



CHRIST COMMUNITY NEWS

CHRIST COMMUNITY CHURCH IN COLLINSVILLE
Conservative Congregational Christian Conference

VOLUME 8 #5
May 2026



“You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses...”
~ Jesus Christ, Acts 1:8
Pentecost, Sunday
May 24



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 . . .

This year, the National Day of Prayer is Thursday, May 7th and our church is participating in the event by offering a prayer time at the church at Noon and 7:00 PM that day. I would encourage you to come to the church in a time of corporate prayer for our nation.

Of course prayer is not limited to one day a year! We are told to pray without ceasing (1 Thes. 5:17) so prayer should be an ongoing thing in our lives. But let's not lose sight of the awesome opportunity prayer presents to us. The writer of Hebrews writes, "Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need." (Heb. 4:16). What a privilege it is for Christians to pray! When we enter into our time of prayer and follow the Lord's model of the Lord's Prayer, we are literally at His throne. He's not far away like an absentee landlord. He's not so far out of reach that we "hope" He hears us. It's quite the opposite. We are able to enter the throne room of grace and commune with our Abba, Father. Let that sink in before you pray.

We are indeed blessed to be called children of God. We are indeed blessed to have access to God, who created the universe through a word. We are indeed blessed to have been given the gift of salvation through the Lord Jesus Christ. And we are indeed blessed to have the Spirit of Christ dwelling in our hearts.

So dear church, prayer is a privilege. Let us lift our voices together on May 7th and beyond in prayer for our nation, our state, our families, and our church.



GLORIFY GOD
AMONG THE NATIONS

SEEKING HIM
IN ALL GENERATIONS
1 CHRONICLES 16:24 NASB


THURSDAY, MAY 7, 2026

NATIONALDAYOFPRAYER.ORG

75TH
NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

~~~~~ **BAPTISM COMING UP!**

We are going to have a Baptism at CCC on Sunday, May 31. There are 2 people so far that want to be baptized. If you would like to be baptized, please see Pastor Chris!!



We were buried ... with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

ROMANS 6:4 (ESV)

COFFEE HOUR UPDATES!

Since the beginning of the year, we've had a signup sheet available for Coffee Hour. As a reminder, those who sign up didn't need to make the coffee—just help with setup, bring a treat, and assist with cleanup on non-gaming days.

Over the past few months, we haven't had any volunteers sign up, and donations toward supplies have been minimal. We're especially grateful to the two individuals who have continued to make coffee each week, as well as those who have brought treats so the table is not empty—thank you for helping make this time welcoming for everyone.

With that in mind, we'll be transitioning to a coffee bar-style setup. Several churches that Pastor Chris and others have visited at conferences and retreats use this approach successfully. We will have three Keurig machines available, along with pitchers of water, to make it easy for everyone to enjoy coffee.

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



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YOUNG ADULTS MINISTRY



Andrew and Victoria Papacoda are leading this group, which meets one Sunday a month at 3:00 PM at CCC. The next meeting will be on May 17. All young adults are welcome!

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 May, 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, May
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 Collins Hall. **They have just started a new book.** 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!



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!

DEACONS & GREETERS

(Thank you for your faithful service!)

COMMUNION SCHEDULE

- Sunday May 3: Victoria DuBois
- Sunday May 10: Dorene Grace
- Sunday May 17: Caryn Turek
- Sunday May 24: Buddy & Debbie Laws
- Sunday May 31: Buddy & Debbie Laws

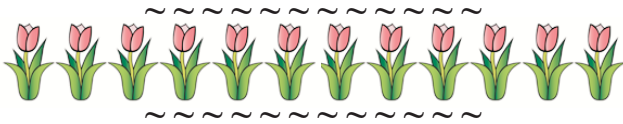


GREETERS SCHEDULE

- Sunday May 3: Dorene Grace
- Sunday May 10: Buddy & Debbie Laws
- Sunday May 17: Rev. Chuck & Nan Schleich
- Sunday May 24: Dorene Grace
- Sunday May 31: Buddy & Debbie Laws

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.



LIVESTREAM COMMENTS VIA PATTY

Here are some quotes we have received (spelling/punctuation as they appeared):

3/29:

- ◆ CHUCK is home:
- ◆ Glad you're back home Chuck. Praise GOD
- ◆ YAY! Good to know that you are home again Chuck
- ◆ Thank you all for your prayers, love and support
- ◆ It's nice to have the lyrics on the screen

After Baruch Haba:

- ◆ Beautiful prayer song
- ◆ End of Sermon:
- ◆ Ephesians 2:14-19. Good Sermon! Amen!
- ◆ I never looked at this psalm this way
- ◆ Truth

Our brother Chris is a blessing to us

- ◆ Have a blessed week...good worshipping, praying, and absorbing the Word of God with you all!
- ◆ Great to be together! May God bless you all.

4/5:

- ◆ Good morning from the Schleich family and Happy Resurrection Day!
- ◆ Good morning brothers and sisters. Hallelujah. He is risen!!

4/12:

During Chuck's testimony:

- ◆ So glad to see you back in church
- ◆ A fall may delay a testimony, but it will not be withheld from God's people. May we all be sensitive to the Holy Spirit and obey His leading
- ◆ Greetings in Old Orchard Beach. Blessed to hear our brother Pastor Chuck's word.

4/19:

At the end of the Sermon:

- ◆ Hallelujah Pastor Chris!
- ◆ It was an amazing thing when he came home - and seeing the changes has been wonderful
- ◆ God is Good
- ◆ AMEN



MEMORIAL DAY PARADE OUTREACH

Monday, May 25. See bulletin for details.



Pastor Chris is working with Kathy Taylor to see about moving our water/handout table on the other end of the green where there are more people. We would also need to find out if LaSalle Market is going to be open and it's okay if we hand out small water bottles and not bother their sales if they are. Pastor Chris will have his truck in the parade again. Hoping to get the Young Adults Ministry to help with manning the table! Check bulletins and emails for details.



GUESS WHO WAS IN A FASHION SHOW?!

Woo-hoo!!! Our very own Saarin recently participated in a fashion show! Becky Mundy provided us with a description of the event and the wonderful organization that presented it:

“The Mandell JCC provides year-round social and recreational programs for adults 18 and over with a wide range of disabilities. Our programs give participants the opportunity to interact with their peers and improve social skills while developing meaningful relationships and having fun.

Programs include activities such as karate, pottery, music therapy, fitness classes, healthy snacks and holiday celebrations. All are welcome to attend our programs regardless of religious affiliation or abilities. Every spring, we have a fundraiser to support our programs to make sure we can keep the cost of attending as low as possible. The fundraiser includes a tea cup auction where local businesses donate items to raffle off and a giant fashion show. Our models are all individuals with special needs who



attend our programs, which shines the spotlight on all of their beautiful spirits and energy! All of our models have access to being dressed by local boutiques (JT Ghamo, Sophia’s Boutique, Body Talk, Bk and Co and Coco Lily) and getting their hair and make-up done by local talented artists. We have a photographer who donates his time to get some amazing pictures, a DJ that donates her time to keep the energy up and Kara Sundlun from WFSB Channel 3 who emcees the event. It is the JCC’s

favorite event of the year and brings joy to everyone who attends! For more information, to volunteer or join our programs, reach out to Becky Munday at bmunday@mandelljcc.org.



SEVEN

There are numbers in the Bible and then there is seven. Seven is not just casually sprinkled through Scripture like God was randomly assigning holy math homework. No, seven shows up so often that eventually you start realizing this is not coincidence. This is divine emphasis. This is God, in the most dramatic and orderly way possible, essentially underlining things across generations. If three often carries the weight of divine significance, seven is the number that practically walks into the room wearing a crown and carrying a clipboard labeled “completion, perfection, and God absolutely finishing what He started.”

It starts right at creation, because of course it does. God created the heavens and the earth in six days, then rested on the seventh. Not because the Creator of the universe was out here saying, “Wow, that light-dark separation really took it out of

Me,” but because He established a pattern of fullness and completion. The seventh day was holy. Set apart. A divine pause. From the very structure of time itself, seven became tied to wholeness. Which honestly is impressive, because most of us cannot even successfully complete a weekly planner without forgetting at least three things and questioning all our life choices by Wednesday.

And then seven just keeps showing up everywhere. Noah brought animals onto the ark in sevens. Jacob worked seven years for Rachel, got unexpectedly switched to Leah in what remains one of history’s most aggressively uncomfortable family situations, then worked another seven years. Joseph interpreted Pharaoh’s dream of seven fat cows and seven skinny cows, which basically became the ancient Egyptian version of “prepare now because life is about to get weird.” Jericho’s walls? Seven priests. Seven trumpets. Seven days of marching. Seven laps on the seventh day. Which, from a purely human military standpoint, sounds absolutely ridiculous. Imagine being the soldier getting that battle briefing.

“Alright men, here’s the strategy. We walk.”

“For how long?”

“A week.”

“And then?”

“More walking. With trumpets.”

“And this will work?”

“Apparently the walls explode.”



It sounds unhinged until the walls actually come down, which is honestly a pretty solid reminder that God’s methods do not require human approval to be effective.

Then there is the menorah with seven lamps. Seven feasts of Israel. Every seventh year the land itself got a Sabbath rest. After seven cycles of seven years came Jubilee, where debts were forgiven, freedom was proclaimed, and everything reset. God literally built rhythms of restoration, mercy, and reset into His people’s lives. Which, frankly, sounds amazing, because most of us could use a Jubilee year after one mildly inconvenient Tuesday.

And then Revelation arrives and essentially takes the number seven and cranks it to full volume. Seven churches. Seven stars. Seven lampstands. Seven seals. Seven trumpets. Seven bowls. At this point, if you are not noticing a pattern, I am not sure what to tell you. Revelation reads like God looked at symbolic perfection and said, “Yes, more.”

Why does this matter? Because seven is the constant reminder that God completes what He begins. His plans are not half-built barns with missing screws and one suspiciously crooked beam. He does not abandon the project halfway through because things got difficult. His purposes are whole. His timing is perfect. His sovereignty is complete.

And that matters deeply when our lives feel anything but complete.

Because sometimes life feels less like divine perfection and more like trying to carry an armful of feed buckets while one breaks, your coffee spills, and someone asks if you have a five year plan. We live in a world of uncertainty, grief, set-backs, and chapters that often feel unfinished. But seven reminds us that God is not confused by the chaos. He is not scrambling. He is not revising His plans because humanity made things complicated.

He is still the God of completion.

So if your life currently feels like loose ends, unanswered questions, and somewhere around chapter four of what appears to be an emotionally exhausting plotline, remember this. God writes in sevens. He finishes things. He completes what He starts. The same God who structured creation, kingdoms, prophecy, and redemption with intentional perfection is not about to lose track of your story. ~ Farmer Girl of Facebook



WHAT I WISH I HAD SAID

Many years ago, I overheard two comments about prayer that stuck with me. At the time, I didn't reply to either person. That's probably just as well; they were angry, and I was less mature than I am now, so the outcome couldn't have been optimal. But what if I could reply to them now?

- A church (not ours) called its parishioners to come and pray together about some important matter. "Why should I make a special trip to church just to pray?" one person fumed. "I can pray perfectly well by myself in my own home!"

To be sure, a lot of spiritual growth happens when we are alone with God, communing with Him privately, so personal prayer ought to happen often. However, personal prayer is not a substitute for corporate prayer, and corporate prayer is no substitute for personal prayer, either. Each drives the other, just as two legs make it easier to walk.

Praying in concert with other believers enhances and expands my prayer life because they are inspired and gifted by the Holy Spirit in ways I am not. They have different prayer styles, experiences and approaches. Some of them have deep understanding of the Scriptures as well as expert knowledge regarding issues we're praying about. We are meant to spur one another on to love and good deeds, sharing one another's gifts, and a good prayer meeting can be compared to popcorn popping: one person prays for something, which sparks related prayer from someone else, and so on. It's exciting to see God work through us this way, and God Himself seems to like it (Malachi 3). I am grateful to the mentors God supplied who prayed patiently with me (and for me) for years. They taught me to pray "on the job" in ways I might never have discovered by myself, or at least not as quickly. God has good reasons for insisting that we not neglect the gathering of ourselves together (Hebrews 10:25). If done well, it results in discipleship. Modern technology creates many more options for us to pray together conveniently without leaving home: in the middle of the night or early in the morning; on breaks at work; after children have been put to bed; while sick at home; from hospital rooms; or with brothers and sisters around the globe. I'm grateful for technology, and I have spent countless hours praying remotely since 2020. I believe the Lord hears our prayers and accepts our worship either way. But I'll never give up praying with others in person if I can help it. It's a creative act of God every time, well worth the inconvenience of putting on pants and driving to church to answer the call to prayer.

- A visitor to our church passed a poster in the hallway about praying for the persecuted church and burst out, "That makes me so angry! Why not pray for everyone?"

The body of Christ is called to partner with God as He works to save, heal, deliver, and reconcile the world to Himself. It's important for as many people as possible to receive prayer; we don't want anyone to fall through the cracks, and I assume that's what this person meant. But God knows that humans are limited in scope and energy. Asking people to care about everything and everyone at once produces very little fruit. God doesn't do that for the same reason that very few soldiers are armed with shotguns. Instead, He gives us rifles: prayer



assignments like military orders, with specific targets and goals, informed by the Bible. In my experience, engaging in prayer for others on a regular basis requires faithfulness and endurance, fueled by a passion (the good kind). Addressing a multiplicity of needs simultaneously causes our passion and direction to falter--a well-known human failing called "compassion fatigue." So, some assignments are Scriptural and apply to all believers, such as praying for our persecuted brothers and sisters (Hebrews 13:3). The personal assignments I get are usually in line with my own gifts and interests, and I'm guessing yours are, too. My enduring interests include Israel and the Jewish people, family, friends, missionaries, and, yes, the persecuted church. Sometimes I receive temporary assignments, as I did during COVID-19 (a crucible of prayer, as many crises are). I used to know someone who was called specifically to pray for France. I'm not, so that tells me I don't need to do it all. God's in control, not me, and I can trust that He is covering the needs of the world through our faithful prayers. That's why it matters that every Christian prays. Every Christian is called to intercede, and you and I have specific assignments to complete.



Pray for America

It doesn't take a political scientist to see that the USA at 250 has serious issues, and I believe that its citizens are called to do something about it. In the month of May, we have three big opportunities to pray together: National Day of Prayer on May 7, America Prays on May 17, and New England Prayer Walk on May 30. Let's have mercy on the people all around us who are visibly struggling to get through life and current events without the peace and joy Christ gives. It's hard enough for those of us who have them, amen? Let's fast and pray for our nation as we never have before: together, with the specific, purposeful prayers that God gives us.

"Of all the dispositions and habits which lead to political prosperity, religion and morality are indispensable supports. In vain would that man claim the tribute of patriotism who should labor to subvert these great pillars of human happiness, these firmest props of the duties of men and citizens." ~ George Washington, Farewell Address

~ Laura Salch

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**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 Collins Hall. See pg. 3.

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EXALT TEAM MEETING

Sunday, May 3, after the Service, in Conference Room.

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER



Thursday, May 7, at 12:00 NOON & 7:00 PM, in Sanctuary. See pg. 1.

MOTHERS' DAY



Sunday, May 10, ALL DAY!

DEACONS MEETING

Sunday, May 10, after the Service, in Pastor's office.

MONTHLY PRAYER MEETING

Saturday, May 16
10:00 AM in Collins Hall. See pg. 3.

PROCLAIM TEAM MEETING

MAKE DISCIPLES TEAM MEETING

Sunday, May 17, after the Service, in Room 4.

YOUNG ADULTS MINISTRY

Sunday, May 17, at 3:00 PM at CCC. See pg. 3.

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER, FASTING, & HUMILIATION

Sunday, May 17, all day. See pg. 2.



PENTECOST SUNDAY

Sunday, May 24
Come, Holy Spirit!



PASTOR'S ROUNDTABLE



Sunday, May 24, after the service, in Collins Hall.

MEN'S DINNER FELLOWSHIP



Thursday, May 28, at 6:00 PM.
See pg. 3.

**MEMORIAL DAY PARADE
WATER BOTTLE OUTREACH**



Monday, May 25. Check bulletins and CCC emails for details.

BAPTISM SERVICE



Sunday, May 31, after the service. See pg. 1.

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

**MAY BIRTHDAYS**

- Shirley Zimmerman, May 1
- Buddy Laws, May 2
- Laurie Crowley, May 5
- Marylou Dickinson, May 6
- Victoria Dubois, May 16
- Ray VanVleit, May 18
- Bob Dubois, May 19
- Diana Appleton, May 23
- Joe D'Amico, May 26



**JUNE BIRTHDAYS**

- Robb Storm, June 2
- Jay North, June 4
- Ryan Lindemayer, June 16
- Dan Dickinson, June 23
- Hilda Sand, June 27

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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