

THE BROOKSIDE CHRONICLE

Brookside Congregational Church, United Church of Christ

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Visit Our Web Site: www.brooksideecc.org

February, 2007

WHAT'S INSIDE

Bible Readings to Ponder

The Lectionary for February. *page 7*

Christian Ed. Dept. Keeps Busy

Learning at all ages. *page 4*

Health and Well-being

News of interest to the Brookside Church family. *page 5*

Learning About Our Faith

Confirmation Class has a full schedule planned. *page 4*

Message from Our Interim Pastor

See what she has to tell us in "Carolyn's Corner." *page 3*

On to the Next Step:

Pastoral Search Committee gets to work, and an interim pastor will help us through the time of transition. *page 2*

Reaching Out, Locally and Globally

Who is Jeferens? Find out! *page 3*

Sunday Volunteers:

Please mark your calendars. *page 7-8*

Winter Activities in the Works...

...for Sr. Hi & Middle School. *page 4*

Youth to Fight Hunger

Plan ahead to support/participate in the 30-Hour Famine. *page 4*



WE HAVE AN
INTERIM PASTOR:
REV. CAROLYN KEILIG

...read all about her on page 2



*Wednesday Evening
Worship & Study
begins February 21*

...more on page 3

Pastor-less No More!

On Monday January 29, 2007 our new full time interim pastor, Reverend Carolyn Keilig, joined the Brookside team. Carolyn comes to us having just left West Church in Concord and will now be ministering to our needs. She will be assuming all pastoral duties including worship services, weddings and funerals, hospital visits, homebound visits, CE programs and, pastoral emergencies; she will work with boards, attend board meetings, conduct Lenten and Christmas services, provide guidance and support in our direction-finding efforts, work with us on our stewardship program, work with office staff and sextons, etc. This is only a partial list and examples of what we can expect.

We will be welcoming Pastor Carolyn as part of the service on **Sunday, February 11**, and afterwards during fellowship hour. Please join me in welcoming Carolyn to Brookside.

Roger Sevigny, Moderator

Meet Pastor Carolyn:

The Rev. Carolyn Keilig is a graduate of Andover Newton Theological School, where she received a Master of Divinity degree in 1979, and of The Defiance College, receiving her B.A. in religious education and in sociology in 1976.

After graduation from Andover Newton, she was called to the First Congregational Church, UCC of Kittery Point, Maine and from there she has gone on to serve a number of churches throughout the New Hampshire Conference, most recently as the interim pastor at West Congregational Church, UCC in Concord. Carolyn has spent the last eight years as an intentional interim pastor.

Over the years her community and denominational involvement has been diverse, and includes helping to establish a volunteer hospital chaplaincy program at Portsmouth



Regional Hospital, and serving on the Board of Directors for A Safe Place, (which at the time was the only shelter for battered women in the state, where among other duties she set up the first training workshop ever held for NH clergy about domestic violence). Carolyn has served on Conference and National Boards of Outdoor Ministries, as a Board member and treasurer of the NH Bible Society and on various working groups for the NH Conference. Currently she serves on the Board of the Directors for the Church Media Center and on the NHCUCC Budget and Finance Committee.

Carolyn is married to Roger, who is a civil engineer and environmental geologist, and they live in Hopkinton with their three children Pamela, Robby, and Susanna.

Read Pastor Carolyn's first letter to us in "Carolyn's Corner," found on page 3.

Pastoral Search Committee Begins Its Long Journey

The Steering Committee finalized its work on the nominee recommendations for the Pastoral Search Committee

and the list of nominees was presented at a special congregational meeting held on January 7. The congregation voted to ratify the Steering Committee's nominations, approving the following as members of the Pastoral Search Committee:

*Gil Desjardins
Jeff Fletcher
Karen Horsch
Joe Lachance
Pete Lovejoy
Tricia Lucas*

*Judi Mitchell
Kerry Richardson
Laura Sevigny
Brock Swetland
Dale Trombley*



The search committee held its organizational meeting on Sunday, January 28 after Annual Meeting. Next, the committee will meet with NH UCC Conference minister Rev. Gary Schulte on February 13 to further discuss the search process. We will keep you posted on the issue as we move forward.

Carolyn's

Corner



Our Interim Pastor Writes:

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven.

(Ecclesiastes 3:1)

I am arriving at Brookside very much in the middle of many seasons. Looking outside my window it is very apparent to me that winter has now finally settled in, and having done that, has no intention of changing to springtime in the near future. Our liturgical calendar places us in the middle of Epiphany, still a few weeks away from Lent. Those involved in school year schedules might note that we are about halfway through the school season. Furthermore, I find myself in the middle season of my own life.

The interim time can be seen as a season, yet this is a season we are just beginning. We can understand it as a season of our own making, a time for trying out some new ideas or possibilities. It can be a time of planting and growing, rejoicing and celebrating, holding on to and letting go, dreaming and daring. Yet there are also aspects of it that are not of our own choosing or making. It is a season of saying good-bye to the still-felt presence of someone who has been both pastor and friend for sixteen years and whose ministry among you will be missed and grieved. This particular "change of seasons" has set in motion many other changes, some of which are expected while some will be unexpected.

At the very heart of this season is our prayerful discernment together around this question: what is God's calling for you – the members and friends of Brookside Congregational Church, UCC – at this particular time in the ministry in which God has placed you? As we listen for and respond to that call, we will all become ready for the next season God has planned for us.

Blessings,

Carolyn

Lent Begins on February 21

Ash Wednesday, Feb. 21, 7:00 p.m.

- Worship Service in the Chapel
- Lenten Study follows, 7:30 - 8:30

Wednesdays, Feb. 28, March 7, 14 & 21:

- 7:00 p.m., Worship Service, Chapel
- 7:30 p.m., Lenten Study Class



Loaves and Fishes

Thank you for your January donations—we collected 65 bags of food for New Horizons Soup Kitchen! Our next collection will be **Sunday, February 4.**

News From a Sponsored Child:

As many of you know, Brookside sponsors two children through its support for Compassion International. One of these children is Jeferens, a seven-year-old from Indonesia. This past month, we received another letter from Jeferens, written by his mother.

Dear Brookside Church,

Hello. Peaceful regard in Jesus Christ.

Jeferens is happy and grateful to God. Jeferens and family are happy and happy to receive your help. Jeferens is in 1st grade elementary school, so I couldn't write yet. He asked for mother to help. Jeferens and family want to thank you for sending the letter. Jeferens and family hopes that you will always pray for him and his family. Thanks for your help, Brookside Church. Thank you very much. May God bless us all. Amen.

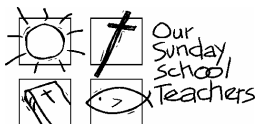
Hurray for Holiday Baskets!

As a result of your donations and support, we were able to fill 72 Thanksgiving and 72 Christmas baskets for needy families in our community. Thank you for your help in making the holidays happier for those less fortunate!



February's Teachers

Infant/Toddler Room:



Preschool (3-5 Year-olds):

Stephanie Strandson, Leandra George

Grades 1-2: *Karin & Mark Cross-Powers*

Grades 3-4: *Robin Davison*

Grades 5-7: *Cindy Migliori, Sue Bilodeau, Themba Dhliwayo*

Super Bowl Subs to Support Sr. High Mission Trip

Super Bowl Sub orders can be picked up starting at 11:30 on **Sunday, February 4** in Fellowship Hall. Depending on supplies, there may be an opportunity for a last minute order. Check with *Jean Dickson* or *Ed Mitchell* prior to Sunday, or check in with the youth working in the kitchen Sunday morning. Thank you to all who placed orders.

Confirmation Class Keeps Busy

Saturday, February 3 – visit to Temple Adath Yeshurun: meet at Brookside at 9:00 a.m. We will travel together to TAY (Prospect & Beech) where we will participate in a Sabbath service, and then have a tour and discussion opportunity with Rabbi Beth Davidson. Plans for lunch will be discussed prior to leaving Brookside.

Sunday, February 4 – 8:30-9:30 a.m., Confirmation Class in the upstairs lounge

Sunday, February 18 – 8:30-9:30 a.m., Confirmation Class in the upstairs lounge

Wednesday, February 21 is Ash Wednesday, the beginning of the Lenten season and Wednesday evening services. You and your mentor need to plan to attend two services between February 21 and the end of March.

30-Hour Famine

The 6th annual 30 Hour Famine through World Vision is set for 9:00 a.m. **Saturday, March 17** through 1:00 p.m. **Sunday, March 18**. Middle School and High School youth are

encouraged to join us for a full day and an overnight lock-in where we focus on community service projects, fellowship through games, discussion, experiences and activities while learning about life in developing countries. We will also participate in a "world famine" experience by eating 3 meals together (lunch, supper, breakfast), which will be nourishing but sparse. Participation packets are available during the month of February. For more information contact *Jean Dickson*, 669-2807 ext. 104, or via email at jeand@brooksidecc.org.

Senior High Group to Enjoy a Winter Retreat Feb. 9-10

We'll be leaving the Brookside parking lot at 5:30 p.m. on **Friday, February 9** and returning on **Saturday** at about 6 p.m.



We'll be skiing at Waterville Valley all day on Saturday. Lodging, dinner (Fri. night) and breakfast (Sat.) will be provided. You'll need to bring money for lift tickets, lunch, and equipment rentals as needed. Remember, all participants need to sign a "permission form". Any questions, please call *Ed Mitchell* at 345-4335.

Middle School Outing

Sunday, February 18 – Tubing trip to McIntyre – leave Brookside at 11:30, bring a bag lunch or money for lunch. Parents should pick up children at 2:30 at McIntyre. Call *Sue Benson* (627-3300) for more information.

For Parents of Adolescents:

The Adolescent Health Lunch and Learn Series will present a program on "Sex, Drugs and the Teenage Brain" from Noon to 1 p.m. on **Tuesday, February 13** at the Derryfield Country Club. Admission to this Child Health Services-sponsored program is free, and lunch will be provided. The deadline to RSVP is **February 9**; call 629-9707 or email rsvpteenhealthclinic@verizon.net.



Holy Communion

The sacrament of Communion will be celebrated on **Sunday, February 4,**

served by: *John Marcotte, Keith Hamer, Kathleen Dube, Mike Ninivaggi, Dale Trombley, Dennis Giguere, Joyce Lovejoy and Don Waldrupe.*

First Communion News

In the sacrament of the Lord's Supper, the church acts out the drama of God's love for humankind. Although, for centuries, churches in the Western world have restricted this sacrament to those who could "understand" it, in other churches children are initiated into table fellowship from a very young age. There is a growing ecumenical consensus that all baptized persons, which includes children, should be welcome to share in the sacrament of Communion.

Families wouldn't think of withholding affection from a child because the child could not yet understand what it means. In the same way, the church is beginning to realize the importance of including children in fellowship and celebration of the life of the church in many ways, including Communion.

During the months of **February** and **March** our First and Second Grade children will be learning about the importance of Communion. On **Sunday, April 1,** after the Children's Sermon, these children will return to their seats to participate in Communion with their families. The Communion Bread served April 1 will be made by this class as part of their First Communion instruction.

Nursing Home Services

Worship services this month are as follows:

– **Sunday, February 18:**

- Courville, 2:00 p.m.
- Hillcrest Terrace, 3:00 p.m.

Parishioners are always welcome to come along as visitors or participants. Please try to work it into your schedule this month!



Deaths

Mary Healey, a Brookside member since 1981, died December 25. Family members include a daughter and two grandchildren. A memorial service was held in the Chapel.

Kenneth Haskell, a Brookside member since 1949, died January 17 in Florida. Family members include his wife, Iris, a son and daughter, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. A memorial service will be held in Brookside's Chapel on **Saturday, February 3** at 11:00 a.m.



To Your Health!

The Parish Nurse has hours here every week, on Thursdays from 10 a.m. to Noon in Room E. Avail yourself of free nurse consultation, blood pressure checks, health information, referrals and more. Be sure to check out the Parish Nurse bulletin board across from Room E to learn about events throughout Manchester!

For more information, call the Parish Nurse office at **663-8004.**

If You're Hospitalized...

Because federal law greatly restricts the disclosure of patient information by hospitals, the pastor and church office may not know that a member of the church has been admitted to the hospital. If you are hospitalized, and would like a visit from the pastor, it is important that you (or a family member) notify the church office as soon as possible. Call us at **669-2807.** Remember, hospitals no longer can provide this information to us.

Join the Church? Baptism? Stay Tuned...

Pastor Carolyn and the Board of Deacons are in the process of reviewing a schedule of prospective dates for Baptisms and New Member classes/joining. Please watch the bulletins and/or check the web site periodically (www.brooksideecc.org) to learn more.



We Are So Excited!

Thanks to funding from the Thrift Shop, the church office has recently acquired a folding machine! This long-overdue piece of equipment will help to save countless hours (not to mention wear and tear on hands and arms) when folding the weekly bulletins and extensive letter mailings. Thank you!

With appreciation, *Vicky and Nicole*

The Fellowship Committee Recommends:

A FREE concert will be presented by the Boston Camerata on **Friday, February 9**, at 7:30 p.m. at St. Paul's School's chapel in Concord. Described as one of America's foremost early music ensembles, the Boston Camerata usually uses period instruments and language. For more information about them, go to www.bostoncamerata.com. There is a possibility of meeting beforehand for dinner; for more information, contact *Mike and Paula Ninivaggi* at **232-1865** or via email, brookside@ninivaggi.org.

**This Just In:
Women's Union Is
Cancelled This
Month**

...but, we hope to see you on March 15th!



Fellowship Hour Schedule

Monthly hosts for Fellowship Hour are:

- **Feb:** Outreach Board
- **Mar:** Board of Deacons
- **Apr:** Music Committee



Write Your Stuff!



Chronicle Deadline

Boards and Committees, share your news! If you have information to include in the March *Chronicle*, please submit it to the office by **Thursday, February 15**. You can send it by mail, fax it to **668-9041**, e-mail it to: nicoleg@brooksidecc.org or deliver it in person – take your pick!

Financial Update, In a Nutshell...

Any questions regarding the detail of the treasurer's report below may be directed to *Gail Goodman* at **656-9038**, or e-mail her at ggoodman@elliott-hs.org.

TREASURER'S REPORT			
For the period ending December 31, 2006			
	<u>Actual vs Budget</u>		
December	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Variance</u>
Total Income	33,014	29,850	3,164
Total Expenses	47,010	29,412	17,598
Net Gain (Loss)	(13,996)	438	(14,434)
Year-to-date			
Total Income	376,211	359,342	16,869
Total Expenses	375,758	358,829	16,929
Net Gain (Loss)	454	513	(59)
YTD Pledges	\$179,474	\$174,227	\$5,247

ACOLYTES

February 4
Emily Lachance

February 11
Emily Harris

February 18
Sara Ferranti

February 25
Laura Chitakunye

CE PERSON OF THE WEEK

February 4
Cindy Migliori

February 11
Mark Wentz

February 18
Pete Lovejoy

February 25
Liberty Dhlwayo

USHERS

February 4
Brock Swetland
Marcy Lyman
David Gates
Benjamin Williamson

February 11
Kelli Fletcher
Jeff Fletcher
Peter Lovejoy
Rod Leavell

February 18
Norm Noel
Ellie Kelton
Heather Soucy
Jim Soucy

February 25
Doug Thomas
Scott Davison
Dave Migliori
Joe Lachance

TRUSTEE OF THE WEEK

February 4
Scott Harris

February 11
Steve Ferranti

February 18
Joe Lachance

February 25
Gail Goodman

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The objective of *The Brookside Chronicle* is to disperse church news; inspire people to a new awareness; and interpret the ministry of our church. We will be faithful to the truth, honest and caring, and strive for accuracy.

The *Chronicle* staff appreciates and welcomes input from all organizations, boards, officers, members and friends of Brookside Congregational Church. We reserve the right to edit, cut or leave out articles according to available space, timeliness and priority.



Let light
shine out of
darkness...

2 Corinthians 4:6