

Community Conversation Summary

By Pastor Bob Hoffman

On behalf of the consistory, I want to thank everyone for their participation in our three congregational conversations. We targeted three overall topics in the conversations. The first was about us as the congregation of the Community Reformed Church of Colonie. We identified how we share participation in the life and worship of the church by bringing our gifts and offering them to the church's many and varied ministries. Then, we named the values that guide us in ministry together. Values such as inclusivity, prayer, worship, music, service, and many others were named. We shared when, where, and how these are lived out in our mission and ministry beyond our church and into the world. And then, we shared our hopes, dreams, thoughts, desires, and expectations about a pastor who will lead us deeper and wider in ministry.

Again, thank you for your insightful participation in these conversations. As the consistory compiles all that wisdom shared, they will plan another congregational gathering where the overall summary can be shared. From that gathering, we will move forward to organize a search committee and move deeper into the pastoral search process. Please continue to participate by prayer, sharing in the future gatherings, and serving as you are called by God to do so.

Worship moves **outdoors** with our Summer start time of **9:00AM**, on Sunday, **June 2nd**.

More info on page 6.



Consecration Sunday

May 19th



“There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work” (1 Corinthians 12:4-6).

These words from the apostle Paul remind us that all of our gifts have been given to us from God, and it is part of God’s plan that our gifts are different than those given to others. When exploring this passage, Pastor Jacob Gerber likens our gifts to batteries in a package – there is much potential to energize God’s work but they become slowly depleted if not utilized. In completing our gift inventory recently, we had an opportunity to listen to God’s messaging to us regarding how our own gifts can be used to strengthen the work and missions of CRCC.

As we look forward to Consecration Sunday, May 19th, we will have another opportunity to reflect on the gifts that God has provided, think about how God wants us to use our gifts, and to prayerfully consider how we can give a share of these gifts back to God.

How does God want you to use your unique gifts?

The Stewardship and Creation Care Committee: Jessica Kaercher, Ellen Buono, Lou Ann Connelly, Kyrra Howard, Linda Murphy



Sunday, **June 2nd**, at 11:00am, will be our second **“Junk in the Trunk”** Event! All items are given away for free. As you do your spring cleaning, set aside goods for this event and be ready to fill your trunk for June 2nd. You may choose to “shop,” give-away, or both! This is a “carry in, carry out,” event. You **MUST** take any unclaimed items that you bring to the event, home with you. We hope you will participate! Questions? Contact Jessica Kaercher.



May's Break Bread Share Bread Collection items are **Corned Beef** and **Canned Vegetables**. Kid Pick items are **Canned Ravioli** and **Spaghetti O's**. Jams, Jellies, and Juices of all flavors are requested all year long.



Men's Group will meet May 8th, and June 12th, 6-7:30PM, at CRCC. The group will then take a summer break, not meeting for the months of July and August. Men's

Group will resume on September 11th.

Women's Bible Study will meet May 11th, and June 8th, at CRCC. They will also take a break for the months of July and August, resuming in the fall.

Sunday School for grades 3-7 will conclude their year on Sunday, May 19th. Classes will resume in September. Watch the Sunday bulletin and future newsletters for fall startup information.



Cleanup Day Report

By Kevin Ingalls

I would classify Spring Cleanup Day as an overwhelming success. We had more volunteers than I could have imagined! We were able to clean the sanctuary worship area, the choir loft, the choir room-library area, and nursery closet. We had a group of volunteers working outside to clean up the Daycare yard, as well. They pruned apple trees, fixed snow plow damage to the parking lot, and worked on filling the trench that was created when the electrical service to the parking lot was fixed. We are in good shape as far as projects, but we are always looking for volunteers. If you have a special interest or type of project in mind, please contact me or Pastor Bob with your proposal.





MISSION OF THE MONTH

NOTEWORTHY RESOURCES



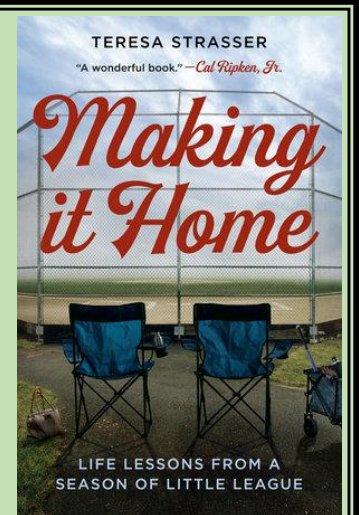
May is Mental Health Awareness Month. The National Alliance on Mental Illness describes the importance of Mental Health Awareness Month as a means of, “eradicating stigma, extending support, fostering public education and advocating for policies that prioritize the well-being of individuals and families affected by mental illness.” **Noteworthy Resources** is an Albany, NY based organization that provides a safe space with mental, emotional, and social support systems for those in need. All services at Noteworthy Resources are provided by volunteers, making sure that individuals with no insurance or inadequate insurance can still receive necessary services and support. We all have personal connections to mental health struggles and know all too well how hard it is for people to get appropriate and timely care.

Please consider supporting Noteworthy Resources’ efforts by donating to May’s Mission of the Month. Donations can be made via your yellow Mission of the Month envelope or by check or paypal, indicating “May Mission of the Month” in the memo. For more information on Noteworthy Resources, visit their web site nwralbany.org.

The May Book Group selection is Making It Home by Teresa Strasser. Book discussion and fellowship will take place on Tuesday, May 28th, at 6PM.

All are always welcome.

Questions? Contact Karen Reynolds.





Summer Worship
June 2 to September 1
9 AM



Every week, approximately one half of our congregation is attending worship on Zoom, Facebook, our YouTube each week. That is amazing! If you are sitting in your car wondering where everyone is, they are right there participating with you!

During the summer months, outdoor services are welcomed by many in our church family.

However, the weather needs to be cooperative to have this happen. Inclement or questionable weather affecting the camera and sound will prevent the filming of the service.

If this occurs, the worship leaders will conduct worship on Zoom only, without in-person worshippers.

If the outdoor worship is changed to Zoom only, email notifications will be sent, our webpage will be updated by 8 AM, and it will be posted on our social media pages. If you do not have access to any of these, calling the church office is an option.

Let the sun shine!



CHAIRish your bread tags

**Danielle
Cares for
Chairs**

Danielle Cares For Chairs was started by 17 year old Danielle Rothchild. She learned that the plastic tags that hold together a bag of bread could be recycled and redeemed for cash. Through this recycling initiative, she uses the proceeds to purchase wheelchairs for individuals in need. This will be an ongoing collection for CRCC. Please consider donating your bread tags, which not only keeps them out of the landfill, but can go toward enhancing the quality of someone's life. A collection container is in the Narthex on the shelf below the bulletin board. For more information, please contact Sarah Huiest (crccsarah@gmail.com) or find Danielle Cares for Chairs on Facebook.



Thought for Today



For decades, our church sign has provided our community with moments of inspiration, hope, reflection, and humor. About 15 years ago, we began the “Thought for Today” ministry while our church sign was being rebuilt, and today we find ourselves in the same dilemma. The Thought for Today is a daily email communication that has proven to be a vital link within our congregation. These “TfT” offer words of encouragement as we journey through our hectic days, as well as reminders of upcoming church services and events. If you are interested in receiving these daily thoughts, contact Sandy Cornwell at crccsandy@gmail.com.



This vital ministry focuses on the urgent prayer concerns of our church family and community. Prayer requests will be sent to you via E-mail from either Sandy Cornwell or Karen Latta. For those without email access, Karen Reynolds will provide phone contact.

You will receive the email request directly and will not have to pass the request on to others. Prayer updates will be sent when possible.

It is our hope that we will be able to reach even more people who will actively pray for one another.

If you are interested in participating in the E-chain ministry, contact Sandy Cornwell at crccsandy@gmail.com.



PRIDE PARADE

WASHINGTON PARK, ALBANY

JUNE 9



Support our Sons, Daughters, Brothers, Sisters, Mothers, Fathers, Friends, and other relatives who identify as LGBTQIA+ by walking with other

ROOM FOR ALL Congregations.

We are coordinating our efforts with **First Church in Albany.**

If interested, please contact (name and cellphone number for walk day) Sue Bredice by May 14th. She will get you the “up-to-the-minute” details!

Sbredice@yahoo.com

Plastic Collection Update

Lou Ann Connelly

For several months, many of us have been collecting and depositing soft plastic film and other hard-to-recycle plastics in the NexTrex bin in the church narthex. I recently transported our accumulated plastic to the Cobleskill Methodist Church to help them with their Bags to Benches goal.

In a Thank You note to us, the Cobleskill church says:

Thank you so much for your collection and donation of soft plastic for our recycling program! Your efforts yielded 17.5 pounds to be kept out of the landfill!!

The earth smiles.

Our collection efforts will be ongoing, so keep bringing in your plastics.

Thank You.

**Community Reformed
Church of Colonie**

**701 Sand Creek Rd
Colonie, NY 12205-2497**

Bob Hoffman, Pastor

Tel: (518) 869-5589

Email:

crcclori@gmail.com

www.communityreformedchurch.com

Instagram: colonie_reformed

Facebook:

facebook.m/ColonieReformed

Worship Hours

We invite you to join us for worship and fellowship every Sunday at 10 AM Outdoor Services are also available in the Summer every Sunday at 9 AM Holiday and Special Services will be announced on our website and this newsletter.

**Colonie Community
Day Care Center**

**701 Sand Creek Rd
Colonie, NY 12205-2497**

Carol Grasso, Director

Tel: (518) 869-869-0131

Email:

cgrasso6@yahoo.com

Stay connected with CRCC All Week Long!

Everything found on our church bulletin board can be found online, plus more!!

Padlet.com/crcsarah/churchbulletinboard

We are also on social media!

Facebook: @ColonieReformed

Instagram: colonie_reformed

And don't forget about our website!

Communityreformedchurch.com

May Family Ministries Event

Come Celebrate the "Start of the Church" this Pentecost, May 19th, after worship in the gathering room! We will share a story, craft, kite flying, and more! Questions? Contact Sarah Huiest - crcsarah@gmail.com.

Do you have a Member Milestone to share?

Newsletter submissions of graduations, retirements, births, etc. should be made by the 15th of the month to Sarah Huiest (crcsarah@gmail.com) for inclusion in the next month's newsletter. PLEASE only submit milestone information for yourself or your child. "Second hand" submissions will not be accepted without the Milestone individual's permission.

Communications/Media Coordinator: Sarah Huiest

Layout Designer: Bob Becker

Articles are due by the 15th of the month and can be submitted to crcsarah@gmail.com or given directly to Sarah Huiest.