



CRCC Family Still Going Strong!

November 2020

Even though we can't be physically together, Community Reformed Church of Colonie's youth has been finding different ways to stay distantly engaged. For the month of October, they created holiday cards for military members overseas. Cards will be distributed through USASOA (United States and United Soldiers of America) this holiday season.

The Children's Message, which takes place in the sanctuary during worship, has returned to our Sunday morning service. Whether in the sanctuary or over Zoom, we invite you to tune in for a special message each week.

Bitmoji Jesus made the rounds and spent time with our youth during our lockdown this spring. It was a great physical reminder that even though we were isolated in our homes, Jesus was with us. A photo keepsake of this time is coming soon.

Even though it happened remotely, the Blessing of the Backpacks still took place in September. Band-Aids were distributed to students and school personnel as a reminder that God is the Great Physician, healing and protecting us wherever we are.

Potential Plans for a different sort of Christmas pageant are underway. More details coming soon.

If you would like to stay up to date on the latest youth news, email Sarah at crccsarah@gmail.com to be sure you are on the mailing list. You can also contact her about joining the Remind app.

November 2020		Upcoming Events	
In this Issue:		Thanksgiving Baskets Due	Nov. 15 th
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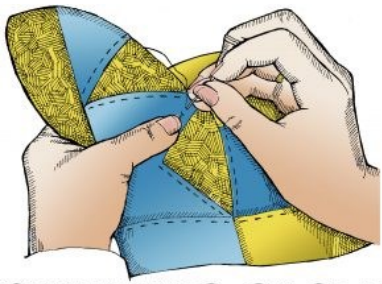
SANCTUARY REGATHERING GUIDELINES

Those planning to attend Sunday worship services must register on Signup Genius by Friday (Emails with the link are sent on Monday). Please enter your full name and email address and the first names of those attending worship with you. Enter the total number attending, answer the Covid-19 specific questions and submit your registration.

If you are not receiving the registration link e-mail please contact **Lori Cote** at crccclori@gmail.com.

Please bring a sweater

Some of you have asked why the sanctuary is so drafty on Sunday mornings. As with many answers these days, the reason has to do with the spread of Covid-19. Studies have shown that the coronavirus is not easily transmitted outdoors or in well-ventilated indoor environments, therefore the blowers have been turned on and extra fans have been enlisted to keep the air circulating. Please bring a sweater or jacket with you on Sunday mornings in case you get chilled.



Community Reformed's Quilt Group has chosen St Catherine's Center for Children as their project recipient this year. Quilt Group members are in the process of making 50 - 60 Belonging Bags for the 5 to 13 year-olds that receive services from St Catherine's.

Often children who are served by the Center must move from one residence to another. Some go back to their families, others to group homes, and others into foster or adoptive families. The 22" by 33" bags are large enough to hold some clothes and personal belongings. And each child's bag is decorated in a unique and interesting design.



QUILTING GROUP



If you are interested in participating in this project or in the on-going Prayer Quilt project, please contact Lou Ann Connelly at louannconne@nycap.rr.com. You don't need sewing experience to help with these projects.

Collection for Thanksgiving Baskets

This year we are unable to gather for Community Reformed Thanksgiving Eve Service. In the past everyone was encouraged to bring a non-perishable food item to the Service. This donation went to the Village Outreach Center and was distributed. This year we would like to put together Thanksgiving baskets. The baskets will go to **Captain Community Human Services** in **Clifton Park** and the **Village Outreach Center** in **Colonie**. Below is a list of items to date to create the baskets. Please have food items to church by **November 15th**. For those who are attending Worship via Zoom and would like to donate, please contact **Tina Bottini** at 518-281-5452.

SUGGESTED DONATIONS FOR FOOD BASKET:

Gift Cards for Turkeys	Cream of Mushroom Soup	Napkins
Stuffing Mix	Fried Onions	Paper Plates
Mashed Potato Mix	Pie Crust	Olive or Canola Oil
Green Beans	Pie Filling (Pumpkin or Fruit)	Salt and Pepper
Corn	Evaporated Milk	Books or Card Games
Gravy	Quick Bread Mix	Items to Decorate the Baskets
Cranberry Sauce	Cookie Mix	

Our annual Angel Tree collection has begun but, like all things in 2020, we must take a new and virtual approach.

The **Colonie Outreach Center** is asking for gift cards which will be distributed directly to those in need.

Gift cards are requested from: **Target** or **Walmart**

Please note on the card the dollar value amount.

Gift cards may be deposited in the Sunday collection box by **December 15.**



Again this year we are also partnering with Things of My Very Own

When a child is removed from an abusive or dangerous situation, they may only possess the clothing they are wearing at that moment. This agency, which serves the Capital District, provides them with clothes, bedding, supplies – and even toys. This caring agency gives them “things of my very own” and helps them transition through those initial difficult days.

These links will provide you with opportunities to help this agency with needed items this Christmas

Things of My Very Own Urgent Need Wish List on Amazon:

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1MZILKZFBBTOK?ref=wl_share&fbclid=IwAR2adG0TJGvoQVNYtiV5AX8pxWyuhCSr7yYIC9J_Xn0Xj9p2IKOVDGS_wiM

Things of My Very Own Online Donation Portal:

<https://thingsofmyveryown.org/donate/>

CRCC Angel Tree Registry at Target:

We encourage you to have items sent to the address provided on the registry.

<http://www.target.com/gift-registry/gift/ac1ad7ce06d043bf80f9b29fe26596a6>

Questions? Contact **Sandy Cornwell, Sarah Huies, or Tina Bottini**

Thank you for your support.



Youth Group Messages

Some additional information for our Youth Group members:

- We will not be doing the traditional "Thank you" chain in church to put around the Chrismon Tree, but I encourage you to make one at home!! Paper strips to get you started will be hitting your mailboxes in the next few weeks. I invite you to write down things you are thankful for on the strips of paper and link them together to make a chain. Then, send us a picture of your family with the chain. Pictures will be used in our church newsletter. Extra credit if you put it on your tree at home!! :)
- We ARE going to have the opportunity for young people to design our Christmas Eve bulletin covers again. Paper and directions will be mailed home to you. There will also be a prepaid envelope enclosed by which to return it to me.
- We will have one worship service on Christmas Eve at 7PM. If anyone is interested in providing music for the service, please let me know as soon as possible so we can work out the details.
- The church is in need of someone who is technologically inclined to run our cameras and computers on Sunday morning. If anyone has interest in this, PLEASE let me know!

Sarah

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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 8 AM

Holiday and Special
Services will be
announced on our
website and this
newsletter

Colonie Community Day Care Center

701 Sand Creek Rd
Albany, NY 12205-2432

Carol Grasso, Director

Tel: (518) 869-0131

E-mail:

cgrasso6@yahoo.com

Community Outreach

Schenectady City Mission Coat Drive

Now that the weather is getting colder, we are once again going through our closets and cleaning out the items we do not wear anymore. Drop your gently used winter coats in the box as you enter into Church. For those who are attending Worship via Zoom and would like to donate, please contact **Tina Bottini** at 518-281-5452.

The Community Outreach Team of Community Reformed Church is seeking volunteers to assist with supplying dinners to the Overflow Shelter at the First Lutheran Church in Albany. We supply the shelter with dinners two Wednesday's a month. For further information and to sign-up to volunteer, please follow this link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4EAEA92AA6FAC43-overflow>

If you have any questions contact **Tina Bottini** at 518-281-5452 or **Vicki Lane** at 518-265-6306.



Special notes:

- **"Thank you"** is in order for the congregation in keeping up their pledges during the Pandemic.
- **Book club** will be resuming **Nov 17, 2020**. More details to follow. For more information contact **Karen Reynolds** at kreynolds150@gmail.com

Winter Weather Cancellations

If wintry weather mandates the cancellation of church services, a notice will be posted on the **School/Business Closings on local television stations and local internet news sites, as well as on communityreformedchurch.com**

Editor: **Beth Colbert**

Layout Designer: **Bob Becker**

Articles are due by the 15th of the month and can be submitted to jimandbethcolbert@gmail.com or given to Beth Colbert.