



CHRIST COMMUNITY NEWS



CHRIST COMMUNITY CHURCH IN COLLINSVILLE
Conservative Congregational Christian Conference

VOLUME 6 #1
January 2024



WELCOME TO THE CHRIST COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER!

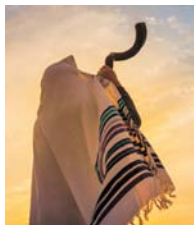
Here you will find news of events inside and outside of the church, articles, opinions, testimonies and other interesting tidbits to inspire and amuse.

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 . . .

A new year brings with it an opportunity to start over with a blank slate. Don't we wish that was truly the case? Financial and health issues never seem to get a fresh start on January 1. But, we still make resolutions to improve some part of our lives whether it be dietary or exercise or improving relationships or what have you. Some even embark on a Bible reading plan that, if diligently followed, can last the entire year. And, by the way, your pastor strongly encourages you to do that! Usually, however, most resolutions are broken before the end of January. Maybe a few make it to February.

I am drawn to the Festival of Trumpets feast—Rosh Hashanah—which is the annual festival in Numbers and



Leviticus prescribed by God to inaugurate a new year. It starts with the blowing of the shofar horn and is followed by a number of offerings that are above and beyond the regular offerings. Included in this is a sin-offering of a male goat "to make atonement for you" (Num 29:5). One

of the traditional greetings for this day among our Jewish friends "Shanah Tovah" which means "good year." But it's actually short for the phrase "L'Shanah Tovah Tikatevu" which means "may you be inscribed (in the book of life) for a good year."

There are a few elements of that feast that we see associated with Jesus. First, we know that Jesus gave Himself as the perfect offering for our atonement. Second, on the day of His return, we will hear a great trumpet blast. Also, on the day of His return, He will open the book of life and those whose names are written in it will receive eternal life. This should greatly encourage us!

What does this mean for us today? As we enter a new year, follow the lead of the Feast of Trumpets and reflect on how Jesus has atoned for your sin. Meditate on how He gave Himself for you and now, because of your faith in Him, your name is written in the book of life. And then allow that to bless you and lead you into a year that will be marked with more fervent worship and deeper faith in Him, your Lord and Savior. And also, don't forget to read your Bible!



DAY OF BLESSING PRAYER



Saturday afternoon on January 20 from 1:00-4:00 PM. Meet in Collins Hall, then go to assigned prayer location. There's a sign-up sheet on the back table in Collins Hall. Sign up for 20 minutes of confidential prayer for your 2024 needs and those of your family by a prayer team of 2. All are welcome to participate!

ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, January 28 following the service. (This will be the January Pastor's Roundtable.) **If you have something to put in the annual report, please start working on it now and get it to Laura by Monday, January 15.** Digitally typed is the most helpful format.

Every CCC member should plan to attend. Non-members are very welcome to attend also! (Only members may vote on any issues that need a decision.)



PASTOR'S ROUNDTABLE RECAP - 12/31

(Some items covered separately in this newsletter.)

- ♦ **FINANCES** - November income \$15,400; expenses \$10,100. November ending balance \$65,450.
 - Organ fund balance \$11,000.
 - Investment account \$241,000 at November end.
 - Missions account \$2,100.
 - Deacons fund \$2,300+.
 - We received a \$200 donation from the Collinsville Caroling and Christmas Tree Lighting evening.
- ♦ **HOLIDAY THANKS** - Thanks to all who worked to make our Christmas celebration happen!
2 Christmas Eve services:
 - Laura made 2 bulletins and sets of lyrics.
 - Worship team provided beautiful music for both services.
 - The "angels in the balcony" organists blessed us twice.
 - The tech team had double duty.
 - 2 coffee hours provided food and fellowship.
- ♦ **UPCOMING EVENTS** - Check Sunday bulletins and CCC emails for more info on these as the times get closer! Also see last page for January schedule.
 - 1/2: Bob Stacy celebration of life
 - 1/7: Bring holiday decorations boxes from schoolhouse
 - 1/13: Undecorate the church (See pg. 3)
 - 1/20: Monthly prayer meeting
 - 1/20: Day of Blessing Prayer (See pg. 1)
 - 1/27: Butter Bar class with Debbie Laws
 - 1/28: Annual Meeting (See pg. 1)
- ♦ **GROUPS RESUMING** - The Women's bible study and the "What Was He Talking About?" group are both resuming on 1/10. All are welcome. See pg. 3.
- ♦ **EXALT TEAM** - Elder Sepp Markkanen said the next meeting is on 1/7, to seek the Lord for what He has in mind next.
 - All are welcome to join the team. It's a great team with lots of fun in the meetings.
- ♦ **MAKE DISCIPLES TEAM** - Elder Bob DuBois said they will be concentrating on baptism and Christian Education.
 - Women seem better than men at Bible study.
 - The separate groups are working well.
 - Online service attendance is up 5%.
 - Laura is working with the police department. In the monthly prayer meeting, we always pray for the police. We're working to bring Leo, the new police dog, here to bless him and understand his role.
 - The monthly prayer meeting is a blessed time; you always leave feeling great.
 - We still want to bring the Gideons here for training in making disciples outreach.
 - If you know anyone who wants to be baptized, start talking to them about it now so they can be prepared for when the warmer weather arrives.
- ♦ **PROCLAIM TEAM** - Elder Dan Dickinson said we just finished a very busy time, including arranging the Advent Breakfast.
 - Next meeting is on 1/21 when we will begin planning Easter season events and beyond.
 - Thanks for attending events, especially public ones.
- ♦ **DEACONS TEAM** - Meetings have been moved to the second Sunday of the month.
 - In 2023 we helped 7 families or individuals with a variety of assistance.

- We are very grateful for your support and generosity.
- ♦ **MISSIONS TEAM** - The next meeting will be soon. We will be working on choosing missions to support.
 - We will probably start doing Missions envelopes.
- ♦ **DAY OF BLESSING PRAYER** - Linda Kulick said to expect a call about it!
- ♦ **GREETINGS FROM PHIL HANSON!** - Patty said Phil watches our livestream every Sunday. He sends a Hello and Happy New Year!



TEXT MESSAGING PROCESS HAS STARTED

Patty started the text messaging process in October. By now everyone that has a cell phone on record (even unlisted numbers) should have received a message that said: "Would you like to receive text messages from Christ Community Church in Collinsville? To accept text type START or to end type STOP."

If you want to receive text messages, which will be used for church emergencies only (cancellations, etc.), you need to reply to THAT Text with the word 'START.'

Once you reply to the message with START - you will receive a confirmation text that says: "You can now receive text messages from +18606936333. To end reply STOP."

PLEASE don't reply with STOP - because if you do that, you won't receive text messages.

The text messages will be coming from the church phone number. If you did NOT receive a text from 860-693-6333 - please let Patty know and she can resend the text message.

WINTER - EMAIL / TEXT



With it being winter, please be a little more diligent with checking your email and phone for text - especially if it calls for bad weather. Along with the usual ways (WIHS and TV - see Laura's information in the bulletin and on back page of newsletter), we will also be sending emails and texts if there is any cancellation of services due to the weather. If you haven't been receiving our emails or didn't receive an initial text, let Patty or Laura Salch know so your information can be updated.

~ Patty Bauer





COFFEE VOLUNTEERS

Thanks to all who volunteer to do the coffee service on Sunday mornings. We love you lots! **And we need more of you!!!** (Sign up sheet is in Collins Hall near the kitchen. There are openings in November and December.) PRO TIP: Men can do this too! Ask and someone will show you how.



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MONTHLY PRAYER MEETING

 Saturday, January 20 
at 9:30 AM in Collins Hall

CCC has a Monthly Prayer Meeting on the third Saturday of each month, and it has been a blessed time with the Lord. We'll begin at 9:30 AM, and all are welcome!

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BIBLE READING PLAN

A full 2024 Topical Bible Reading Plan is available in the Lobby / Narthex on the right-hand table, ready to help you start the new year with life-giving Bible engagement. It's different than the one we offered last year - check it out! ~ Laura Salch



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CHRISTMAS UN-DECORATION MOBILIZATION



January 7 after the service: Help bring boxes and containers over from the Schoolhouse to Collins Hall.
Saturday, January 13 at 10:00 AM: Un-decorating and storing all the decorations.

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“OUR DAILY BREAD” DEVOTIONALS

The new regular-size print and large-size print booklets are available for free in the Lobby / Narthex and on the “Free Table” in Collins Hall. Take them for yourself, friends, and family members.

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DEACONS & GREETERS

For the month of January, here are the Deacons setting up Communion:

- Sunday January 7, Buddy & Debbie Laws
- Sunday January 14, Victoria DuBois
- Sunday January 21, Pat & Dorene Grace
- Sunday January 28, Caryn Turek



Greeter Schedule for January:

- Sunday January 7, Buddy & Debbie Laws
- Sunday January 14, Pat & Dorene Grace
- Sunday January 21, Sepp Markkanen
- Sunday January 28, Rev. Chuck & Nan Schleich

2024 GREETERS TEAM - YOU'RE INVITED!

Debbie Laws is looking for Greeters to join the team. It's not a difficult job, but there are a few simple guidelines to follow to make our guests feel welcome and included. Please speak to Debbie if interested. We hope to have enough Greeters that each Team only needs to be available once a month.

HEALING PRAYER MEETINGS

*****Taking a break until January 30!*****

Healing Prayer meetings will resume at Buddy & Debbie Laws' house on Tuesday January 30 from 7 - 8:30 PM. *Please let Debbie or Buddy know if you are coming.* You can also send Debbie a note through FB Messenger if you are on Facebook, or email wallace.laws.jr@gmail.com or lawsdebbie81@gmail.com.



You are invited to join us beforehand at 6:30 PM when we gather to enjoy some light healthy snacks. It is our sincere hope that anyone who is in need of encouragement, hope, and prayer for yourself or your loved ones will come and allow us to minister to you.

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MEN'S DINNER FELLOWSHIP



Men's Fellowship

At Michel Angelo's Pizzeria Restaurant & Lounge, 256 Main Street (Rt. 44) New Hartford, CT 06057. We usually meet the last Thursday of each month at 6:00 PM. All are welcome!

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“WHAT WAS HE TALKING ABOUT?”

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!



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WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

This group will begin again on Wednesday, January 10. from 1:00 PM- 2:15 PM in Collins Hall. We will be studying the Gospel of Mark with a study guide. If you would like to join us, please let me know so that we have enough study guides. We expect to talk through this scripture of our Lord Jesus's human life before Palm Sunday.



The study guide we will be using is by Warren W. Wiersby. For more information, contact Linda Papertsian at lrkpaper@gmail.com or 860-796-5643 if you are interested or need a study guide.

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CHURCH DIRECTORY UPDATE

We're hoping to print updated copies soon. Please check your entry in the sample we printed out, which is on the sign-up table in Collins Hall. Make any corrections with the red pen provided. Watch for transpositions, misspellings, etc. Thanks!

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YAY FOR THE NEW HANDRAIL!

Thanks to the Building Team, particularly Andrew Papacoda, for the new handrail running the full length of the handicapped ramp at the rear of the Education Wing. This creates a safer access for all who use the ramp.





MORE THAN WEEDS CLASS #3: "BUTTER BAR"

On Saturday, January 27 at 10:00 AM in Collins Hall, Debbie Laws will hold her third herbal class. She will show us how to make a "butter bar" to soothe and moisturize cracked and bleeding skin. Please sign up in Collins Hall by January 21 so that Debbie will know how much material to prepare. All are welcome.

ANNUAL GIVING STATEMENTS

Annual giving statements are scheduled to be emailed out on Saturday, January 27, for those that have email. *Please let Rex or Patty know before Wednesday, January 17 if you would like to have your statement printed out*, so it can be printed and given to you on Sunday, January 28. Thanks!

OFFERING ENVELOPES FOR 2024



Envelopes help people stay current with their giving and it helps us keep track. That way, when it's tax season, you can receive the greatest benefit from giving to our church. *All records are confidential.* If you want

Offering Envelopes for 2024, speak to Laura Salch. Also, if you put your offering (cash or check) in a different sort of envelope, please put your name on it, along with where you want your donation to go (general fund, Missions, Deacons, etc. If you put it in a Deacons Fund envelope and don't mark it otherwise, that's where it will go.

Finally, electronic giving is available on our website - look directly under the "Church" in our name for "Online Giving", or ask Patty Bauer for details or a short tutorial.

JOIN THE TECHNOLOGY TEAM!



You're invited! Important? Absolutely! Just ask our online "regulars", or anyone who wants to hear what is said at a meeting. This Team enables remote / hands-free worship; audio / visual enrichment, remote attendance at important meetings; memorial service slideshows; and more. You don't need much experience for most jobs (none at all for the easiest ones), and we'll train you. You just need to be able to follow the bulletin and push buttons for the slides, watch the camera feeds, switch between the cameras. and listen for the sound for the recording / livestream. Inquire at the Church Office.



SPECIAL THANKS

TO LAURA SALCH AND PATTY BAUER!

A huge THANK YOU to Laura for all her hard work in putting together the weekly bulletins, without which we'd all be discombobulated and I'd have a lot less to include in the newsletter!



And the same to Patty for her unending labors in providing information and keeping us on track. An abnormally high amount of this January newsletter is directly attributable to these two office and tech angels!

~Rose Baudry



CHRISTMAS EVE

80 folks came to our beautiful Christmas Eve Candles and Carols service.

~Photo by Patty Bauer

LITTLE FREE PANTRY



Canned goods, as well as various edible or potable liquids, can freeze in cold weather. This can be a food safety hazard, making people ill under certain conditions. PLEASE limit food donations in the LFP to items that will remain safe to consume after freezing, such as dry foods. Thank you for your generosity to our neighbors in need!

CANTON FOOD BANK NEEDS

"And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work."

~ 2 Corinthians 9:8 (NIV)



FEED THE HUNGRY

Please bring your donations to church, and we will pray over the food and deliver it to the food bank.

The need is for nutritious, non-perishable food items such as:

- Breakfast cereal ♦ Peanut butter ♦ Jelly
- Canned fruit ♦ Bottled juice
- Small boxes of sugar ♦ Coffee & tea
- Canned tuna ♦ Macaroni & cheese
- Soup ♦ Canned vegetables
- Pasta sauce ♦ Canned pasta (ex., Chef Boyardee)
- Canned meat (ex., Beef stew)
- Low salt and sugar free items

We cannot accept any food item that is past its expiration or "best by" date. Thank you!

EVENTS

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

HEALING PRAYER WEEKLY MEETING

Tuesdays, 7:00 PM at Debbie & Buddy Laws' home.
*** On break until January 30*** See pg. 3.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY



Wednesdays at 1:00 PM, in Collins Hall,
starting January 10. See pg. 3.

"WHAT WAS HE TALKING ABOUT?"



Sermon discussion meeting - At CCC or via ZOOM
Wednesdays, 7:00 PM, starting January 10. See pg. 3.



EXALT TEAM MEETING

Sunday, January 7, after the service, in Conf. Room.

UNDECORATING THE CHURCH



Saturday, January 13, 10:00 AM, meet in Collins Hall

DEACONS MEETING

Sunday, January 14 after the service, in Room 4.

MAKE DISCIPLES TEAM MEETING

Sunday, January 14 after the service, in Conf. Room.

MONTHLY PRAYER MEETING

Saturday, January 20
9:30 AM in Collins Hall. See pg. 3.

DAY OF BLESSING PRAYER



Saturday, January 20, 1:00 - 4:00 PM,
meet in Collins Hall. See pg. 1.

MEN'S DINNER FELLOWSHIP



Thursday, January 25, 6:00 PM. See pg. 3

"MORE THAN WEEDS" BUTTER BAR CLASS

Saturday, January 27, 10:00 AM. in Collins Hall.
See pg. 4.

ANNUAL MEETING

ANNUAL MEETING

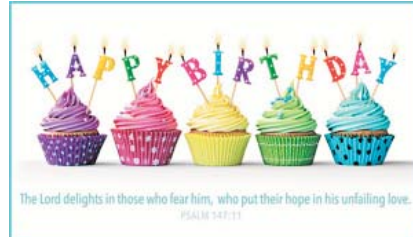
Sunday, January 28 after the service.



Celebrating the day God blessed the world with YOU!

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- Cheryl Scholes, January 3
- Patty Bauer, January 6
- Dorene Grace, January 11
- Victoria Pappacoda, January 26
- Gabrielle Clark, January 27
- Jonathan Salch, January 28
- Paula Murphy, January 29
- Patricia Parris, January 30



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- Pat Mahnensmith, February 4
- Ken Roberge, February 10
- Pat Grace, February 18
- Isaac Clark, February 23
- Victoria Arel, February 25
- Linda Papertsian February 29

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



This newsletter is for the express purpose informing and edifying the church body.

We reserve the right to edit submissions.



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In case we need to cancel services or events at CCC, due to inclement weather or other wise, please check:
CCC BULK TEXT: If we have your cell number.

FACEBOOK: Christ Community Church CT
CCC WEBSITE: www.christcommunitychurchct.org
WTIC-AM Radio: 1080 on the AM dial.

You can also check online at wtic.radio.com/storm-center-school-closings

WFSB-TV, channels 3 and 30: The information scrolls continuously at the bottom of the screen.

You can also check online: www.wfsb.com/weather/closings/
Please do not call Pastor Chris or Patty Bauer at home to check on possible cancellations!