to wear a pair of boots, try to pick boots that maintain supportive ergonomics and have good traction. Bring another set of shoes to change into when you get inside if you don't want to keep your boots on.
4. If an area in your path appears icy, try not to walk on it. Try another

path. It is better to pick a path that is flatter, with more hand holds that is longer, than a path that is shorter, sloping and icier.

5. Don't carry heavy objects while walking. The heavier the object, the more it will throw off your ability to balance yourself, aside from your hands being occupied if you start to fall and can't catch yourself. Make multiple trips with lighter grocery bags, for instance.
6. Take small steps when walking. Longer strides throw off your stability.
7. When getting out of a vehicle, use handrails, handles - anything that will help you keep your balance.
8. Use a flash light in darker areas. Maximize your visibility when walking. For those who wear glasses, clear them from any fogging before treading the icy path.

Look out for each other. Help your elderly friends and relatives on snow and ice. Slips and falls can be extremely dangerous for seniors. If you are older, don't shy away from asking others for a helping hand.

# Winter Safety Tips



# Blood DRIVE

The Red Cross has scheduled a second blood drive to be held at Colchester Federated Church on Friday February 11, 2010. The time will be from

1:30 PM to 6:30 PM. The place will be the Church gym. It is recommended you contact the Red Cross ahead of time to schedule an appointment for donating blood. You can call

the Red Cross at 1-800-448-3543 or you can schedule your appointment on-line at [www.bloodct.org](http://www.bloodct.org). Walk-ins are welcomed but depending on how busy they are there could be a waiting time. If anyone from the congregation is interested in volunteering some time that day to assist in the blood drive they can contact Karen Partington at 860-537-4270. Volunteers are also welcomed to donate bake goods for the blood drive as well. For more information you may contact Cheryl Letendre at 860-537-6516.

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*It has often been called the most wonderful time of the year and understandably so, what with all of the excitement, the lights, the joy in the faces of children of all ages and the music. Oh, the music. All those wonderful yuletide carols that like old friends, bring us memories, comfort and joy.*

*One of my favorites has always been We Three Kings. I'm not sure why, maybe it's the journeying or the wonder that is contained in it or maybe it is just my memory of having been one of the kings in the church pageant. I always have liked to ham it up, not just in the kitchen.*

*The Magi, I've been thinking of them lately. Three people traveling together on a great journey following that yonder star. As winter's cold begins to set in and the trees lay bare here, I've been thinking of maybe going south to Florida again to get some warmth. I also recall how difficult traveling a great distance together can be. How the little things became magnified in the confines of those small cars. But I also remember overcoming the small things because we had a common goal. I wonder if it was this way for the Magi. Did they get on each others nerves?*

*Of course they did, THREE kings sharing a ride! But they had that common goal, their guiding light. That beautiful shining star and all that it stood and stands for.*

*What a wonderful opportunity a new year brings. It is a chance to refocus our vision and our energies. In this year where we are being asked where our hearts lie here at CFC, let us also begin to look into our hearts and ask where we want our vision to be. What is to be our guiding light?*

*Together, as a congregation, we do and can accomplish so much.*

*May our journeys this year be purposeful and joyous. May we cherish the moments that we do have together and may we all have a joyous new year.*

**John  
Sawchuk,  
Deacon**





## Men Of Service

*"Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully, administering God's grace in its various forms." – 1 Peter 4:10*

In 2010, Colchester Federated Church Men of Service had a great kickoff year! Thanks to all the men and young men who volunteered their time to get this group rolling. We are all very hopeful that our initial momentum from the past year will continue to build in 2011. Some of the group's service activities in 2010 included:

- ✓ Rebuilding a portion of the fence surrounding the Ancient Burial Grounds adjacent to the church
- ✓ Collecting food and monetary donations for the Colchester Food Bank at a 57 Fest "Fill the Van" event
- ✓ Removing leaves and other debris from the church grounds during our Fall Clean-up
- ✓ Assisting the Colchester Food Bank with collecting, sorting, transporting, and shelving food items during the Scouting for Food weekend in Colchester

The Men of Service group has developed several ideas for other community service projects in the coming year. Some of these include:

- ✓ Organizing a "Yard Patrol" to provide yard and home maintenance services to the elderly, homebound, and others in need in our community
- ✓ Working with the Colchester Historical Society to address some of the unmet maintenance

needs at small cemeteries around Colchester

- ✓ Participating in a Spring Clean-up Day for the church grounds
- ✓ Organizing a "40 Days of Food" collection drive for the Colchester Food Bank during the Lenten season
- ✓ Working more closely with the Colchester Senior Center, TVCCA, and other service groups to identify local individuals in need of our service

### WE NEED YOUR HELP

We are calling all the men and teenage young men in our congregation to join CFC Men of Service in our work in the community. We also are inviting friends and other community members outside of our congregation with an interest in community service to lend a hand with our service projects. The more helping hands we have, the more great work we can do!

We also need the entire congregation and community to help us identify service projects for those in need in Colchester. If you have an idea for a service need that CFC Men of Service may be able to fill, or if you would like more information about CFC Men of Service, please contact Tom St. Louis at 537-6314 or email [cfcmen@yahoo.com](mailto:cfcmen@yahoo.com).

### SAVE THE DATE

The next Men of Service quarterly meeting will take place on Sunday, **March 13, 2011**.



December was filled with so much joy for the Women's Fellowship.

On Tuesday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> in cooperation with the Diaconate, the Fellowship helped at the pot luck supper and Christmas sing along. What a delightful evening this was. Our special thanks to Pat Korenkiewicz for leading us in the singing; to John Sawchuk for providing the extra food; to Tracy Bausum for the decorations that made the stage room look so Christmasy; to all who attended and to Santa Claus for paying us a visit. It was a very special evening.

On Thursday, December 4<sup>th</sup>, the Women's fellowship hosted a Christmas party at Harrington Court Convalescent Home. While Shirley Pugh played the piano, Christmas Carols were sung by those present. The residents were treated to violin selections by

Colin Hiscox. Homemade cookies were served, then Colin and Jessica Tucker distributed gifts to all from the Fellowship. Our sincere thanks to Avis Hull, Bea Bradstreet, Bette Ryan, Shelly Hirsch, Karen Monteleone, Nancy Dooley, Walt and Carol Plecan, Rev. Linda Barnes, Diane Capasso, Jeannette Tomlinson, Kaja & Colin Hiscox, Jessica Tucker, Karen Wheeler, Shirley Pugh, Dolores Sawchuk and Cheryl Anderson for baking and/or attending the party. It is special to be able to bring joy to these shut ins.

On Tuesday, December 14<sup>th</sup>, Bea Bradstreet, Nancy Dooley, Nancy Knapp, Karen Monteleone and Bette Ryan Gathered at the home of Dolores Sawchuk to make fruit baskets to be delivered to some of our church families who need a little extra love this year. The baskets were delivered by Cheryl Anderson, Evelyn Barr, John and Nancy Dooley, Lillian & Frank Lavech, Deb Howard, Diane Capasso, Pat Culhane, John Sawchuk, Karen Monteleone, Nancy Knapp, Jeannette Tomlinson, Carol Plecan and Dolores Sawchuk. Special thanks also to Joann Riddell and Lorraine Tierney.

The Women's Fellowship is pleased to bring the love of Christmas to so many each year.

Best Wishes for a new year filled with peace and love.

### MANY THANKS!

Many thanks to all those who purchased the church historical magnets, and our holiday/all-occasion cards during November-December. Proceeds will be used to support the ministry and missions of our church. Special thanks to **Nancy Knapp and Tom Evans** for creating the keep-sake magnets, and to Tom for creating the lovely church cards. These items are also available at any time in the New Year through the church office. The magnets depict the church in the early 1900s. The cards are various views of the church, present and past.

*The Fundraising Committee*

# Church Christmas Party



More than 60 church family members gathered together for a celebration of food, fellowship and caroling. All left with full tummies and hearts full of good tidings!

Special thanks to Pat Korenkiewicz for the trivia activity and music, to John Sawchuk for his culinary skills, to Tracy Bausum for decorations, and to Santa for taking time out of his busy schedule to visit us and wish us all, young and old, a very Merry Christmas!

## Thank You for the Gifts for Riverview Hospital Children

Mission and Witness thanks everyone who donated towards Christmas gifts for the children and youth at Riverview Hospital. We are so pleased that we were able to purchase everything on their request list--the members of our church community are so generous--what a worth while project.

Thanks again....Pat Moon

## Supporting Our Military Families



## Cards of Care for Our American Soldiers

During the month of January, we are asking everyone to make a card or drop off a snack for soldiers. Many of us know someone who is or has served in the armed forces. This is an opportunity for us to let them know we are thinking about them.

Please create or purchase a card for Valentine's day or a Thank you. Add your message to the card and place it in the basket in the Narthex. We will collect the cards and snacks at the end of the month. The items will be mailed to the unit Jessica Tucker's brother is serving in. For more information contact Cheryl Anderson or Jessica Tucker.

Items we are collecting...

- ~cards
- ~individually wrapped snacks
- ~bubble gum
- ~life savors

**Our annual finance meeting and pot luck lunch will be held on Sunday, January 30<sup>th</sup> after the 10 am service. This is the meeting where we review the spending of the previous year and discuss and vote on the proposed budget for the current year. Everyone is invited to attend and everyone's input is greatly appreciated. Watch the weekly bulletins for details.**



## Annual Finance Meeting

# MINISTRY OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



The Ministry of Christian Education at Colchester Federated Church celebrates all people as children of God embarking on their own faith journeys. We strive to offer safe and comfortable Christian experiences for everyone at all stages of development to experience God by connecting real faith to real life through the messages of the Bible. We work to provide resources and support that help all members of our congregation to grow in their faith. Guiding us in our mission are our core values

- † *Embracing diversities of faith and life;*
- † *Worshiping and learning together;*
- † *Growing in our relationship with God;*
- † *Growing in our relationship with each other;*
- † *Making a connection between church and home;*
- † *And relying upon our faith in dealing with the challenges of everyday life*

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## Christian Education Notes:

- † Our 2<sup>nd</sup> semester of Sunday School begins January 16<sup>th</sup> (See the attached schedule). We always welcome more volunteers in our classes.
- † Special thanks to Eleanor Ball and Susan Sanford for their donations of materials for our Sunday School program!

We would love to schedule some book studies or movie nights (which have been requested) during the quieter months of January and February~ please let us know good times and dates and we'll make it happen!

Contact Director of Christian Education, Tracy Bausum, (860-537-4550 or [tbausum@yahoo.com](mailto:tbausum@yahoo.com)) or any member of our ministry team.

**The Ministry of Christian Education forward to growing in faith with each of you!**

Tracy Bausum, Alison Cook, Carolyn Marvin, Wendy Moores, Laurie O'Neil,  
Megan Stillwell & Michelle Wyatt

*"Learning is finding out what you already know, Doing is demonstrating that you know it, Teaching is reminding others that they know it as well as you do. We are all learners, doers, and teachers." ~  
Richard David Bach*



**COLCHESTER FEDERATED CHURCH  
SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE  
WINTER & SPRING SESSION 2011**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>LESSON/ACTIVITY</b>	<b>GRADES</b>
Jan. 16	Teacher's Breakfast	Teachers & Assistants
	'Dawning Awareness'	All
23	'Together in the Light'	All
30	'God Chooses the Lowest & the Least'	All
Feb. 6	'Daring Discipleship'	Preschool - 3 <sup>rd</sup> Grades
	Teen Time	9 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> Grades
13	'Making Choices'	All
20	'Love Your Enemies'	All
27	'Seeing Clearly'	All
March 6	'Mountain Mystery'	Preschool - 3 <sup>rd</sup> Grades
	Teen Time	9 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> Grades
13	'About Tough Questions'	All
20	'About New Life'	All
27	'About Thirsting'/ Heifer 'Kick-off'	All
	Communion Class (After church)	3 <sup>rd</sup> Graders
April 3	'About Turning Things Around'	Preschool - 3 <sup>rd</sup> Grades
	Teen Time	9 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> Grades
	Communion Class (After church)	3 <sup>rd</sup> Graders
10	'About The Power of Jesus'	All
17	Palm Parade	All
	'About What Happens to Jesus'	All
Thurs. 21	Special Communion/Maundy Thursday	3 <sup>rd</sup> Graders
24	EASTER SUNDAY ~ NO CLASS	
May 1	'Breath of Hope'	Preschool - 2 <sup>nd</sup> Grades
	Teen Time	9 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> Grades
8	'In Our Midst'	All
15	Children & Youth Sunday	All



Living the Questions is an opportunity to talk about our faith in an informal setting. We begin at 6:30 with a soup and bread supper; then watch a 20 minute video with leading voices of faith, stories illustrating aspects of an evolving faith, and concrete spiritual practices.

Our next two sessions are: Monday Jan. 10 at 6:30 in Church Lounge, with the topic, "Social Justice: Realizing God's Vision." Monday Jan. 24 at 6:30 p.m. in Church Lounge with the topic, "Incarnation: Divinely Human". All are welcome!

To Our Church Family,

As most of you know, John has been working out in Rochester, NY since the end of May. His contract has been extended and I will be joining him out there this month. My last Sunday with you all will be January 16<sup>th</sup>.

This was not an easy decision as you have all become family to both of us. A lot has happened to all of us in the past 8 years and this church has been a great source of happiness and comfort. But life is short and the time apart for John and I has been difficult.

Your support of the music program has been a blessing.

There are no words to express my deep affection for the choir. I will miss working with you all, and laughing our way through rehearsals. They are an excellent group of musicians who really care about giving it their best – week in and week out. And the bonus is they are *all* wonderful people.

Please know that John and I will miss you all but we look forward to seeing you on our visits back to Colchester.

Pat and John Korenkiewicz

## What's important

On February 4, 1968, exactly two months before Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated, he delivered his last sermon at Atlanta's Ebenezer Baptist Church. In it, he described his preferences for his own funeral. He didn't want people to mention his Nobel Peace Prize, his other awards or where he went to school; none of that was important, he said. Instead, he wanted his eulogist to say that King "tried to give his life serving others" and "tried to love somebody."

In that sermon, King also said "everybody can serve," regardless of background or educational level. The only requirements, he said, were "a heart full of grace" and "a soul generated by love."

# LIGHT SWITCH COVER

Everyone who believes in God and lives for him is a child of light. Make this cover for your bedroom light switch to remind you to be a light for God.

## What you need:

- An adult to help
- Light switch cover
- Screwdriver
- Colored paper
- Markers
- Scissors
- Decoupage glue
- Paintbrush
- Craft knife



## What you do:

1. Remove the screws from the cover.
2. On the paper, draw small images related to light and write out "Live as children of light" (Ephesians 5:8, NIV).
3. Cut out the drawings and verse. Make sure they'll fit on the cover.
4. Paint the cover with a coat of decoupage glue, and then immediately place the drawings and verse on the cover.
5. Paint over them with another coat of glue. Let it dry.
6. Turn the cover over and use a craft knife to cut out the opening for the light switch.
7. Using a screwdriver, place your new light switch cover on your wall.



# From darkness to light

In the Bible, God speaks often about light and darkness. He gives us much instruction about which path we should choose.

1. Good	Righteousness
2. Death	Children
3. Go	Life
4. Evil	Come
5. Adults	Bad

Match the opposites and then write the word in the right-hand column in the correct blanks to finish each verse.

"When your eyes are good, your whole body also is full of light. But when they are \_\_\_\_\_, your body also is full of darkness." Luke 11:34, NIV  
(1)

"I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of \_\_\_\_\_." John 8:12, NIV  
(2)

"I have \_\_\_\_\_ into the world as a light, so that no one who believes in me should stay in darkness." John 12:46, NIV  
(3)

"For what do \_\_\_\_\_ and wickedness have in common? Or what fellowship can light have with darkness?"  
2 Corinthians 6:14, NIV  
(4)

"For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as \_\_\_\_\_ of light." Ephesians 5:8, NIV  
(5)

Answers: 1. bad, 2. life, 3. come, 4. righteousness, 5. children

**Rabbi Harold Kushner:**

*When you carry out acts of kindness you get a wonderful feeling inside. It is as though something inside your body responds and says, yes, this is how I ought to feel.*



- **To all the women** who help fold and mail the Crier each month.
- **To everyone else** who empties trash, checks doors, turns down heat, closes windows, locks up and generally helps to care for our building and our church family. We appreciate your efforts and couldn't survive without you. Thanks for your support!

- **To everyone who gives so generously** of their time, talents and income to make this a safe place to come and worship, share some fellowship and help others.
- **To all the Deacons** for their continued faithful leadership of our church in these dynamic times.
- **To all our ministries** whose work we see everywhere we look.
- **To everyone who contributes food** each week, to Avis Hull for taking the food collected to the food bank, and for the paper goods contributions
- **To Dave Hock** who keeps our building clean and secure.



On December 12<sup>th</sup> we welcomed into our church family new members Scott and Annette Alexander, Michael McPherson, Jane Pinciario, Suzanne And Matthew Thorpe and Jessica Tucker. Christina Young and Ellen McKinney were not able to make the service and will be welcomed as new members in January.

### Save the Date

**The evening of February 11, 2011 Church Life will be sponsoring a family movie night. Details coming soon.**

**OFFICE HOURS** You may reach Rev. Barnes or the church office manager (Tom Evans) at 537-5189. The regular office hours are Monday through Thursday from 10:30 – 3:30. If you don't reach the pastor there, you are welcome to call her home at 537-3552 or her cell phone at 334-6790. (Her time off each week is Thursday evening and Friday, so limit calls during those times to emergencies.).

Church office email is [colchesterfederate@sbcglobal.net](mailto:colchesterfederate@sbcglobal.net). (note: no second "d")

**CRIER DEADLINE is the 15<sup>th</sup> of every month.**