

# THE CRIER

A PUBLICATION OF COLCHESTER FEDERATED CHURCH

## A Note From Pastor Lauren



## SABBATICAL

REST IN PROGRESS!

July 1 - October 1

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### Ministers:

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

### Staff:

Rev. Lauren L. Ostrout, *Pastor*  
 Kimberly Lewis, *Music Director*  
 Nicole Hosford, *Office Manager & Christian Education Director*  
 Tom St. Louis, *Treasurer*  
 Dave Hock, *Custodian*

Colchester Federated Church  
 60 Main St., Colchester, CT.  
 06415  
 Office Hours M-F 9 AM—1 PM  
 Phone (860)537-5189  
 Email/Website:  
[cfc06415@gmail.com](mailto:cfc06415@gmail.com)  
[colchesterfederatedchurch.org](http://colchesterfederatedchurch.org)

Dear Beloved Congregation—

7/7/23

Greetings from Holy Cross Monastery in West Park, New York! This is the first stop on my Sabbatical journey. Writing to you all in my room (that was once a monk's cell), from a building on the national register of historic places. The glittering Hudson River before me is glorious. No A/C on a 90 degree day is not so glorious! BUT it's been a wonderful beginning of the journey and I am praying for you all. (with 3 services a day and 24/7 silence... I have time!)

God Bless

*Lauren*

# SABBATICAL INFORMATION

## Colchester Federated Church

60 Main Street  
Colchester, CT 06415  
Phone: (860) 537-5189  
cfc06415@gmail.com  
colchesterfederatedchurch.org

Rev. Lauren L. Ostrout  
Minister



## SABBATICAL INFORMATION

July 1 – September 30, 2023



After serving us for six-years, our pastor Rev. Lauren Ostrout will be taking a 3-month Sabbatical. Therefore, your Pastor-Parish Relations Team (Barb Bosse, Kurt Frantzen, Denise Turner, & Donna Wink) prepared this brochure for the greater-CFC community to share information about sabbaticals and our role during her absence.

### What Is A Sabbatical?

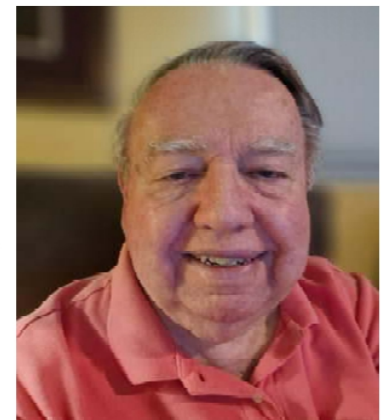
Sabbatical as a word comes from the biblical concept of Sabbath, that is, setting aside time that God consecrates and makes holy. Such leave provides time for pastors to disengage, rest, study, reflect, and/or travel to reinvigorate, refresh, and renew their body, mind, and spirit. A critical aspect of a sabbatical is *Respect*. Grant Pastor Lauren and her family space and privacy and do not contact them via phone, email, or other communication venues.

While this time is a sabbatical for our called Pastor, it remains a **Season of Growth** for the congregation.

During this time, all church business will be handled by the Office and the **Rev. Jack M. Shackles, Jr.**, our **Interim Sabbatical Pastor**—

Pastor Jack began his ministry in the Southern Baptist Church. After 20 years of active duty (including enlisted U.S. Army crypto-linguist during the Viet Nam conflict.) and reserve duty, he retired a Lieutenant Commander in 1991 from the Chaplain Corps (U.S. Navy Reserves). He continued pastoral work in 1994 with the United Church of Christ. Over many years, he has served the UCC New London Association in various capacities including being the Chair of Committee on Ministry. After serving as pastor of the Taftville Congregational Church for 15 years, he retired as a UCC minister in 2022. When he leaves CFC this October, he will celebrate 50 years of ordination!!

Contact: 860-912-7037 / Email: [jakshack@yahoo.com](mailto:jakshack@yahoo.com)



### What Does This Period Mean For The Us?

A sabbatical is a two-way process: While Pastor Lauren is journeying toward renewal, we will embark on a journey as well. We shall continue reflection on our prior work, discern God's will for us, renew ourselves, and serve in our various ministries to continue their work during this short season and perhaps find new opportunities.

An American Baptist and United Church of Christ Congregation  
“Empowering Members For Ministries in Workplace, Home, Church and Community”



# SABBATICAL INFORMATION

## 2023 Sabbatical Information Brochure

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***Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world,  
but be transformed***

***by the renewing of your mind.***

Romans 12:2

### **Stay Connected!**

It's Easy!! Attend worship on Sunday mornings, engage online and in person on our ministries, in our missions, and with each other. We have several events planned during these sabbatical months, so, watch for announcements in The Crier and via emails. Also, make sure you are on the church mailing list if not already!



### **What To Do If You Have A Pastoral Need...**

If you or a loved one experience an emergency and require a pastoral visit, please reach out to Pastor Jack directly. You may also be in contact with our Deacons through the Church Office. We trust that during this time, each of us will do our best to reach out to one another and hold one another in prayer.



*We are always here, for you and to meet your needs!*



***Come to me, all of you who are tired and have heavy loads, and I will give you rest. Accept my teachings and learn from me, because I am gentle and humble in spirit, and you will find rest for your lives. The burden that I ask you to accept is easy; the load I give you to carry is light.***

Matthew 11:28-30 New Century Version

Image © Kurt A. Frantzen

Note: images on this page from MS Creative Commons unless otherwise specified

# WORSHIP INFORMATION

## SCRIPTURE READERS

August 6	Dick Paige
August 13	Susan Sanford
August 20	Tracy Gale
August 27	Mark Bosse

Interested in being a scripture reader?  
Please reach out to John Dooley

## AT HOME COMMUNION

Do you know a Church Family Member who would like to receive communion but are house-bound and unable to make it to Sunday Services?

Please bring this to the attention of a Deacon so we might bring communion to them. Or call the church office who will direct your request to the Diaconate.

## INTERGENERATIONAL COMMUNION SUNDAY

On Communion Sundays we worship together and the youth help with leading the worship service. Thank you to Ashlyn, Anora, Oliver, and Jocelyn for helping to lead our 10 yr. Anniversary of being a Welcoming, Open and Affirming church service on June 4th.



Photo Credits: Barbara Bosse, Deborah Howard, and Steve Bradstreet

## WORSHIP SNAPSHOTS





# IN OUR PRAYERS

## For those who are ill or recovering:

**Cindy** (*Cheryl Letendre's Sister*)

**Ethan Collins** (*John Dooly's grandson*)

**Rick & Kathi Diederich** (*Danielle Pensa's Parents*)

**Sadie Dombrowski**

**Elizabeth Emory**

**Reed Gustafson**

**Eleanor Keller**

**Kathy Landry**

**Tammy Savalle** (*Michele Howard's Sister*)

**Teri Sawchuk**

**Necia Stopa**

## For those who are grieving the loss of a loved one:

**The family and friends of Lillian Lavech**

**Josiah & Michelle** (*Neri-Lorrette*) **Edlund & family** for the loss of their son, **Crosby**

**The Stillwell Family** for the loss of **Megan's dad, Duncan Schofield**

Prayers for all those who are providing care for family members.

Prayers for all those who are grieving.

Prayers for all who are in recovery and struggling with sobriety.

Prayers for all those separated from their families.

Prayers for our country, its leaders and for peace here and in the world.

*Names will remain on the prayer list for 1- 3 months unless otherwise communicated to the church office.*

# CELEBRATIONS & THANKS



- 08/01 Alvin Simmons
- 08/02 Elliot Lewis
- 08/04 Luke Sanford
- 08/07 Ethan Moores
- 08/08 Rev. Lauren Ostrout
- 08/11 Luca Rago
- 08/14 Kathy Landry
- 08/16 Isaac Pensa
- 08/21 Jack Stillwell
- 08/26 Kim Lewis  
Frank Tomlinson
- 08/28 John Dooley



- 08/04 Megan & Brady Stillwell
- 08/10 Nicole & Rich Hosford
- 08/16 Cheryl & Al Letendre  
Necia & Larry Stopa
- 08/17 Kim & Dave Lewis
- 08/20 Rev. Dr. Cheryl & Jim  
Caronna
- 08/21 Jude & Steve Bradstreet
- 08/24 Barbara & Mark Bosse

## We are very thankful to so many people in our church community...

... Thank you to Debby Barden for planting and caring for the flower planters out in the front of our church.  
 ... Thank you to Dick Paige, Avis Hull, Dolores Sawchuk, and Christine Miskell for maintaining our church flowerbeds.  
 ... Thank you to Joyce & John Johnson for organizing the Saver's Clothing drive fundraiser.  
 ... Thank you to Dick Paige and Deborah Howard for overseeing the hanging of Joan's quilt in the church lounge.  
 ... Thank you to Katie, Caroline, and Sam Fraiser for decorating the matching funds envelopes. Thank you to Tim Kyser for displaying the envelopes in the sanctuary.  
 ... Thank you to Tom St. Louis for organizing the rental of cornhole boards.  
 ... Thank you to Deborah Howard, Mark Bosse, and Connie & Dick Paige for cleaning out the kitchen cabinets to prepare for the remodel.  
 ... Thank you to Tom St. Louis and the members of Stewardship for installing the air conditioners.  
 ... Thank you to Dave Hock for cleaning up various areas around the church that flood when there is heavy rain.  
 ... Thank you to Mark Bosse for all of his hard work and efforts with setting up and looking over various quotes for church repairs.  
 ... Thank you to Dick Paige for organizing the church's car wash and all to those who helped make it such a great success.

... **We thank those who check on and open/close windows and doors... for those who bring in paper goods to offset our expenses, and for those who donate their time and efforts to maintain and repair our buildings and grounds.**

## Giving Update

	June	Year to Date
<b>Total Pledged</b>	\$12,422	\$74,531
<b>Total Received</b>	\$10,627	\$75,806
<b>Difference</b>	\$(1,795)	\$1,275
<b>Percent Received</b>	86%	102%



# MISSION & WITNESS

## **SUMMER MISSION: Snacks for Colchester Public Schools**

Throughout the month of August, Mission & Witness will be collecting tasty and/or healthy snacks to fill the snack pantries in the Colchester schools. These snack pantries have been an effective way for the schools to help kids who might not have enough to eat throughout the school day or when they go home afterwards.

If you're able to, please consider purchasing a package or two of **single-serve, individually-wrapped** snacks the next time you're at the store, or if it's easier, making a monetary donation and we'll take care of the rest. Any kind of shelf-stable snack is welcome, though some suggestions include:

- ◆ Goldfish or Cheez-its
- ◆ Cheese & cracker packs
- ◆ Muffin bites
- ◆ Pretzels
- ◆ Popcorn
- ◆ Veggie puffs or chips
- ◆ Granola bars
- ◆ Applesauce
- ◆ Fruit snacks
- ◆ “Meals in a can”, canned pastas, individual mac & cheese, soups, shelf-stable protein shakes, etc. (to be brought home)

**Donations can be brought to Sunday service during the month of August or delivered to the church office through the 31<sup>st</sup>.** If those options won't work for you, we will be more than happy to pick up a donation from you if needed. Please notify Laurie Gerundo if you would like to take advantage of this option and she'll come to you!

Thank you all for your ongoing kindness and generosity to those in need in our community. We all feel blessed to be a part of such a warm and giving congregation.

***Mission and Witness:*** Laurie, Lynn, Todd, Rick and Wendy



# CHILDREN'S SUNDAY!





# VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

## Colchester Federated Church

**FREE**  
Program

**HERO**  
**HOTLINE**

Called Together  
to Serve God!

**VBS**  
**AUG 7-11**  
**9AM - 12PM**

Youth  
PreK - 5th Grade

EMAIL NICOLE TO SIGN UP

W Sign Up!

Register at: [colchesterfederatedchurch.org](http://colchesterfederatedchurch.org)

## VBS VOLUNTEER & SAFE CHURCH TRAINING

August 7th at 8 AM





# FUNDRAISERS

## SAVER'S CLOTHING DRIVE

We collected 2,741 lbs. of clothing totaling \$623.25 for our church.  
Way to go CFC!

Thank you to John & Joyce Johnson for organizing this fundraiser!



Front Row (L-R): Jen Totten, Dick & Connie Paige  
Back Row (L-R): Evan St. Louis, Kim Lewis, Judean Bradstreet, Joyce & John Johnson, Mark Bosse.  
Not Pictured: Karen & Bob Delzell, and Nicole Hosford

## CHURCH CAR WASH

Thank you to Dick Paige for organizing the church car wash! A special thank you to Troop 72 for allowing us to use their equipment. And thank you to the many volunteers who helped make it all possible! We raised \$1,144.00 to help with maintaining our historic church!





# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Are you interested in holding a fundraiser but not sure how?  
Mark Bosse has put together Fundraiser Notes to help!**

## FUNDRAISER NOTES

Thank you so very much for volunteering to head up a Fundraiser. Your willingness to put in your time and efforts on behalf of CFC are certainly appreciated! A few helpful hints.

1. **Notify the Office**, [cfc06415@gmail.com](mailto:cfc06415@gmail.com) of the proposed date as soon as you have settled on one. It is essential that we have one central clearing for event dates.
2. **Resources:** The list of persons who have agreed to be contacted for fundraisers is at the Office. Nicole is your greatest resource and can advise you as to such things as building use regulations, publicity and many other details. The Ministry of Stewardship is also there as a resource: Chair is Mark Bosse.
3. **Publicity:** Your go-to is the RiverEast. The weekly deadline is Tuesday at noon. Request that they print your piece as a separate article and not include it in the CFC announcements — it will get more attention that way. Nicole is the administrator of our Facebook page and can advise you on other social media. As well, she has software to produce some very nice posters. Many local businesses, such as Noel's, have places where one can post flyers for an event.
4. **Advance Funds:** If you need “seed money” for supplies for your fundraiser, please contact Tom St. Louis, [tstlouis06415@gmail.com](mailto:tstlouis06415@gmail.com). The Congregation has also been very generous in donating supplies for fundraisers.
5. **Kitchen** use must be supervised by one of four persons in the Church who have obtained “ServSafe” certification. Nicole can put you in touch.
6. **Door Prizes** must be conducted and concluded entirely in the duration of the event. Local businesses will sometimes donate; for instance, we have received a gift certificate from the Inishmor in the past.
7. **Set-up.** If you need tables and chairs set up, Dave Hock can do so with enough advance notice. It is essential however that you draw up for him a plan of how you would like the tables and chairs positioned; Dave's mailbox is in the Office. Breakdown of the tables and chairs after the event is the responsibility of those holding the event.
8. **Cash Boxes.** CFC has cash boxes available. Please remember to have enough cash on hand if you will be making change for items sold.
9. **Follow-up.** Check everything twice when you're locking up; some of the doors have tricky locks. Moneys go to Tom St. Louis for deposit. And all who work on fundraisers love to be acknowledged; a note in the Crier or in Thursday Thoughts will be much appreciated.

It is volunteers such as you that help make CFC the wonderful community it is.  
Thank you, thank you, thank you!!!

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## SAYING GOODBYE FOR NOW



On June 25th, we sent our beloved Pastor off on her much needed sabbatical. Wishing her all the best as she enjoys her time of rest and rejuvenation!

## KITCHEN RENOVATIONS



Thank you to Deborah Howard, Dick Paige, Connie Paige, and Mark Bosse for cleaning out various drawers and cabinets in preparation of the kitchen remodel!

## TAG SALE: SAVE YOUR STUFF

Our annual tag sale will take place on **August 19**. **We will be looking for lots of help** – during the week to sort items, during the sale to sell items and after the sale to clean up. If you can help, please reach out to Avis Hull.

8 . 19 . 2023 | 9AM - 2PM

**CHURCH  
TAG-SALE**

COLCHESTER FEDERATED CHURCH  
60 MAIN ST, COLCHESTER, CT



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

Colchester Federated Church

# SUNDAY SCHOOL



## Rally Day! Sept. 10th

Weekly programming for youth in  
PreK - 8th grade!

For more information contact Nicole at



Scan QR Code



to register!

# CHURCH CALENDAR

## August 2023

**\*PLEASE NOTE:** *Nicole will be on vacation beginning Aug 24th and will return to the office on Sept 6th.* Pastor Jack will be in the office for pastoral emergencies while she is on vacation. For building usage and calendar items, please reach out to Nicole prior to Aug 24th or when she returns on Sept 6th.

Thank you!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<b>1</b> 12 PM AA (Lib)	<b>2</b> 12 PM AA (Lib)	<b>3</b> 10 AM AA (Lib)	<b>4</b> 12 PM AA (Lib)	<b>5</b> 9 AM VBS Decorating (S) 9:30 AM AA (SR) 9:30 AM AI-Anon (JR/Lib)
<b>6</b> 9 AM Worship Service (S) 7 PM Boy Scouts Committee Meeting (SR)	<b>7</b> 8 AM VBS Volunteer Meeting	<b>8</b> 7 PM Stewardship (Lng)	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 12:30 VBS Party (SR)	<b>12</b> 9:30 AM AA (SR) 9:30 AM AI-Anon (JR/Lib)
<b>Vacation Bible School 9AM-12PM</b>						
<b>13</b> 9 AM Worship Service (S)  Dave Hock Off	<b>14</b> 12 PM AA (Lib) 7:30 PM AA (Lib)	<b>15</b> 12 PM AA (Lib) 7 PM Deacons (Lng)	<b>16</b> 12 PM AA (Lib) 7:30 PM AA (Lib)	<b>17</b> 10 AM AA (Lib)	<b>18</b> 12 PM AA (Lib)	<b>19</b> <b>Church Tag-Sale</b> 9 AM – 2 PM (SR/G)
<b>20</b> 9 AM Worship Service (S)  Kim Lewis Off	<b>21</b> <i>Crier Deadline</i> 12 PM AA (Lib) 7:30 PM AA (Lib)	<b>22</b> 12 PM AA (Lib)	<b>23</b> 12 PM AA (Lib) 7:30 PM AA (Lib)	<b>24</b> <b>Office Closed</b> 10 AM AA (Lib)	<b>25</b> <b>Office Closed</b> 12 PM AA (Lib)	<b>26</b> 9:30 AM AA (SR) 9:30 AM AI-Anon (JR/Lib)
<b>Nicole Hosford Vacation</b>						
<b>27</b> 9 AM Worship Service (S)	<b>28</b> 12 PM AA (Lib) 7:30 PM AA (Lib)	<b>29</b> 12 PM AA (Lib)	<b>30</b> 12 PM AA (Lib) 7:30 PM AA (Lib)	<b>31</b> 10 AM AA (Lib)		
<b>Nicole Hosford Vacation</b>						



## Colchester Federated Church

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Colchester, CT. 06415

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“Let *light* shine out of darkness.”

2 Corinthians 4:6



Photo by Batuhan Kurt via Pexels.