



Pastor - The Rev. Timothy E. Haut
congregationalchurch@deeprivercc.org
Pastor - Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Caronna
minister@deeprivercc.org

Organist/Choir Director - Annetta Sekula
Sr. Bell Choir Director - Claudia Hardy
Office Manager - Kris Lindner
officedrcc@deeprivercc.org

Director of Christian Education - Sybil Higgins
ChristianEd@deeprivercc.org

Director of Youth & Family Ministry - Chelsea Ehmke
yandfm@deeprivercc.org
Treasurer - Dayle Larson

Treasurer@deeprivercc.org
Collector - Claudia Hardy
collector@deeprivercc.org

Public Relations - Alison Karam
PublicRelations@deeprivercc.org
Sextons - Will & Elisa Grote

First Congregational Church of Deep River
P.O. Box 246

Deep River, CT 06417

Phone: 860-526-5045

Fax: 860-526-9357

Web Site: www.deeprivercc.org

Support Groups at Our Church

Mondays at 7:00 - Women's AA (At Kirtland Commons)

First Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. - AA Executive (Dec. 11)

NO SOUP KITCHEN THIS WEEK

Thursdays - AA (At Kirtland Commons)

This Week - December 1 - 8, 2024

- Sunday - First Sunday of Advent**
Carol Sing, 8:20 and 9:45 a.m.
Worship Services, 8:30 and 10:00 a.m. ((Live-Stream at 10:00 a.m.)
Faith Explorers/TEAM (Sunday School). (10:00 a.m.)
Teen Issues, 10:00 a.m.
- Monday -** Set-up for the Christmas Faire
Women's AA, 7:00 p.m. (**Meeting is at Kirtland Commons**)
- Tuesday -** Set-up for Christmas Faire
CT River Valley Symphonic Band Rehearsal, 6:00-9:15 p.m. (**in the Sanctuary**)
- Thursday -** Set-up for the Christmas Faire
A.A., 7:00 p.m. (**Meeting is at Kirtland Commons**)
- Friday -** Final Set-up for Christmas Faire
Dessert by Candlelight, 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.
- Saturday - 58th Annual Christmas Faire, 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.**
- Sunday - Second Sunday of Advent**
Carol Sing, 8:20 and 9:45 a.m.
Worship Services, 8:30 and 10:00 a.m. ((Live-Stream at 10:00 a.m.)
Faith Explorers/TEAM (Sunday School). (10:00 a.m.)
Teen Issues, 10:00 a.m.

Birthdays This Week

Hannah Brown, Susan Lighty (Today); Helga Krebs, John Macmillan, III, Brooke Rankin, (2); Helen Rankin, Betty Tarte, Joshua Clark (3); Jill Fremut, Patty Unan (4); Dante Grassi (5); Andrea Chiappa, Michael Balisciano, Caryn Paradis (6); Preston Tabor (7).

Deacons on Duty for December 2024

Jane Syme is Deacon on Call, Kelley Frazier is Sanctuary Rep., and Dorothy DeMichael is arranging for Lay Readers and Flowers.

Are You Interested in Becoming a Member of DRCC?

A new member orientation will be held following the 10:00 service on **Sunday January 26th at 11:30 a.m.** New Member Sunday will take place on **Sunday February 2, 2025.** Please speak to Pastor Tim or Pastor Cheryl or call the church office if you would like to learn about membership.

Join Us for a Special Christmas Music Concert

Church member, Jacob Wilson, is the Director of the Connecticut River Valley Symphonic Band. They have offered to present a concert of Christmas and holiday music here on Sunday, December 15th at 4:00 p.m.

FAITH EXPLORERS

This Sunday our **Faith Explorers will meet in the Fellowship Hall at 10:00 am for a Youth Worship Service with Rev. Tim.** We will then go directly to our classrooms for our Advent and weekly lessons.

Our curriculum for December will be on Jesus' Birth. This week's lessons will be Jesus is the Messiah and Jesus is the Savior God Promised.

This Sunday TEAM will be assisting with bringing up the Ye Olde English Christmas Faire framework.

ADVENT

The children will learn about the season of Advent in their FE classes during the month of December. A paper flame will be added each Sunday, as they "light" the candle of Hope, Love, Joy and Peace. The children will also read a Bible passage and say a prayer as each candle is "lit". Be sure your child is present each week, so they understand the meaning of the candles.

FESTIVAL OF TREES - December 6 & 7

Be sure to see our display at the Festival of Trees the first weekend in December. Our white iridescent tree will be adorned with upcycled CD's created and decorated by the youth of our church. **VOTE FOR OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL TREE ON December 6 & 7 from 4pm to 8pm at the Deep River Historical Society. An announcement will be made on Sunday December 8 during church as to all the winners.**

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Calling all Angels, Wisemen & Shepherds! We need you for the 81st Annual Christmas Pageant held on Christmas Eve. All youth and children of DRCC are invited to participate and should attend rehearsals on Sunday, December 15 @ 11:30 am and December 22 after the scenery is set up. The Christmas Pageant will be held at 5:30 pm on December 24. Contact Sybil or Amanda Higgins for more information at ChristianEd@deeprivercc.org. To ensure we have enough costumes, please let Sybil know if you will be participating in the pageant.

Flowers for Worship. If you volunteer to place flowers in church on a given Sunday, and you do not wish to take them with you, Elizabeth Root has offered to take them and pass on to shut-ins from our church when she makes her visit.

Rev. David Stambaugh will be installed as settled pastor of the Essex Congregational Church on Dec. 15th at 2:00 p.m. with a light reception to follow. All are welcome to attend.

Stewardship

Jeanie Quigley gave an update for the Stewardship Committee on Sunday. We are all so pleased with the generous response we have received! \$205,188 pledged so far from 107 pledge units. If you haven't sent in your pledge yet, you still have the opportunity to send or bring one in. **Also, if you give online, it is still necessary to**

let us know if your intention is the same. There are additional pledge cards in the church office and in the Narthex if you need one. Please remember to fill out the time and Talent portion as well. Stay tuned for more good news this Sunday!

The Nuts Have Arrived!

If you pre-ordered nuts from our Chancel Handbell Choir, they can be picked up during coffee hour on Sunday. Extras of all the varieties were ordered, so if you didn't get to pre-order, you can still purchase nuts for holiday baking or snacking! There are Pecans, Praline Pecans, Chocolate Amaretto Pecans, Mixed Nuts, Cashews, Chocolate Peanuts, and Chocolate Raisins.

DRCC Cornerstone Fellowship

Cornerstone Fellowship was formed this year to help maintain, strengthen, and protect our church home. *Why?*

In 2024, Deep River Congregational Church needed full roof replacement, structural repairs, and maintenance of the church, bell tower, sanctuary and parsonage. Work is ongoing and will cost more than \$200,000.

Cornerstone Fellowship supporters are helping DRCC to cover the cost, avoid long-term interest payments, and seed a fund to cover future building maintenance.

To learn more, reach out to Tom Lindner (860-575-0871), Katie Russell (917-826-6886), Alison Karam (860-906-6264) or Bethany Parks – or visit our website to donate online: <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-Z3Z9/campaign/C-150N6>

Thank you to all the leadership givers and caring supporters who have already contributed to this campaign!

Poinsettias-Please Order by Wednesday, December 11th

Traditionally, we decorate our Sanctuary with Poinsettias on Christmas Music Sunday, which falls on December 22nd this year. The flowers are given in memory and in celebration of loved ones or events. The 4 ½ inch plants are \$5.00 and the larger, 6 ½ inch plants are \$10.00. There are order forms in the Narthex and the Church Office. You may purchase the plant to take home with you following the 10:00 service on Dec. 22nd, or you may wish to donate the plant to be distributed to our "Treasured Members," those who have been ill, suffered a loss, or is a shut in. Be sure to indicate on your order, whether you will take your poinsettia home or donate it. Please contact Kris in the Church Office with any questions: 860-526-5045 or officedrcc@deeprivercc.org. Thank you.

There are Volunteer Sheets in Fellowship Hall through September 7, 2025. Please sign up to be a Lay Reader (10:00), donate Flowers, Usher (10:00), or host Family Fellowship (8:30 or 10:00)

NEED GIFTS FOR CHRISTMAS?

Remember those important to you this Christmas season, like caring neighbors, refuse removal services, postal delivery, grocery store employees, or a friend/relative who helps you, can all be acknowledged with gift cards from stores such as: **LL Bean * Cabelas * Walgreens * McDonalds * Disney * Macys * Talbots * Exxon * Gulf * Kohls * Dunkin * Starbucks * Olive Garden * Omaha Steaks * Lowes * Home Depot * Stop & Shop * Walmart * Target** and the selection continues with cards from over 750 local and national stores. It's the easiest way to create opportunities for DRCC and the people who matter most to you. **You buy a gift card & get the full value / the brand gives back, nothing extra comes out of your pocket / DRCC earns money. No stores to go into, no extra time wasted shopping, no extra gas usage, and best of all no activation fees!**

Holiday Shopping at Adams?

If you need food for the upcoming holidays and shop at our local Adams Hometown Market in Deep River, be sure to see Elizabeth first. She has gift cards in \$25, \$50 or \$100 increments you can purchase to buy your own groceries or to give as a Christmas present and DRCC earns 5% of the card's value! It is a win, win for all!

Elizabeth Root will be in the Fellowship Hall weekly after both services. You can also call her at 203-430-1426, or email Sybil at ChristianEd@deeprivercc.org for more information or to place an order; we can deliver in the local area.

The Nuts Have Arrived!

If you pre-ordered nuts from our Chancel Handbell Choir, they can be picked up during coffee hour on Sunday. Extras of all the varieties were ordered, so if you didn't get to pre-order, you can still purchase nuts for holiday baking or snacking! There are Pecans, Praline Pecans, Chocolate Amaretto Pecans, Mixed Nuts, Cashews, Chocolate Peanuts, and Chocolate Raisins.

There is a list of Christmas Faire needs on the Christian Service Bulletin Board in Fellowship Hall with a list of needed ingredients for the Brick Oven, the Sweet Shoppe, Dessert by Candlelight, and Setting up (Nov, 30th) and taking down (12/7) There is also a Google sign-up sheet on line.

Kings Treasures

We are ready to collect your **giftable, gently used items to King's Treasurers!** Shoppers especially enjoy Christmas decor, toys, jewelry, and small appliances. We cannot accept furniture, clothing, or baby items. Please leave your treasures outside the church office M-F, 9-2, or on Sunday morning. Many thanks! Any questions, please contact Lorrie Morrow, 860-526-9387,

PRAYERS ARE NEEDED: The unity of prayers from members and friends of DRCC mean so much to the recipients. You may not know the names, but God knows their needs and circumstances as you lift them up. Contact Kris Lindner (860-526-5045) or officedrcc@deeprivercc.org. If you know someone in need of prayers please get permission from the person before asking to add their names

New Requests

Kathy (Judy Robert's sister)
Benjamin
Carol Zuppe (Recovery from hip surgery)
Rich Sypher (recovery from knee surgery)
Bill (recovery from stroke)
Family of Rick Lynch, especially son Jason and sister Cheryl
All those affected by addiction
All those families grieving the loss of a loved one
All those around the world affected by natural disasters, violence, war, & political unrest

Long Term Requests:

Claire Rider	Art & Lori
Ed Bushnell	McCarthy Family
Mark Bruscoe	Dottie Davis
Erica	Matt Peno
Jon	Mary Karam
Jerry Clark, Jr.	Noah Krebs
Sharon Netsch (Hospice)	
Kathy & Ron	Carrie
Dale	Ben T.
Conner	Bill Taylor (Hospice)
Lori Wilson	Zachary
Aimee	Benjamin
Baby McKenna	Donna Sheldon

Continued Prayers

ALL Health Care & Essential Workers, First Responders
Our troops, Veterans & National Guard Residents in nursing homes
Rita Doug LaFaille
Nancy S. Harper Darrow
Kathy Geraghty Kevin (ALS)
Cheryl's dad, Chester Peter Nucci
Dan Hopkins Ron Larsen
Kathy Kiing (fall) Rev. Martin Gibbs
Bonnie Hunter Jim Zwerememann
Jean Morrow Dulcie Jensen
Jessica (Hospice) Lorensons
Linda Cotton Cristi Stroud
Cody Kim Dawn Radicchi
Jeanie Q (improving) Mary
Elizabeth Netsch Nancy & Bill
Rev. Marty Gibbs David Clark
Justin (Lyme disease) Griselle
Deb Phinney Poretta Raleigh (heart)
Maleena Frazier Meagan
Jimmy & Dean Maureen & Paul
Curtis Sylvia Tiezzi
Maxi, Kelsey, Dante (traveling)
Brenda Amato (infection)

All who are dealing with cancer (Elizabeth C., Sylvia Tiezzi, Abbie, Bohde, Nicole, Mark, Mason, Robin, Anna, Ralph, Lillian Beardsley, Matthew, Bailey, Linda, Bob, Sue, Evan, Kathy Doering, Mark, Carol **Perone**, Danny McLean, Mark, Gianna Porcelli)

Please review the lists above. If you have requested prayers for someone and their status has changed, please contact me in the office. Perhaps prayers have been answered and the name can be removed, or a new need for prayer has come up. I like to keep the lists updated, but I need your help. Thank you so much, Kris