

CHURCH EVENTS FOR THE WEEK

- SUNDAY - January 3**
8:30 **Worship and Communion,**
Rev. Barnes preaching
10:00 **Children's Christmas Pageant Worship**
- MONDAY - January 4**
10:30 **Bible Study (Office)**
7:00 Boy Scouts (Stage/Jerusalem/Gym/Emmaus)
7:30 AA Meeting (Library)
- TUESDAY - January 5**
10:30 **Worship at Liberty Hall**
4:00 **Tai Chi (New session begins Jan 5)**
- WEDNESDAY- January 6**
10:00 **My Brother's Keeper (Jerusalem)**
11:00 **Staff Meeting (Emmaus)**
7:00 **Discipleship (Lounge)**
7:30 AA Step Meeting (Library)
- THURSDAY - January 7**
10:00 AA (Library)
5:00 **Chime Choir**
7:00 **Senior Choir (Sanctuary)**
- FRIDAY - January 8**
- SATURDAY - January 9**
9:00 AA/AI-Anon (Stage/Jerusalem/Library)
- SUNDAY - January 10**
8:30 **Worship, Rev. Barnes preaching**
10:00 **Worship and Communion,**
Rev. Barnes preaching
11:00 **Jr. 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.

Celebration of the Gift and Dedication

Please join us on Sunday, January 17, 2010, as we dedicate our new parking lot and honor the gift bestowed upon us. We will gather outside at 9:50 am (weather permitting) for a ribbon-cutting ceremony and enter our Sanctuary together as a unified body for our special service in memory of Jennifer Neri-Lorette.

In honor of the gift to us, we ask if you are able, to give back to the community by bringing an item for the Colchester Food Bank or a donation for the Colchester Fuel Bank.



Ministry of Church Life

Following the 10 am services, we will host a Pot Luck Brunch in the Stage Room. We look forward to seeing you there.

Annual Financial Meeting January 24th

Our January annual meeting provides the opportunity to review financial information from the preceding year, and to vote on the budget for the current year. This year our annual meeting will be held Sunday January 24th after the 10:00 a.m. worship. It will be accompanied by a pot-luck lunch. An official warning will be in next week's announcements.



WORSHIP AT THE COLCHESTER FEDERATED CHURCH

www.ColchesterFederatedChurch.org Phone 537-5189

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

First Sunday after Christmas

December 27, 2009

8:30 and 10:00 a.m.

PRELUDE

Joan Frantzen

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASSING THE PEACE The peace of Christ be with you

CALL TO WORSHIP Tracy Bausum, Deacon of the Month

Leader: Come let us celebrate together the season of Christmas.

All: O come all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!

Leader: Let us celebrate the infant born in a stable,

All: In a manger, no crib for his bed,

Leader: who grew through childhood, who became a teacher and healer, the one who brought us back to God!

All: Joy to the world the Lord has come!

Leader: Let us celebrate in joy, and showing compassion, kindness, humility, and patience. Let us give thanks to God.

All: We join with all of nature and all God's creatures to sing praises to our generous God.

*OPENING HYMN **Good Christian Friends, Rejoice #28**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: We have promised, O God, to live our lives as faithful followers of Jesus. We have promised to join with all creation in praising you and in bringing your kingdom on earth.

All: Yet we know we don't always keep our promise.

Sometimes, we ignore all that you offer. Sometimes, we hide from our potential and let life happen around us.

Leader: We stop growing and fail to become what you want us to be. Forgive us, God. Inspire us, during this season of joy.

All: Let the light of Christ show us your way that we may live as children of divine love. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: God will always welcome us with open arms when we are truly sorry. God forgives us and wants us to forgive ourselves. God gives us freedom to grow into all that we might be. That is the good news that brings us new life.

All: Praise and thanks be to God.

*GLORIA PATRI

CHILDREN'S TIME (10:00) The Greatest Christmas Song Ever

LITANY OF GROWING AND BECOMING

Leader: Let us join together in a litany of Growing and Becoming

All: We are growing. We are becoming the people of God!

Leader: Jesus was born in Bethlehem away from his home and all that was prepared for his arrival. We are aware that new babies are being born every day, some in refugee camps, some in remote villages, and some in clean, well-staffed hospitals.

Life is happening all around us!

All: We are growing. We are becoming the people of God!

Leader: Christmas has come. We celebrate the blessings of Christmas with family and friends. There are parties and partings, questions and answers, longings and loneliness, hopes for the new year. Life is happening all around us!

All: We are growing. We are becoming the people of God!

Leader: Sometimes in families and communities we have moments of miscommunication. It is important to talk about hurts and misunderstandings, and show love to each other. Life is happening all around us!

All: We are growing. We are becoming the people of God!

Leader: Christ is here! We remember Jesus as a baby, as a boy, as a teacher and healer, and as the one who died and rose again. We know that God calls us too at every stage of our lives to receive the gift of life, and to live in faith, hope, and love. Life is happening all around us!

All: We are growing. We are becoming the people of God!

Leader: As a congregation, sometimes we are larger and sometimes fewer in number, but together we celebrate and seek to grow in God's way. Life is happening all around us!

All: We are growing. We are becoming the people of God!

SCRIPTURE Luke 2:15-20, 25-38 Tracy Bausum

*HYMN **The First Nowell** #56

CHRISTMAS STORIES AND CAROLS Rev. Linda Barnes

CHRISTMAS CAROLS
(We will sing a verse or two of Christmas Carols you request.)

JOYS & CONCERNS

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

CALL TO OFFERING AND OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY *(tune of #591)*
**What can I give Him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
If I were a wise man, I would do my part;
Yet what I can I give Him: Give my heart.**

UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION **Thank you, God of love,
for the promise of this season. We are grateful for the
generosity aroused in us by Christ's coming into the world.
May these gifts represent a spirit of joyous sharing among
us, for the sake of your children everywhere. Amen.**

*HYMN **Go Tell It On the Mountain** #29

BENEDICTION *(Please gather in a circle around the sanctuary
at 10:00 and in the center aisle at 8:30.)* Go now in peace,
growing in the wisdom and strength of Christ. Go now in
expectation, listening for the Good News of Emmanuel, God-with
us. And may the joy of God's blessing be upon us all. Amen.

POSTLUDE Joan Frantzen

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

Colchester Federated Church

Affiliated with the
United Church of Christ and American Baptist Churches
Rev. Dr. Linda U. Barnes, Pastor
Patricia Korenkiewicz, Director of Music



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537-5189

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www.ColchesterFederatedChurch.org

**8:30 and 10:00 a.m. Worship
First Sunday after Christmas
December 27, 2009**

WORSHIP AT THE COLCHESTER FEDERATED CHURCH

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

Second Sunday after Christmas

January 3, 2010

8:30 a.m.

TOLLING OF THE BELLS *Prayerfully prepare for worship.*

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASSING THE PEACE The peace of Christ be with you

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Arise, shine; for your light has come!

People: And the glory of the Lord has risen upon us.

Leader: Lift up your eyes, look around, and see.

People: We see sons and daughters of God, gathering from far and wide.

Leader: Bring your gifts and proclaim God's glory.

People: We bring the gifts of who we are, offered in worship and praise.

*OPENING HYMN **We Three Kings of Orient Are #66**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: Sometimes we respond to you, O God, as we would to a sudden bright light: surprised, a little uncertain, yet drawn to see where it leads. The light of your love draws us to Jesus and the way of life we find in him. Yet we easily turn from your light, nervous of the unknown, uncertain of where you might lead, afraid of what we might see in ourselves. And in turning away we no longer see your light.

All: Forgive us. Give us the courage to turn again to the light of your love, and follow you.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON Be assured that God hears our honest confession. Though we may turn away from God's light, God's love shines always, beckons us always, forgives us always. Once forgiven, we see things in a new way, and new life is ours again.

All: **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

*GLORIA PATRI

SCRIPTURE Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14; Matthew 2:1-12

EPIPHANY MEDITATION

* HYMN **As with Gladness Men of Old #63**

JOYS AND CONCERNS, PRAYER

Creator God, Giver of all blessings, we give you thanks for Jesus, the light of the world, the light that no darkness can overpower. And as we celebrate Epiphany we also acknowledge that for many, the warmth of your light gets blotted out by the shadows of poverty and prejudice, loneliness, and war. Help us to reach out to those in the shadows that your light may shine on all, and fresh hopes and dreams be kindled. We pray for those who struggle with illness or loss of a loved one. Today we pray especially for...

We pray for the leaders in our world, that they will perceive that the source of real power comes from within, and offer their gifts with humility. Give us insight to recognize the epiphanies that await us, as we follow Jesus in the way of self-giving love. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (trespasses)

OFFERING CALL AND OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY *(tune of #591)*

**What can I give Him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
If I were a wise man, I would do my part;
Yet what I can I give Him: Give my heart.**

UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

O God, accept these gifts of our money and our dreams and visions for this new year and for our future. Help us to work together to make them a reality. Make this act of risking to put on paper our hopes and dreams strengthen us. Guide us as we walk into the future together, trusting in your way, and supporting each other. Amen.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Leader: Beloved in Christ, the Gospel tells us that on the first day of the week, Jesus Christ was raised from the dead, appeared to Mary Magdalene, and later sat at table with two of the disciples and was made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

People: **This is the joyful feast of the people of God. Women and men, children and youth, gather about Christ's table.**

Leader: This table is open for all Christians who wish to know the presence of Christ and to all who seek to share in the community of God's people.

COMMUNION HYMN **Let Us Break Bread Together #513**

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION and WORDS OF INSTITUTION

BREAKING OF THE BREAD and SHARING OF THE CUP
(Hold each element, so that we might all partake together.)

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING **Holy One of all our days and years, we give thanks that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Jesus Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ our risen Savior. Amen**

*HYMN **Arise Your Light Has Come #411**

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

POSTLUDE

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

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8:30 a.m.

2010 Pledge Campaign Update

Many thanks to all who have returned their pledge forms and time and talent cards. Your support is very much appreciated! [See next week's bulletin for an accurate update, since we are printing this Dec. 23rd.] The Ministry of Stewardship is compiling the 2010 budget. We are closing in on our goal which would give us a balanced budget for 2010! **We need those who intend on pledging to hand in your pledge sheets this week so we can finalize the budget for the annual meeting.** 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.

Communion Next Week 10:00 a.m. Service

Since we have the children's pageant at the 10:00 a.m. service this week, communion has been scheduled for next week, Jan. 10th for the 10:00 a.m. worship service.

Fun, Planning Evening



Get in your comfy pj's and slippers and join us

WHY: We want to think of ways that we can spiritually "Refuel" For ourselves and for those we nurture

WHEN: Thursday, January 14th, 2010 from 7:00 p.m. ~ 8:30 p.m.

WHERE: lounge of the Colchester Federated Church

Please See Tracy Bausum or Liza Ringuette with Questions or Suggestions



Tom Evans how you would like the notice to read in the bulletin.

Flowers for Worship

If you would like to supply flowers or some other type of decoration for a special occasion or remembrance, please contact Karen Monteleone for January. Also, please advise

Next Adult Study Meeting

The next Living the Questions evening is Wed. January 13 beginning at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Pat and Tom Culhane, 26 Brainard Rd. Colchester. We'll share some food, then watch a thought-inviting DVD session as we continue our discussion on the theological background of our faith. Call Rev. Barnes or Lori Hall if you have any questions or for more information. All are welcome.

***** In Appreciation *****

Ushers today are Mitch & Lori Koziol at 8:30 and Allison Capasso and Steve Bradstreet at 10:00.

THANK YOU to all the children who participated in the pageant and to everyone who helped put it together.