

The Connecticut General Assembly

House Democrats



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REP. ROSE HELPS ORGANIZE COMMUNITY-WIDE RINGING OF CHURCH BELLS

Milford churches coordinate bell ringing to support COVID-19 first responders

As a result of organizing efforts made in part by **State Representative Kim Rose (D- 118th District)**, the Milford Clergy Association has announced a coordinated ringing of church bells among a group of local churches to show support for the community during the coronavirus crisis.

Starting this week, participating churches will ring 20 peals as a show of support for medical professionals at the frontlines of the fight against COVID-19, as well as for Milford residents isolated at home. Churches will do this every Sunday, Wednesday, and Friday at 7 p.m.

"As World War I came to a close, church bells rang out to unify people, to give them strength, and to symbolize that hope will overcome fear," said **Rep. Rose** and former Milford alderman **Bryan Anderson**. "This period of conflict that had gripped the world coincided with the 1918 Pandemic Flu which affected one-third of the world's population."

"As we adjust to being without social and community events, which include our family and friends, we can symbolically come together as a community in a manner that our families did generations ago. We're grateful to Milford's churches for being inspirational leaders in our community and providing the means by which church bells will ring in unison."

"After seeing town churches in other states doing something similar, my friend Bryan Anderson and I contacted Reverend Ashley Grant and the Milford Council of Churches to see if they would be interested in doing something similar," said **Rep. Rose**. "I am thrilled that these churches have chosen to show support for our community in this way."

"Step outside in our small city or walk near downtown Milford on the hour, and you are liable to hear church bells ringing," said **Reverend Ashley Grant** of the Milford's First United Church of Christ. "Church bells can broadcast a message. Church bells can ring our gratitude. Church bells can connect us. Church bells can remind us that we are not alone."