

October, 2011
Volume 5, Issue 9

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Special Events:

- World Communion Day,
2nd**
**Blessing of the Animals,
2nd**
**Crop Walk/World Hunger
Awareness Day, 16th**
**Stewardship Campaign,
23rd**
Reformation Sunday, 30th

Ministers: All the Members of the Church are called to serve in daily life

Staff:
Rev. Dr. Linda U. Barnes, Pastor
Tom Evans, Treasurer
Dave Hock, Custodian
Tori Lanker, Christian Educator
Kimberly Lewis, Music Director
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THE

CRIER

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

Colchester Federated Church



Dear Members and Friends of the Colchester Federated Church,

The ability to give is a blessing. We can't predict the future that God holds, but we can prepare for each day by practices of generosity. Each one of us can give. Giving helps us to forgive. It helps us to heal. Giving helps us to make peace in the world; it helps to bring justice and mercy to those in need. The gifts we give are one way we prepare for God's coming into the world, bringing grace, always in the most unexpected ways.

When we hear the words "give and it will be given to you...for the measure you give will be the measure you get back," we long to respond with deep gratitude and commitment, gratitude rolling down like waters and commitment like an ever-flowing stream in the life of this world.

Our gifts are signs of that gratitude and commitment in every day of our lives, especially the year ahead of us in the life of this church.

We thank God for giving us the power and the opportunity to share with one another. We thank God for giving us all that we have and all that we are. And we offer back to God our gifts as a sign of our gratitude for God's generosity in every season. God will bless our gifts, we have no doubt, and God will strengthen us in the giving. [from UCC essay "Count Yourself Blessed"]

These words speak to us today. We are grateful for our beautiful church—not just the building, though it is beautiful—but even more for all the opportunities we have to worship, learn, grow, serve, and share in the vitality of this community of faith. We are also connected to the larger world of faith in action through our affiliation with the American Baptist Churches and the United Church of Christ.

Read the pages of this newsletter with a heart to hear how God is speaking to you in this time and place. There are lots of opportunities to get involved! God's faithfulness, expressed through this congregation for 308 years, is ever new. Open your life to God's abundance and love, this day and every day!

Yours in faith,

Rev. Linda Ulrich Barnes

October Worship Services



October 2

Worship 8:30 & 10:00 a.m. and Communion

Rev. Linda Barnes leading worship and preaching

Scriptures: Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20; Psalm 19

Theme: God's Loving Wisdom

Blood Pressures taken after the 10 a.m. service

Blessings of the Animals at 12 p.m.

Blessing of the Animals Ceremony and Prayers

on the lawn in front of the Sanctuary

(in case of rain: in the gym)



October 9

Worship 8:30 & 10:00 a.m.

Rev. Linda Barnes leading worship and preaching

Scriptures: Exodus 32:1-14; Matthew 21:1-14

Theme: God Matters



October 16

World Hunger Awareness Sunday

Worship 8:30 & 10:00 a.m.

Cheryl Anderson Caronna preaching with Rev. Barnes leading prayers

Scriptures: Exodus 33:12-23; Psalm 99; Matthew 22:15-22

Theme: Willing Relationships

Dedication for CROPwalk participants and supporters

CROPwalk starts from Town Hall, with registration at 12:30



October 23

Kickoff for Fall Stewardship Campaign

Worship 8:30 & 10:00 a.m.

Rev. Barnes leading worship and preaching

Scriptures: Deut. 34:1-12; Psalm 90:1-2, 16-17; Matthew 22:34-40

Theme: Setting Priorities

Sermon Feedback Discussion during Fellowship time following the 10:00 a.m. service.

October 30

Reformation Sunday

Worship 8:30 & 10:00 a.m.

Rev. Barnes leading worship and preaching

Scriptures: Joshua 3:7-17; 1 Thess. 2:9-13

Theme: God at Work in Us

Third Graders presented with Bibles at 10:00 a.m. Service





October 2	8:30	Mary Tomasi
	10:00	Jim Caronna Lynne McCune
October 9	8:30	Mitch & Lori Koziol
	10:00	Frank Ball Frank Tomlinson
October 16	8:30	Gerry Caron
	10:00	Steve & Joey Bradstreet
October 23	8:30	Mitch & Lori Koziol
	10:00	Jim Caronna Tom St. Louis
October 30	8:30	Gerry Caron
	10:00	Jim Caronna Frank Tomlinson

The flower schedule for the Sanctuary is as follows:

October: Pat Culhane, 860-537-1202
November: Avis Hull, 860-537-2094

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 Susan Skoglund how you would like the notice to read in the bulletin.

A Pet Prayer

Furry friends with loving hearts
Nestled at our feet
Warm our hearts and hearths
We ask that they be eternally blessed
May they always be kept safe
Have a comfortable place to sleep and
Receive nourishment and loving care
For as long as they shall live

Do you have a special animal(s) in your life?

Bring them to Colchester Federated Church

12:00 p.m.

Sunday October 2, 2011

for the

Blessing of the Animals

All types of animals (including stuffed animals) are welcome!

Please ensure animals are appropriately restrained, leashed, or caged.

The Blessing will take place outside in front of the church,
weather permitting.

(If raining, we will move into the gym.)





There are Church members and friends who need our prayers, cards or a telephone call. If you 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:

Janet Anderson
Bill Bakaj
Larry Green
Emily Grundy
Avis Hull
Gail Joslin
Betty and John Koes
Laura Koziol
Kathy Jesmonth
Wildred Marvin
Don McKelvey
Jennifer Mitchell
Glen Piette
Judy Rogers
Frances Wilson (Necia Stopa's mother)

Our friends in Assisted Living, Rehab and Convalescent Homes:

Mark Bosse's mother Eleanor (Florida)
Bob Fletcher (Apple Rehab, Colchester)
Elizabeth Hageman (Luther Ridge, Middletown)
Stanley Moroch (Apple Rehab, Colchester)
Paulette Sharp (N. Hampshire)

We Pray For:

- As we celebrate Worldwide Communion Sunday, we pray for peace in our world. We celebrate the sacrament of Holy Communion with our ecumenical Christian brothers and sisters.
- We pray for better understanding and communication in interfaith dialog, especially with those of the Muslim faith.
- We give thanks for the children and youth of this church, praying that they may be guided to grow in faith and maturity.
- We give thanks for all who teach, by lesson and example. We hold in prayer youth leaders, Sunday School teachers and helpers, our new Christian Educator Tori Lanker, our Ministry of Christian Education, parents, grandparents, and all our families.

- We give thanks for the faith expressed through music, for those who share their musical gifts in our worship services, and for our Music Director Kim Lewis.
- We give you thanks O God, for the gift of music—and pray for all in the children's and adult choirs as they express their faith in song and show your Spirit in our worship.
- We pray for all who are in need, and for those whose eyes and hearts may be opened to help, including the work of soup kitchens, food pantries, and our own mission efforts.
- Our prayers continue for those joys and concerns offered during our worship.
- We pray for our congregation. May we be faithful in all aspects of our church life together. Help us to keep our priorities clear. May we trust in You O God and in each other—knowing that each year we express another time of your faithfulness expressed to us and through us.

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.

"Thanks to everyone for the well wishes and offers to help after my surgery. I'm recovering nicely and hope to see everyone soon!" *Jen Mitchell*

Almost Home

In *Lessons I Learned in the Dark* (Multnomah Books), Jennifer Rothschild describes the physical and spiritual impact of losing her sight as a teenager. During her first lesson with a mobility instructor, he pointed out some blooming hibiscus on the corner near her home. "When you smell the flowers, you know you're almost home," the instructor said.

Rothschild notes that the closer we get to our heavenly home, "any kind of darkness here on earth ... will pale in comparison to the sweet aroma that will usher us into the presence of the One whose face we will clearly see. And when our eyes look into his face, we'll realize that, compared to the surpassing excellence of seeing him, nothing else really mattered."



STEWARDSHIP NEWS

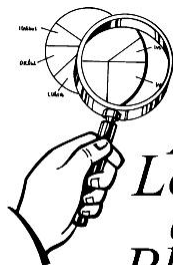
We will be kicking off our yearly pledge campaign soon and we could really use the assistance of some folks that would like to help rejuvenate our Congregation. We have really great folks here, and together, we can do really great things. All it takes is good folks that will get involved. Please help out if you can—a little help goes a long way!

Jim Caronna, Chair
Stewardship Committee

Greetings...

Wasn't it a truly blessed sight to see all the wonderful folks back in Church after the summer months? We certainly pray that the renewed enthusiasm can carry our Church to great places.

We seem to have really taken a hit as far as pledging goes in August. This is really kind of normal; and with the week missing because of the storm adding to this, we did fall a little behind. We're confident that we will be able to catch up on our pledges as soon as possible. We pray that everyone made it through the power outages with minimal losses. When the Church got back on-line relatively early, it started me thinking that it would be great if we had some sort of emergency preparedness plan in place in case folks have needs with which we can help. Wouldn't it be great if we had a shower in the building? It's something to think about in the future anyways.



A Look at Our Pledges:

as of August 30, 2011:

Pledged:	\$70,726.67
Received:	\$59,386.50
Difference:	\$(11,340.17)

84%



We are in Need of Ushers! Do you have an extra half hour before and after worship service? That's all it takes to: set-up (light candles, turn on lights and fans, put up hymn numbers) and clean-up (extinguish candles, turn off lights and fans, close any windows, etc.) Please contact Jim Caronna or any other usher if you can be part of this important ministry!

“Faith, like light, should always be simple and unbending; while love, like warmth, should beam forth on every side and bend to every necessity of our brethren.”

-- Martin Luther



Greetings from the Mission of Wellness

WHEN YOU ARE TOO SICK TO LEAVE THE HOUSE?

In today's fast-paced world, most of us push ourselves to go to work or continue with our busy lives, even when we are sick. However, staying home for even one day at the start of an illness can help you recover faster. So, how can you tell when you should stay home? The following is a list of symptoms that signify that your body needs to rest or that you may be a menace to others if you go out.

- ★ **Fever above 102° F; a fever of 101° F that has lasted more than three days; or a fever that shoots up over 100° F after the third day.**
- ★ **Diarrhea or vomiting**
- ★ **Cough that won't stop**
- ★ **Severe sore throat**
- ★ **Persistent, unexplained rash**

How do you know if you need to see a doctor? If you have a nasty or long lasting rash, it needs to be checked out. If you have a severe sore throat, you need a test for strep throat.

How do you know if you have a cold or the flu? A stuffy nose, sore throat, and cough will be present for both. However, a cold sneaks up on you, while the flu hits you over the head with sudden fever and a headache. Exhaustion, dry cough, and body aches are also signs of the flu. Signs that your cold/flu is turning into pneumonia or bronchitis include coughing up green phlegm, extreme fatigue, and shortness of breath.

How can you get better faster while suffering from a cold or the flu? Remember to rest and drink plenty of water. You can also try saline nose drops and a humidifier to ease congestion. Save cough suppressants for nighttime and put up with the hacking during the day. It's your body's way of getting rid of the mucous in your chest. Stop exercising--even if you feel up to it! Working out taxes your body when it has better things to do--like heal itself. Make sure you get plenty of sleep; eight to ten hours a night can prevent a three- to five-day cold from turning into a seven- to ten-day siege.

What if you must work? Do what you have been doing at home. Take appropriate medicine and drink plenty of fluids. Try not to sneeze or cough on your fellow co-workers. Extend your personal-space bubble to three feet--the outer reach of most sneezes. Remember to wash your hands often in order to avoid spreading germs or picking up new ones.

When can you go back to your usual routine again? It's safe to return to your normal life once you are free of a fever for 24 hours.

The members of the Mission of Wellness hope this message is useful during the cold/flu season. If you have questions about this info., please call Cheryl Letendre, R.N., Parish Nurse, 860-537-6516.

Source: Good Housekeeping Magazine, January, 2005, *Are You Too Sick To Go Out?* By Lisa Goff



Flu shots are available at two Colchester locations: *CVS and Rite Aid*. CVS, 119 South Main St., 860-537-0711, takes appointments or accepts walk-ins. The pharmacy accepts Medicare and other insurances, but bring your insurance card with you. If your insurance does not cover the shot, the cost is \$29.99. CVS is also giving out \$5.00 gift cards with each vaccine. *RiteAid*, 27 Broadway, 860-537-9034, doesn't require an appointment and accepts Medicare and other insurances. Again, bring your insurance card with you. If your insurance does not cover the shot, the cost is \$27.99. This year's Flu Vaccine protects against Influenza A (H3N2), Influenza B, and the H1N1 virus. If you have questions, call Cheryl Letendre, R.N., Parish Nurse (860-537-6516)



Reformation Sunday

Beyond Luther

At this time of year, we hear much about Martin Luther. But many other reformers also had lasting effects on the Christian church. You may want to do more reading about them to learn about their lives and legacies.

John Huss (1369-1415) was a Catholic priest from the Czech Republic. He opposed indulgences and emphasized right living over sacraments. Huss was burned at the stake.

Swiss priest Ulrich Zwingli (1484-1531) was a father of the Reformed tradition. He taught that people should believe and practice only what's in the Bible.

Thomas Cranmer (1489-1556), a contemporary of Luther, played a large role in the English Reformation, leading to the formation of the Anglican/Episcopal tradition. He was burned at the stake.

Menno Simons (1496-1561), founder of the Mennonite Church, taught believers' baptism, nonresistance and symbolic Eucharist.

John Calvin (1509-1564) introduced new forms of liturgy and church government, led the church in Geneva and taught the doctrine of predestination. His work influenced the Reformed and Presbyterian traditions.

George Fox (1624-1691) founded the Society of Friends (Quakers), emphasized the Inner Light of Christ and took frequent missionary journeys.

John Wesley (1703-1791), the founder of Methodism, taught the Armenian doctrine of free will and emphasized sanctification. *Homiletics*

A Perspective on Perils

Martin Luther's wife, Kate, said, "I would never have known the meaning of various Psalms, come to appreciate certain difficulties or known the inner workings of the soul; I would never have understood the practice of the Christian life and work, if God had never brought afflictions to my life."

Martin Luther went one step further, saying, "Oh! His grace and goodness toward us is so immeasurably great, that without great assaults and trials it cannot be understood." *—Homiletics*

The Latin phrase *Ecclesia semper reformanda est*

means "The church is always reforming"; implied is "And that's good!"



Ongoing change and growth are important for individuals, too, but for many of us, change is hard. Use this prayer poem

to embrace positive change, safe in the arms of our unchanging God.

Cradle to grave —
How shall my life flow?
Always the same,
Never daring to grow? Since
GOD is the same, always faithful and near,
I'm free to move forward in spite of my fear. So...
Naming the Lord as my Power through strife, I
Go forth braving newness — in faith and in life!

—Heidi Mann



PLEASE CONSIDER BEING A COLCHESTER CROP WALKER OR SPONSOR!

**HELP US CELEBRATE THE 15TH ANNIVERSARY OF OUR PARTICIPATION IN THIS MEANINGFUL MISSION OPPORTUNITY! BRING YOUR FRIENDS & NEIGHBORS!
CROP Hunger Walk (Communities Responding to Overcome Poverty)**

It is neighbors from different faiths, cultures, and ages walking together to raise awareness and funds for international relief and development, as well as local hunger relief agencies.

25% of all money raised will go to the Colchester Food Bank to help those in our own community

- **The CROP Walk is Sunday, October 16th, 2011. Registration is at 12:30 p.m. at the Colchester Town Hall. The walk will begin at 1:00 p.m.**
- There will be 1 mile, 3 mile, and 5 mile routes, so choose the route that is best for you. You will receive a map when you register.
- All ages are welcome as well as dogs and strollers (no bikes please).
- Pledge forms are available at both worship services and in the church office.

Incentive Program:

- 👣 If you collect over **\$150.00** in pledges, you will earn a **free CROP Walk t-shirt!**
- 👣 If you collect over **\$250.00** in pledges, you may choose a **free CROP Walk cap or tote bag!**
- 👣 If you collect over **\$500.00** in pledges, you will earn all three: **free t-shirt, cap, and tote bag!**

Church World Service is a cooperative ministry of 35 Protestant, Orthodox, and Anglican denominations working to eradicate hunger and poverty – providing sustainable self-help and development, disaster relief, and refugee assistance in some 80 countries (including the USA) .
For more information: www.churchworldservice.org.



If you have any questions, please contact Tracy Bausum (860-537-4550 or tbausum@yahoo.com)

Bad Girls of the Bible Study: Cheryl Caronna will be leading a "Not Your Ordinary" Bible Study on Thursday nights at 7 p.m. in the Church Lounge. Each week's theme is its own study based on a different woman. Each session will be approximately 1 hour to 1 hour and 15 minutes. Under the theme of *Bad Girls of the Bible*, the following Biblical women will be discussed: **Eve:** Willful or Wise; **Lot's Wife:** Homicide or Suicide; **Rebekah:** Deceptive or Direct?; **Tamar:** Parasite or Persistent?; **Delilah:** Enemy or Entrepreneur? and **Jezebel:** Devious or Diva?



There is no required study book, just bring yourself and an open mind.

MINISTRY OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

The year has gotten off to a great start!

Thank you to everyone who has helped with donating items and volunteering time.

Our Third Grade Sunday School Students will be receiving their Bibles on Sunday, October 30, during the 10 a.m. service.

If you would like to become a member of the CE ministry, please see either myself, Laurie O'Neil or Carolyn Marvin. Thank you, *Tori Lankerd*

It's hard to believe, but it's time to think about Christmas already! This year, CFC's Christmas Pageant will be traditional. We are having sign-ups for all children—preschool through high school. Rehearsals will be Sunday, December 11, after the 10 a.m. worship, and Saturday, December 17, from 10 – 11:30 a.m. The Pageant will be held on Sunday, December 18, during the 10 a.m. worship service. Please see Kim Lewis, Lynn Goodwin, or Tori Lankerd for questions or if you would like to sign-up. Thank you!



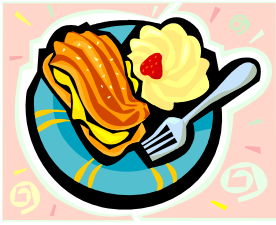
Children's
Christmas Pageant

TRAVEL TO THE HOLY LANDS with Rev. Barnes February 28 to March 8, 2012

Visit Jerusalem, Bethlehem and the Sea of Galilee in this 10 Days of Biblical Discovery tour, starting February 28, 2012. Join Rev. Linda Barnes and Sister Patty Cook as Tour Hosts for this spiritual journey.



Dear Friends, we invite you to join us in the wonder of walking in the footsteps of Jesus in the Holy Land. As your tour hosts and spiritual directors, we feel privileged to work together, as ecumenical partners, in planning this pilgrimage! We both love to encourage others as they grow in faith and community. May this unique opportunity provide a living reflection on your own faith journey, deepening your understanding and experience. Share with us in the learning, love and laughter. Come, join the adventure as the Bible comes alive.



Have a few hours on a Saturday Morning? The members of Mission & Witness committee could use your help at the **St. Vincent De Paul Soup Kitchen** on **Saturday, October 15, and/or November 12, 2011** (and every 2nd Saturday of each month; leave Colchester Federated Church at 7:00 am). We need a total of 5 volunteers each month; **please consider volunteering at least once during the next year.** Sign-up sheets for October (and November 12th too!) are posted by the double doors next to the Jerusalem Room.

Thank you, *Members of Mission & Witness*

Thank you to **Jim and Cheryl Caronna and Mary Howard** for serving breakfast to **St. Vincent DePaul** clients on Saturday, September 10!!!

Adopt a Social Worker Program: The Ministry of Mission and Witness is an active participant in this program, where our social worker contact is based out of Norwich. Occasionally, she has clients that could use some help with furniture and personal items. The items donated by us are picked up by the Social Worker at the church or your home by the social worker. Our Church has participated in this program in the past and donated several items to this worthwhile program. When items are requested, a note will be posted in the Bulletins, *The Crier*, and on the bulletin board located by the double doors. Please speak with us if you need more info. In service with you, Avis H., Joyce M., Cheryl C., Karen W., Pat M. and Rev. Barnes.



The Mission and Witness Committee has received a request from CFC's *Adopt a Social Worker* program to help a local family in need. They are in need of a dresser, twin mattress, dining table and chairs. Maybe you don't have these items but know of a family member or friend who does. Ask around! Any questions, contact Cheryl Anderson Caronna.



We're thankful for you!

- **To all of our "Apple Pickers"** who generously purchased clothing items for children, whose families need the assistance of Colchester's Social Services, and also to those who donated money. Both gestures ensured that the students' return to school was so much nicer!
- **To Donna Wink** for the reams of letter-size copy paper she donated. Much appreciated!

- **To everyone who gives so generously** of their time, talents and income to make this a safe place to worship, share some fellowship, and help others.
- **To all our ministries** whose work we see everywhere we look.
- **To Avis Hull** for taking the food collected on Sundays to the Food Bank, and **to all of our parishioners** who donate the food!
- **To our faithful Sunday counters and to Nancy Knapp** for her weekly trips to the bank.
- **To Dave Hock** who keeps our building clean and secure.
- **To everyone else** who empties trash, checks doors, closes windows, locks up, and generally helps to care for our building and our church family. We appreciate all your efforts and couldn't survive without you!



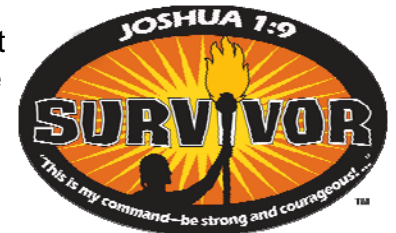
CHILDREN'S CHOIR OPPORTUNITY!

This fall, with the wonderful help of Lynn Goodwin, we have started The Children's Choir!!! The Choir is open for any child, Kindergarten age and up. We will have rehearsals on Sundays (except the first Sunday of each month) after the 10 a.m. service, meeting at the piano in the Sanctuary. It's not too late for your children to come sing! Please join us!

Thanks, *Kim Lewis, CFC Music Director*

Youth Fall Retreat at Camp Wightman

Youth in grades 6-12 and youth leaders are invited to an overnight retreat at Camp Wightman on October 8 – 9, 2011. Connect with old friends and make new ones, share time around the campfire, and don't forget about s'mores! The cost is \$80 per person. On-line registration and a permission form is available in our Church office and online at <http://www.abconn.org>.



If you invite them, they will come...

**EACH 1 FRIEND
BRING 1 RAISING
SUNDAY
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

on November 6, 2011

It's a simple concept that works! How often does a friend tell you that he or she has been waiting for an invitation to your home? In your mind, this person may not need an invitation. You have been to your friend's home often enough. But that person feels the need for an invitation to yours.

Your friends may know what church you attend, and may have heard exciting things about what your church is doing, but they still need you to extend an invitation.

Research suggests that three out of four people attend a church for the first time because they were invited. However, less than two percent of church members will ever invite someone to church. That means there is an abundance of people simply waiting for an invitation . . . from you.

You may have a really unique and inviting church, but it's a "best kept secret." Use the opportunity of Each One Bring One Sunday to showcase the mission of the church and to build relationships.

Churches grow when members extend personal invitations to others. The United Church of Christ has 1.1 million members. If only 10 percent brings a friend to church Nov. 6, 110,000 additional persons will visit a UCC congregation that day — and some will find a church home that day!

The Congregation is invited to attend the installation of the **Rev. Ms. Catriona Grant** as Settled Pastor and Teacher of the Ledyard Congregational Church on Sunday, October 2, at 3 p.m. A reception will follow the ceremony. Ledyard Congregational Church, 722 Colonel Ledyard Hwy (Rt. 117), Ledyard, CT, (860) 464-9926.



We have been invited to celebrate the Ordination of **Mary Horan** to the Christian Ministry on Sunday, October 23rd at 4:00 pm. Everyone is invited to the First Congregational Church, Lebanon to help that Congregation observe this wonderful day

Homeless Awareness Sleep Out

Saturday November 5th to Sunday
November 6th (6pm to 8am)

Stage Room & Church Grounds

Youth in grades 7 through 12th are invited to a sleep out. We will be sharing a soup kitchen dinner, participating in the Hunger 101 Education program, sleeping outside, and sharing breakfast together at the close of the event.

Sponsored by the Ministry of Mission & Witness

Cost of the event is a donation to My Brother's Keepers Sleeping Bag program.

Donations of sweatshirts, ties, and men's personal hygiene items can be made the night of the event.

United Church of Christ Happenings

144th Fall Annual Meeting of the CT Conference of the United Church of Christ

To Be Held on Saturday, October 22
First Congregational Church
122 Broad Street,
Guilford, Connecticut

Meeting Schedule:

8:00 a.m. Registration
8:15 a.m. Hearings
8:45 a.m. Opening Worship
5:00 p.m. Adjourn

The Rev. Charles Wildman, Interim
Conference Minister's address

Conference Minister Search Committee;
Listening Sessions; Plenary & Business
2012 Budget; The Living Waters Award -
Marilyn Graham, Executive Director of HOPE,
Inc. and a member Mystic Congregational
Church; Resolution, Reports and Recognitions;
Mission: 1

<http://www.ctucc.org/annualmeeting/>
For more information contact Sue Wilber,
suew@ctucc.org; (860) 761-7114

Open & Affirming: How to Get There...How to Live into It

**October 1, 2011, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Immanuel Congregational Church, 10 Woodland St., Hartford, CT**

We have been talking about starting the Open and Affirming process in our congregation for some time now. This is a good opportunity to talk with members from other church and get some valuable resources. Let Rev. Barnes know if you are available to go to the event. We'll benefit more if we have a number of folks going.



Workshops center around various issues and concerns for ONA Congregations and their members, including *In Our Shoes*, a project to raise awareness of the problem of bullying in our schools, communities, and on-line.

If you are an Open and Affirming Congregation, talking about Open and Affirming or thinking about it, there will be something here for you and your church. Come be in conversation with others, learn what it means to be Open and Affirming and how to fully express extravagant welcome to all God's children.

Registration \$15 per person including lunch. Register on-line or get a registration form from the Church office. Let Rev. Barnes or Deacon co-chair Jen Clarke know if you are interesting in going.

United Church of Christ Happenings

MISSION 1

Nov. 1-11, 2011... ONE UNITED CHURCH on a shared mission for 11 powerful days to feed the hungry and confront food-related injustice. This is MISSION: 1 !!!

- In 11 days, the United Church of Christ will collect more than 1 MILLION ITEMS OF HEALTHY FOOD and other household items for local food banks and outreach services.
- In 11 days, the United Church of Christ will make an extra-special push to gather online contributions of more than \$111,111 DOLLARS for Neighbors in Need, offerings that will be shared for hunger-action purposes with agencies of justice and compassion throughout the U.S.
- In 11 days, the United Church of Christ will offer more than 11,111 LETTERS to Congress asking our government to reform U.S. foreign assistance in a way that more effectively benefits hungry and poor people worldwide, helping to provide a major final push to *Bread for the World's 2011* "Offering of Letters" campaign.
- DURING THE FIRST 11 DAYS of NOVEMBER, an online tote board at ucc.org will tally our collective count of foodstuffs, donations and letters - information we'll update and celebrate in real time together.
- And throughout the 11 days, the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries will organize church-member delegations to meet with Members of Congress to bring attention to our church's concern about hunger at home and abroad.

<http://ucc.org/mission1>

EQUIPPING THE SAINTS WORKSHOP AT OUR CHURCH, Sunday, Nov. 6 at 2:00 p.m.

The New London Assoc. Ct. Conference, UCC, is having an *Equipping The Saints Workshop* on Sunday, November 6, at 2:00 p.m. at Colchester Federated Church. The three workshops will involve communication, healthy church, and stewardship. This is open to EVERYONE in our church that might have an interest in one or two of these areas. All three workshops will be offered twice that afternoon and will be held in the Sanctuary, Library, Lounge, and Stage Room. Come support this project we are hosting. Let Rev. Barnes or John Sawchuk know if you are available to help.



To everyone who helped make the *Pastor Emeritus* reception for Rev. Dr. Davida Foy Crabtree so successful, many, many thanks! All of the committee members and volunteers worked very hard to make the Celebration for Davida a truly joyous one! Thanks to Rev. Linda Barnes, John Barr, Cheryl and Jim Caronna, Pat Culhane, Deb Howard, Avis Hull, Cheryl Letendre, Barbara McKelvey, Christine Meskill, Jen Mitchell and Mike MacPherson, Karen Monteleone, Renee and Jakob Misbach, Joann Riddell, Dolores Sawchuk, John Sawchuk, Val Sullivan, and Jeannette Tomlinson.

Holly Fair News



It's coming soon--**November 12th** to be exact! We are hoping that all hands have been busy sewing, crocheting, canning, and crafting! We are looking forward to a fun and successful fair this year and with your help, we can be assured that it will be. We not only need donations for the success of the fair but people willing to volunteer on Fair day. If you have worked at the Fair in

the past and would like to again, would like to work with us for the first time, or would like to help set-up, or clean-up, please let Joann Riddell or Nancy Dooley know. We would appreciate any help you can give. Many hands make light work! Thanks in advance for all your time and effort for this worthwhile Women's Fellowship event!

Congratulations to Sara Ofner, who, starting on November 1, 2011, will become Pastor of the Park Congregational Church, UCC, in Norwich, Connecticut. Sara sends her greetings and thanks to the Colchester Federated Church family for her year with us and all she learned here about becoming a pastor.



For times such as these:

You hear it all the time: when you turn on the radio, the television, or even on Facebook, there it is. You certainly see it when you go to the market or to the gas pump. These are rough, difficult times; and the end doesn't seem to be near. The news never seems to be good. But, it is truly where you look and what you choose to hear.

These are exactly the perfect times to get involved in the life of this Church--this community of faith in the heart of Colchester. How better to stretch the dollar than to take part in a potluck or enjoy the fellowship of this Congregation, priceless in more ways than one. Why not invite a friend or neighbor to take part in some of the infectious joy that surrounds us? Where better than Church to hear some good news?

From inter-generational worship to the contagious laughter of the youth, we have it. Opportunities abound here. Do you have an idea? Tell someone; let's help make it a reality! Good things are happening here still. Better things will happen when you get involved. What is your inner voice calling for you to do? Come on...answer it.

On behalf of the Ministry of Gifts and Leadership, *John W. Sawchuk*



“Our hearts are filled with warmth and thanksgiving for the many cards, well wishes and hugs we have received in the past month. We were given a beautiful summer day surrounded by family and friends. To have our wedding in our Church home was a blessing to us. “ Sincerely, Jim and Cheryl Caronna

The members of the Ministry of Church Life are working to update the information in our Church Directory. We haven't been able to contact everyone via telephone; so every Sunday from September 25 – October 30, we'll have a copy of the directory in the Stage Room during Coffee Hour. Please stop by our display, check the information for your family, and make any necessary updates. Thank you in advance for your help.



An Opportunity to Help Others

Save the Date of Friday, December 16, 2011! Colchester Federated Church is sponsoring an American Red Cross Blood Drive in the Gym from 1:30 – 6:30 p.m. You can make an appointment to give blood on-line at www.redcrossblood.org or call 1-800-Red-Cross (1-800-733-2767) to make an appointment and/or find out if you are eligible to give. Contact Cheryl Letendre with questions about the drive or Karen Partington if you would like to volunteer to help at the drive. Thank you and remember, giving blood saves lives!



Check the Bulletin Boards in the Office for other area churches' activities; UCC, Baptist, and community happenings; information about Rev. Linda's 2012 Holy Land trip; and any upcoming events. Please let Susan Skoglund know if you are involved in any church- or community-related activities that you would like posted. Thanks!

Don't forget to e-mail or call the Church Office to sign-up to receive *The Crier* via e-mail every month!



October 2011

		October 2011							November 2011						
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		29	30	31											
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	October 1	October 2	October 3	October 4	October 5	October 6	October 7	October 8	October 9
8:30am Worship Service (Sanctuary) 10:00am Worship Service (Sanctuary)	9:00am Jazzercise (Gym) 10:30am Lectonary Bible Study 4:45pm Jazzercise (Gym)	6:00am Jazzercise (Gym, Babysitting Room) 9:00am Jazzercise (Gym) 10:30am Worship at Apple Rehab 4:00pm Tai Chi (Stage) 5:45pm Jazzercise (Gym)	9:00am Jazzercise (Gym) 10:00am by Brother's Keeper 11:00am Staff Meeting (Office) 4:45pm Jazzercise (Gym) 6:00pm Jazzercise (Gym) More Items...	6:00am Jazzercise (Gym) 9:00am Jazzercise (Gym) 10:00am AA (Library) 6:00pm Jazzercise (Gym) 7:00pm Bible Study (Lounge) More Items...	6:00am Jazzercise (Gym) 9:00am Jazzercise (Gym) 10:00am AA (Library) 6:00pm Jazzercise (Gym) 7:00pm Bible Study (Lounge) More Items...	6:00am Jazzercise (Gym) 9:00am Jazzercise (Gym) 10:00am AA (Library) 6:00pm Jazzercise (Gym) 7:00pm Bible Study (Lounge) More Items...	7:30am Jazzercise (Gym) 8:30am Private Appointment 9:15am AA - Al-Anon Babysitting (Library) 9:15am Al-Anon (Jerusalem) 9:15am AA (Stage Room)	7:30am Jazzercise (Gym) 8:30am Private Appointment 9:15am AA - Al-Anon Babysitting (Library) 9:15am Al-Anon (Jerusalem) 9:15am AA (Stage Room)	7:30am Jazzercise (Gym) 8:30am Private Appointment 9:15am AA - Al-Anon Babysitting (Library) 9:15am Al-Anon (Jerusalem) 9:15am AA (Stage Room)	7:30am Jazzercise (Gym) 8:30am Private Appointment 9:15am AA - Al-Anon Babysitting (Library) 9:15am Al-Anon (Jerusalem) 9:15am AA (Stage Room)	7:30am Jazzercise (Gym) 8:30am Private Appointment 9:15am AA - Al-Anon Babysitting (Library) 9:15am Al-Anon (Jerusalem) 9:15am AA (Stage Room)	7:30am Jazzercise (Gym) 8:30am Private Appointment 9:15am AA - Al-Anon Babysitting (Library) 9:15am Al-Anon (Jerusalem) 9:15am AA (Stage Room)	7:30am Jazzercise (Gym) 8:30am Private Appointment 9:15am AA - Al-Anon Babysitting (Library) 9:15am Al-Anon (Jerusalem) 9:15am AA (Stage Room)	7:30am Jazzercise (Gym) 8:30am Private Appointment 9:15am AA - Al-Anon Babysitting (Library) 9:15am Al-Anon (Jerusalem) 9:15am AA (Stage Room)	7:30am Jazzercise (Gym) 8:30am Private Appointment 9:15am AA - Al-Anon Babysitting (Library) 9:15am Al-Anon (Jerusalem) 9:15am AA (Stage Room)
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