

# **UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

## **SCARECROW COMPETITION RULES**

The contest will run from October 1 – 31, 2024. Judging will be the week of October 21 with the winners to be announced on October 31.

The contest is open to all individuals, families, civic, non-profit organizations, schools, churches, clubs, businesses or governmental agencies located within the communities of Webster and Dudley.

### **Registration**

Registration is free.

Participants must pre-register for this event and will be based on first come first serve basis noted by entry date and time on the form. There are a limited number of sites available for scarecrows. The deadline for contest entries is October 12, 2024, at 5:00 p.m.

### **Prizes**

Prizes will be provided by our contest sponsors. Prizes will be awarded for 1st in each category. The winners will have their names posted on the United Church of Christ website and/or the local newspaper.

Prizes may be claimed at the church office during normal business hours after October 31, 2024.

Categories:

1. 100 Series: Individual/Family
2. 200 Series: Civic/Non-Profit Organization
3. 300 Series: School/Scouts/Other children organization
4. 400 Series: Business

### **Judging:**

Judging will be done by the community with polls on our Facebook page (shared to local pages), on our website and by phone or mail to the office. One vote per person and category please.

### **Judging Criteria**

Be creative! Use your imagination! Your entry can be traditional, humorous or contemporary. Remember that this is a community celebration. The goal is to generate good will and a festive atmosphere. No political, off-color or profane displays will be allowed.

The United Church of Christ reserves the right to deny entry privileges of displays to be considered offensive or not family friendly.

### **Location:**

Scarecrows will be placed around the outside of the church and in the patio for all to see.

## **Setup and Removal**

In order to set up your scarecrow, you must check in with the office to obtain your location and exhibitor's sign. Once you have your information, you will have until dusk on October 18 to set up your display. It is recommended if you have time to check on your display on October 18 before noon, to do so, to make sure it is ready for judging!

Scarecrow locations will be based on entry dates and times. A sign will be provided to you and should be displayed by your scarecrow at all times. The sign will display the number given to you by the office and the name of your scarecrow. Please do not add any advertising or names.

Please plan to remove your scarecrow by November 3rd at 7:00 p.m.

## **Scarecrow Construction**

Size Limitations: Maximum height: 6 feet; Maximum width: 4 feet. The entire structure is considered to be the dimension of the entry, not just the scarecrow. Scarecrows must not obstruct view or impede pedestrian or vehicle traffic, but keep in mind you'll want the scarecrow visible from the street.

All Scarecrow entries must be hand-made. Scarecrows will be subject to all weather conditions; therefore, construction materials should be durable, and all ornamentation securely attached.

You may use props such as cornstalks, pumpkins, straw bales, a bench, bicycle, etc. as long as they remain within your site.

Absolutely no loose hay or straw. Please consider wrapping your hay bales in clear plastic to prevent hay from coming loose. Scarecrows must be free standing or have a vertical support in the body so it can be wired to a post.

## **Scarecrow Guidelines**

Scarecrows are expected to be based on traditional construction and must be in good taste. Please keep in mind the audience of families and young children when creating your scarecrows.

Not Permitted

1. No controversial or political themes. Just good old-fashioned scarecrows!
2. No store-bought masks
3. No sharp objects such as real pitchforks, knives, hooks, etc.
4. No flammable objects such as tiki torches, gas-powered generators, or any open flames
5. No mechanical scarecrows are permitted

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## **Disclaimers**

The United Church of Christ or its agents will not be held responsible for any damage to the scarecrow entries. Neither the United Church of Christ nor its agents will be held responsible for any injury or damage associated with the 2024 Scarecrow Competition.

**More Information**

For additional information about the contest, please email the office at [office@uccfedwebster.org](mailto:office@uccfedwebster.org)