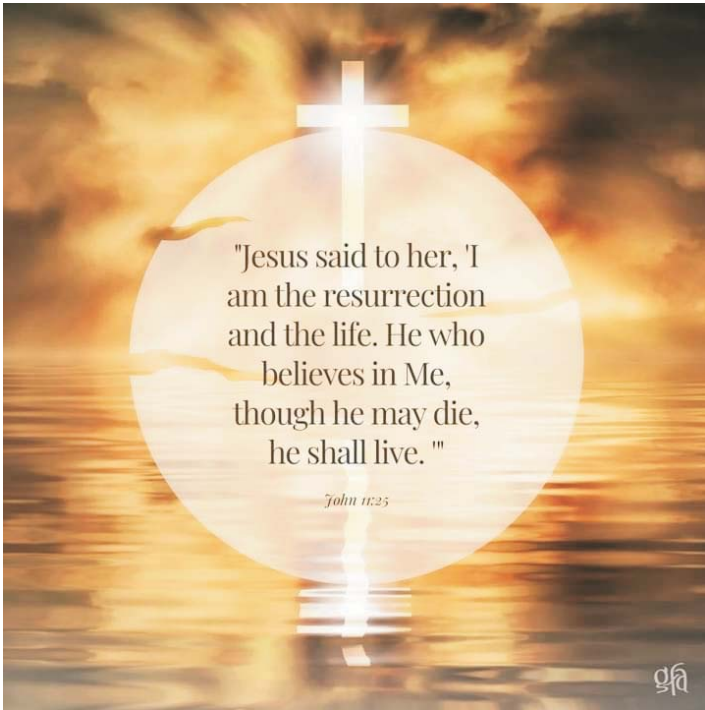




# CHRIST COMMUNITY NEWS

CHRIST COMMUNITY CHURCH IN COLLINSVILLE  
Conservative Congregational Christian Conference

VOLUME 8 #6  
June 2026



## WELCOME TO THE CHRIST COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER!

Here you will find news of events inside and outside of the church, articles, opinions, testimonies and other interesting tidbits to inspire and amuse.

If you would like to contribute a short article, testimony, encouraging word or quote, or an interesting or funny church sign, please speak to or send to Rose Beaudry. Submissions due at least 3 days before the end of the month for next newsletter. Contact info on back page of newsletter.

### From the Pastor . . .

Not long after Easter, I preached a sermon about how Jesus continually reveals Himself to us as believers. And the text was drawn from Luke 24 which featured two discouraged disciples walking the road to Emmaus. Luke tells us that beginning with Moses and working through all the prophets, He showed them how everything pointed to a suffering and risen Messiah. Later that evening when they finally recognized Him, they said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while He talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?" (Luke 24:32)

The great reformers got it right when they declared "sola scriptura" or Scripture alone. This scene in Luke is sola scriptura lived out on a dusty road before anyone gave it a Latin name.

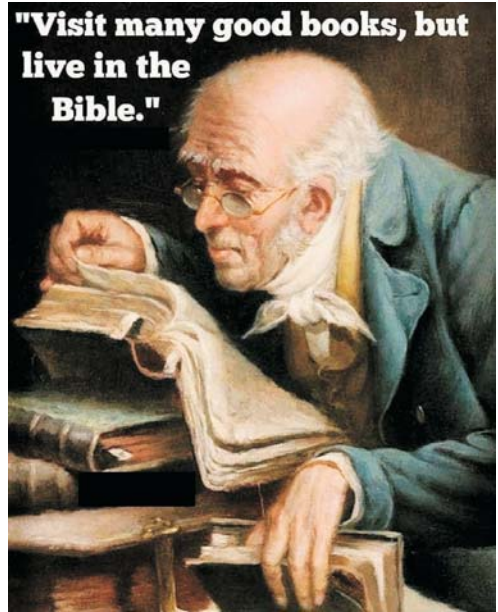
Sola scriptura doesn't mean the Bible is the only book worth reading. It means Scripture is the final authority

for what we believe and how we live. Tradition, experience, the counsel of trusted teachers all have their place. But they must all be tested against the Word of God. When they align with Scripture they can be trusted. When they don't, Scripture wins.

We live in a world full of voices: loud, confident, and often contradictory. Everyone seems certain about everything. It can leave us feeling like those two disciples: confused, discouraged, and not sure what to believe.

The answer hasn't changed. Open the Book. Let Him open it to you. The same Jesus who walked with those disciples on the road to Emmaus walks with you—and His Word still makes hearts burn.

"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." (Psalm 119:105)



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Tomorrow is Sunday.  
When you come, bring all that you are.  
When you come, be yourself without reservation.  
When you come, hold nothing back from the Lord we love and worship.  
When you come, do it not just for the Lord, but for the sake of your brothers and sisters.  
When you come, be prepared to be changed.  
When you come, expect the supernatural.  
When you come, honor and love the Lord with all your heart, soul, mind and strength.

But above all, come!  
~ Loren Sanford



**PASTOR'S ROUNDTABLE RECAP - 5/24**

*(Some items covered separately in this newsletter.)*

- ◆ **TEAMS REALIGNMENT PLAN** - The elders have been discussing it and will present ideas at the June Roundtable on June 28. We will have the summer to discuss it before implementing.
- ◆ **EXALT TEAM:** - Has been discussing the teams realignment.
- ◆ **PROCLAIM TEAM** - Has been discussing door hangers for holiday outreach.
  - Ladies' Lunch may happen later in the year. Too much going on in the spring.
  - Discussed Memorial Day Parade outreach.
  - Farmington Valley Band event sometime in June.
  - Discussing possibility of summer church campout.
  - Discussed pregnancy center.
  - Discussed plans for May 31 baptisms.
- ◆ **MAKE DISCIPLES TEAM** - Has been meeting with Proclaim Team on events.
  - Discussing teams realignment.
  - Issue with the furnace control.
- ◆ **DEACONS TEAM** - Has been working to meet needs of three families.

- Thank you for providing the funds to help people.
- See pg. 5 for Deacons report.

- ◆ **MISSIONS TEAM** - Next Zoom meeting is July 16.
  - The Droma family flew to Romania at the beginning of May, where they will visit with family before flying to Iraq to begin their ministries.

- Robb Storm will be writing about his visit to Chile.
- People in the Dominican Republic were very thankful to receive bibles from one of the missions we support.

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**ORGAN CONCERT**

On Tuesday, June 9 at 7:00 PM, Ted Babbitt will be at the church giving a concert on the organ. Please mark your calendar. Check your bulletin for more information.

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**ANOTHER DEAR BROTHER WENT HOME**

Our dear brother and friend Pat Grace went home to be with the Lord on May 24. Please pray for Dorene and their family. Details about a service for Pat will be confirmed soon.

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**LIVESTREAM COMMENTS VIA PATTY**

Here is a quote we have received (spelling/ punctuation as appeared):

**5/24:**

- ◆ After Pastor Chris' Sermon: Chris, I thank God for this Word He spoke through you. This has been my own personal daily prayer....

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**MEMORIAL DAY PARADE OUTREACH**

Sadly, the parade was cancelled due to the weather.



**SERMON INFO FOR JUNE**

SERMON SERIES: "Greatest Sermons Ever Preached"

June 7: "A Call to Repentance", Acts 3:11-26

June 14: "Jesus is the Messiah", Acts 7:1-53

June 21: "Salvation for All", Acts 10:34-43

June 28: "Jesus Fulfills the Old Testament", Acts 13:16-47

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**BAPTISMS!**

Three people were baptized at CCC on Sunday, May 31. Rafaela Revatta, Braden Aitken, and Harrison Burr each gave a brief testimony before being dunked. Thank you to all that helped with the Baptism. What a glorious sunny day watching the 3 young adults, and hearing their testimonies. Here is the link for the baptism video: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v\\_Sml90YB0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v_Sml90YB0) It's on the church YouTube channel.



Congratulations on your Baptism  
Brayden, Harrison  
and Raphaela

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**DEACONS & GREETERS**

(Thank you for your faithful service!)

**COMMUNION SCHEDULE**

June 7: Victoria DuBois

June 14: Dorene Grace

June 21: Caryn Turek

June 28: Buddy & Debbie Laws



**GREETERS SCHEDULE**

June 7: Rev. Chuck & Nan Schleich

June 14: Dorene Grace

June 21: Buddy & Debbie Laws

June 28: Rev. Chuck & Nan Schleich

**GREETERS NEEDED!**

Debbie Laws is looking for Greeters to join the team. This is a crucial ministry. Greeters are the very first faces that newcomers and current attendees alike will see upon entering our church. Please speak to Debbie if you are interested.

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**COFFEE HOUR UPDATES!**

Starting Sunday, June 7, we are going to a coffee bar. There will be Keurig machines as opposed to the big pot and it will be a self-serve for coffee. We will have 3 machines filled with water, and also pitchers to refill as needed.



This should save some money from having to throw out all the left over coffee each week.

We still need volunteers to help with set up and to bring treats. There is a sign-up sheet in Collins Hall for you to sign up. It's not a big job, and partnering up with someone will make it easier!

As far as the food goes, honestly we're at a loss. We're continuing to look for a simple way to share this responsibility, so it doesn't fall on just a few people. Coffee Hour is something many of us enjoy, and it's at its best when it's a shared effort.



If you're able, please consider signing up to bring a treat. It doesn't have to be a big commitment—you're always welcome to team up with a friend and bring something together. Even small contributions help make this time welcoming for everyone!! ~ Patty Bauer



*Now may the Lord of peace Himself continually grant you peace in every circumstance. ~2 Thessalonians 3:16*



**CANTON FOOD BANK NEEDS**

On the 3rd week of each month we ask that you bring in donations for the Canton Food Bank - to help those in need. Patty has been checking in with them periodically to see what they need, and the flyer in the bulletin has been updated.



going to ask for specific items to help stock up on those items. Thank you for your generosity each month!

**For June, we are asking for:**

- ◆ Canned Tuna ◆ Canned Meat ◆ Pasta
- ◆ Marinara Sauce ◆ Canned Chili
- ◆ 100% Juice ◆ Coffee



**WEEKLY HOUR OF PRAYER**

There is a Prayer Hour at 7:00 PM on Tuesday evenings at CCC. We will meet in the Prayer Room until we outgrow it and move into the Sanctuary. The focus will be prayer for our congregation, its leaders, its ministries, and its mission. Please join us on Tuesday evenings. You may pray silently with us if you don't choose to pray out loud.



meantime, if you need healing prayer, it's always available at the end of Sunday services. You may also call the church office to schedule a time of individual prayer ministry from the prayer team.

**MONTHLY PRAYER MEETING**

Saturday, June 20  
at 10:00 AM in Collins Hall

CCC has a Monthly Prayer Meeting on the third Saturday of each month. We will also prayer walk the church pews after the meeting. All are welcome!

**SERMON DISCUSSION GROUP**



The sermon discussion group meets on Wednesdays at 7:00 PM in Room 4. If you cannot make it to the church, we can set up a Zoom Meeting for you to call in and join us! Just contact the church office to let us know by noon on

Wednesday. All are very welcome!

**MEN'S BIBLE FELLOWSHIP**



This group meets on Saturdays at 9:00 AM in Room 4. All guys are welcome. Bring a friend! Heck, bring two!

**MEN'S DINNER FELLOWSHIP**

At Good Friends Restaurant on Main Street (Rt. 44) New Hartford, CT 06057. (Near the mini mall; formerly 's.) We usually meet the last Thursday of each month at 6:00 PM. All are welcome!



Men's Fellowship



**LITTLE FREE PANTRY**



It's wonderful that we donate to the Canton Food Bank on the 3rd Sunday of every month, but please remember our Little Free Pantry too. It's on the front porch.

If you would like to buy something to keep on hand, please let Laura or Patty know, and we can put it out as needed. Thank you for your generosity to our neighbors in need!

## WAITING

Have you ever noticed that a song is made up of more than just the notes?

We tend to think the important part is the sound. The melody. The chorus. The big moments everyone remembers. But if you took away every pause, every rest, every bit of silence between the notes, the song would become noise. The spaces matter. In fact, the spaces are part of what make the music beautiful.



I think life is a little like that.

Most of us love the "note" seasons. The seasons when prayers are being answered, plans are coming together, doors are opening, and it feels like God is moving in obvious ways. We like the mountaintops. We like the victories. We like the moments where we can clearly point and say, "Look what God is doing."

The hard part comes when God seems quiet.

Maybe you've been praying about something for months. Maybe years. Maybe you are waiting for healing, waiting for direction, waiting for a relationship to mend, waiting for an opportunity, waiting for a prodigal to come home, waiting for an answer that feels like it should have arrived a long time ago. And in that waiting, it can feel as though the music has stopped. But what if it hasn't?

What if the silence is not evidence that God has walked away? What if the pause is actually part of the song?

A composer doesn't put rests into music because they forgot what comes next. They put them there on purpose. Every pause has meaning. Every space creates anticipation. Every moment of silence prepares the listener for what comes after.

Sometimes we treat God as though He has misplaced our file somewhere in heaven. As if Gabriel accidentally slid it behind a cabinet and now everyone is trying to figure out where it went.

"Has anyone seen Erica's prayer request?"

"No, but I found three from 1997 and someone's missing car keys."

That is not how God works.

The God who holds the universe together is not pacing around heaven saying, "Oh dear. I completely forgot about that one."

Isaiah reminds us, "Behold, the Lord's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save, or his ear dull, that it cannot hear" (Isaiah 59:1, ESV).

He hears. He knows. He remembers.

Sometimes the silence is not absence. Sometimes it is preparation.

Think about Joseph sitting in prison. David running from Saul. Abraham waiting for a son. The disciples waiting between the cross and the resurrection. Some of the most important chapters in Scripture happened in what felt like the space between the notes.



The waiting seasons are rarely comfortable. If we're being honest, most of us would prefer God speed things up a little. Or a lot. Or immediately. We like microwave answers. God often seems more interested in crockpot solutions.

But over and over in Scripture, God proves that He is still working when we cannot hear the music.

So if you find yourself in a season that feels quiet, don't assume the song is over. Don't assume God has forgotten you.

Don't assume nothing is happening.

Sometimes the most beautiful part of the music is the space between the notes.

And sometimes, years later, you look back and realize that what felt like silence was actually God holding the entire song together.

~ Farmer Girl on Facebook

## IN MEMORIAM: CAROLYN T. MATTSON 1936-2026

When Kevin and I arrived in Collinsville in 1990 as young brand-newlyweds, Ralph and Carolyn Mattson were already movers and shakers in this church, the Farmington Valley, and beyond. They were wise, intelligent people at the forefront of the formation and early leadership of The Master's School in Simsbury. Ralph, an expert and author in the secular field of "job fit," paired people in our congregation with church positions that fit their natural and spiritual gifts. Carolyn was the



Church Secretary, and she was certainly in the right position. More than just a secretary, she was the Pastor's administrative assistant and part of the Administrative Council. Not much happened at the church that didn't have her fingerprints on it. She was graciously capable and unflappable, and technologically savvy with the tools at her disposal. She used CCC's IBM Selectric typewriter (which she called "the best typewriter God ever made") for a long time before bringing in her own Apple Macintosh desktop computer to modernize the place. For desktop publishing church bulletins and news-letters before the days of computers, electronic documents, and digital images, she kept an alphabetized catalog of four overstuffed three-hole binders containing hard copies of all the quotes and graphics she might need, requiring her to copy, cut out, and tape paper images to original documents before making copies--a royal pain! Even digital images contained on the new CD-ROMs had to be printed out and treated the same way. When she retired after 22 years of service at the church, she left the Mac and its never-say-die HP printer at the church office, and her successor Lisa Allard and I used them for several more years. Later, at Carolyn's request, the church gladly gave her the Selectric typewriter she loved.

Carolyn was a church leader, wife, mother, and experienced disciple, and I looked up to her. When I told her that she represented my gold standard of church secretarial excellence, she seemed genuinely astonished and rather amused. As I matured, I discovered that she was not merely an administrative demigoddess but a real person with problems that I could pray for. For example, her beloved Ralph, one of the most intelligent people I have ever met, became ill with dementia and died. While he was still in the nursing home, I asked how she was holding up. She said that Ralph had simply become "more himself" as the disease progressed and that he was truly joyful every day, for which she was very grateful.

I was pleased to see Carolyn almost weekly this year as she met with two friends at CCC so they could write their life stories together. I'm so happy that Carolyn was engaged in this worthwhile endeavor before she died suddenly on May 15 in a car accident. You don't get to be 90 years old without having something to say, and I'm sure she found many interesting stories about her full and active life once she began looking for them. No one else can tell a story quite like the main character. What a treasure for her family, now that she is gone!

I am so glad to have known Carolyn. She was a great lady, one of the living stones God has used to build CCC.

~ Laura Salch

**DEACON BOARD REPORT FOR MAY 2026**

When life unexpectedly throws a curve ball, a situation may seem overwhelming. What to do first? Where can help be found? Who can be asked for help? And how can this be managed? Transportation, housing, medical, financial or the death of a family member can be emergencies that often need immediate attention. When life seems to come crashing down around a person it can be frightening. People may begin to feel confused, overwhelmed and alone as they try to navigate through these difficulties. Where to start? How to start? "I can't do this by myself!" This is when you may call on \*your Deacon for assistance. Yes, your personal Deacon. Did you know you



have a Deacon? Do you know who your Deacon is? If you don't know who your Deacon is or you would like to have the assistance of a Deacon, please talk with Debbie Laws and she will provide you with the Deacon's Sector List. This list will have the names and phone numbers of the Deacons and listed beneath each name are the names of individuals that Deacon can assist.

The month of May has been a busy month for the Christ Community Church Deacon board. We have provided physical assistance to 4 families. There needs have included but have not been limited to medical, financial, transportation and housing. This has all been made possible with the generous support given by the members of the Christ Community Church. And once again we want to thank you for the difference you have made in the lives of these folks and many more beyond the walls of this church. Yes, these families are members of our church. But did you know that the Deacon board is committed to making a difference in the lives of the individuals and families in the surrounding community? Yes, we offer one-time support to our neighbors and friends who do not attend our church. We are committed to sharing the Gospel and the love of Christ with individuals and families who may not attend our church.

But wait. We not only provide financial and physical assistance; we provide a listening ear, time and space to sit and talk with church family members who may be going through a painful situation. Sometimes a listening ear, a warm hug, a Deacon who will pray with and for an individual is all that is wanted. And we gladly provide that.

Sometimes the help needed is beyond the scope of what the Deacon board can provide. However, each Deacon has a list of programs in CT that can assist with support that the Church is not able to provide. In that case your Deacon will be able to provide you with the names, addresses, phone numbers or emails of the programs in CT that may be able to assist. Just let us know what you need and we will gladly provide whatever assistance is available.

Again we thank the members of Christ Community Church for your continued, loving and generous support that help to make the lives of church family members as well as our neighbors and friends in the wider community who might not attend this church. You have made a difference in the lives. In closing, I'd like to share a portion of a note our Deacon Board received from an individual we were able to assist.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

"We are thankful for the love and support we have received and would like to thank everyone for their kindness" K.  
Thank you all.  
Faithfully in His service.  
The Christ Community Church Deacon Board.

**UPDATE ON THE PEW IN LASALLE MARKET**

Pastor Chris took a picture of everyone praying over the pew before it was given to LaSalle Market. He and Linda P. went over to LaSalle on the day of the grand re-opening. They went and took a couple of pictures, and while they were there, Stacy, the manager, came over and couldn't stop thanking them for the wonderful gift. It was the perfect size to fit where they have it. She told Pastor Chris and Linda that they are getting a plaque made for it, the history blurb that Kathy Taylor wrote will be on display (will be on the phone booth for all to read). She also mentioned something about donations to the church, and Pastor Chris will be sending her a QR code for any that would like to donate!

A week or so later, Patty and Pastor Chris went to have lunch and sat in the pew. Stacy came over again to thank us and let us know that everyone loves the pew. During Open Mic Nights it's the favorite spot and people fight over it. She said that every single person that sees it comments on how cool it is to have it there. As Pastor Chris said during the service a week or so ago, some people don't even know there's a church in Collinsville, so Stacy gives them directions and tells everyone to come see how beautiful it is! The last picture is Pastor Chris and Stacy! Continue to pray that all those that use and see that pew feel led to come visit us on a Sunday morning.



~ Patty Bauer



**EVENTS**

*(NOTE: Please see weekly bulletins and church emails for cancellations or updates to date, time, and/or location.)*

**HOOR OF PRAYER WEEKLY MEETING**

Tuesdays, 7:00 PM at CCC. See pg. 3.

**SERMON DISCUSSION GROUP**

Wednesdays, 7:00 PM in Room 4. See pg. 3.

**MEN'S BIBLE FELLOWSHIP**

Saturdays, 9:00 AM in Room 4. See pg. 3.

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**EXALT TEAM MEETING**

Sunday, June 7, after the Service, in Conference Room.

**ORGAN CONCERT**

Tuesday, June 10, at 7:00 PM in the Sanctuary.

See pg. 2.

**DEACONS MEETING**

Sunday, June 14, after the Service, in Pastor's office.

☞ **MONTHLY PRAYER MEETING** ☞

Saturday, June 20

10:00 AM in Collins Hall. See pg. 3.

**FATHERS' DAY**

Sunday, June 21, all day!



**PROCLAIM TEAM MEETING**

**MAKE DISCIPLES TEAM MEETING**

Sunday, June 21, after the Service, in Room 4.

**MEN'S DINNER FELLOWSHIP**



Men's Fellowship

Thursday, June 25, at 6:00 PM.

See pg. 3.

**PASTOR'S ROUNDTABLE**



Sunday, June 28, after the service, in Collins Hall.



*Celebrating the day God blessed the world with YOU!*

**JUNE BIRTHDAYS**

Robb Storm, June 2

Jay North, June 4

Ryan Lindemayer, June 16

Dan Dickinson, June 23

Hilda Sand, June 27



**JULY BIRTHDAYS**

Gay Markkanen, July 3

Debbie Laws, July 3

Madeline Orcutt, July 8

Saarin Appleton, July 8

Michael Kucharski, July 9

Carolyn Roberge, July 9

Stephanie Griffin, July 16

Marge Van Dusen, July 18

Orion Orcutt, July 25

Sally Griffin, July 25

Birthday blessings to everyone!

Please let me know if your birthday is not on this list or is incorrect and I'll fix it. You don't need to be a CCC member to be celebrated! ~ Rose

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*This newsletter is for the express purpose of informing and edifying the church body. We reserve the right to edit submissions.*  
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**CHRIST COMMUNITY CHURCH**

7 South Street, Collinsville, CT 06019

860 693-6333

Rev. Dr. Chris Bauer, Pastor

[www.christcommunitychurchCT.org](http://www.christcommunitychurchCT.org)

Rose Beaudry, Newsletter Editor

860 482-3234 email [shoshanasam@yahoo.com](mailto:shoshanasam@yahoo.com)



"Harmony is when you find two notes that love one another."