

# THE BROOKSIDE CHRONICLE

*Brookside Congregational Church, United Church of Christ*

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*Visit Our Web Site: [www.brooksideecc.org](http://www.brooksideecc.org)*

*January, 2009*

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HAPPY NEW YEAR  
from the Staff

~ all the best for 2009 ~



**EPIPHANY**

*Join Us on  
Epiphany Sunday,  
January 11*

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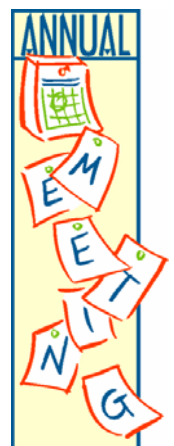


**ANNUAL  
MEETING**

*Sunday, January 25*

*11:30 a.m.*

*See you in  
Fellowship Hall!*



## ***Dawn's Doings***

*The Work of Christmas*  
By Howard Thurman

*When the song of the angels is stilled,  
When the star in the sky is gone,  
When the kings and princes are home,  
When the shepherds are back with their flock,  
The work of Christmas begins:  
To find the lost,  
To heal the broken,  
To feed the hungry,  
To release the prisoner,  
To rebuild the nations,  
To bring peace among all people,  
To make music in the heart.*

The Sundays following Epiphany, January 6, make up the church season known as Ordinary Time. The special events of Christmas culminating in Epiphany give way to biblical readings and emphasis on the signs and teachings of Jesus that manifest God to us. It is the work of Christmas, the purpose of Jesus' birth and ministry. And, as disciples, it is the also our work, the ministry of the church.

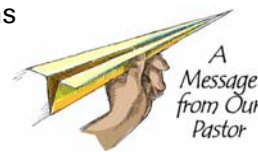
I have been thinking about our ministry together as I have conversations with the diaconate, the settling committee, and many of you. These conversations reflect the central role of love within the Christian tradition. Not only did Jesus claim that the commandments to love God and neighbor embodied the whole meaning of the Mosaic law and the prophets, Jesus also commanded his disciples to love one another as the distinguishing mark of discipleship.

We are "Called to Care" for one another, and there are actions we can begin to put into place that will move us forward in a tangible in-reach to this community of faith. The deacons are encouraging prayer requests to be given to the church office or during worship for inclusion in the bulletin. If you are willing to provide transportation to a neighbor who may not be able to drive in the winter, let us know. If you would like to visit a shut-in, let us know. And, if you are a cook and want to prepare a casserole when needed for

a new mother or a family with a loved one in the hospital, let us know. Call **669-2807** or email [pastor@brooksidecc.org](mailto:pastor@brooksidecc.org) or leave your name or the name of someone to put on our prayer list after worship. We will start keeping a list and see how it develops into a "Called to Care" ministry.

The Work of Christmas begins, and they will know we are Christians by our love!

Grace and peace,  
Pastor Dawn



## ***Serving Through Coffee: A Great Ministry Opportunity*** by Joyce Lovejoy

Have you noticed the signs on the coffee table in Fellowship Hall? The deacons are buying our coffee through the Equal Exchange Interfaith Program. Equal Exchange is a fair trade organization that buys coffee directly from farmers in rural communities, in some of the poorest countries in Latin America, Africa and Asia. These farmers are forced to sell their coffee at the lowest prices because they lack affordable credit. By buying from cooperatives directly, we help farmers build better lives for themselves and their families.

By putting some money into the basket on the coffee table, you help us pay for this ministry. By buying coffee by the pound, your help is multiplied, like the loaves and fishes that Jesus shared. The cost for one pound is \$8.00. Pete and I have committed ourselves to buying a minimum of one pound per month. Would you think about making a commitment to this ministry of caring? Thank you.

## ***Soda Can Tops Can Help, Too***

Don't forget!!! Save the tops of soda cans. *Joyce Lovejoy* will be collecting them after Easter and making sure they get to the Shriner's Hospitals. Read more about this project at [www.shrinershq.org](http://www.shrinershq.org).



### **Rotation Workshops Going Well for Church School**

Our third unit "Christmas Around the World" is over. We had four workshops in this Unit: Storytelling with Jean Dickson, Art with

Dawn Brockett, Science with Ellen Tourigny, and Cooking with Karen Horsch. We thank these teachers and the shepherds for their dedication. Although we finished on December 21st, we will not be sharing until **January 11**. Our service on the 11th will be celebrating Epiphany. This will be an intergenerational service featuring the sharing of the Christmas Unit and a dramatic presentation by the young people.

Because of Christmas vacation, there will not be Church School on **December 28** and **January 4**. There will be child care for 5-year-olds and younger in the Infant/Toddler Room.

Our new unit "Calling the Disciples" begins on **January 18**. This unit is based on Mark 1:16-20: Jesus calling Simon, Andrew, James and John. In this unit the children will be learning about Jesus calling ordinary people to be his disciples, and how he calls us to be witnesses to the good news today. This unit will have five workshops: Art, Storytelling, Music, Cooking and Games, and will go until **February 15**, with sharing on **Sunday, February 22**.

### **Epiphany Worship**

**Sunday, January 11** will be a very special Sunday! We will have an intergenerational service with the children and teachers sharing their learning from the "Christmas Around the World" unit. The young people will be putting on a dramatic production. Don't miss this special Epiphany Service.

### **Confirmation Class, Please Take Note**

Confirmation class will regroup on **Sunday, January 4** at 11:30 a.m. after worship. Pastor Dawn will be working with the group.

### **New Member, Baptism Opportunities**

New Members will be received on **Sunday, January 11**. Those interested in becoming a member are invited to gather on **Tuesday, January 6**, 6-7 p.m. in Manning House.

Baptisms will be performed during worship on **Sunday, January 18**.

Please call the church office, **669-2807**, if you are interested in either event.

### **Adult Study Group Continues**

Our adult study group, *Exploring the Bible Again for the First Time*, will meet **Mondays, January 5 & 19** at 7:00 p.m., and **Wednesdays, January 7 & 21** at Noon (alternate time to Monday evenings).

### **Knitting for a Cause**

The Prayer Shawl Group will meet on **Monday, January 12**, 4-6 p.m. in the Manning House Parlor. Interested knitters may attend at any time (monthly meetings are on the 2nd Monday). For more info, please contact either *Sue Benson* (**627-3300**, email [mumalee@comcast.net](mailto:mumalee@comcast.net)) or *Jean Dickson* (**424-7405**, email [jad3of6@hotmail.com](mailto:jad3of6@hotmail.com)).

### **Senior High Group**

High school youth are invited to join us on **Sunday, January 11** to go Snow Tubing at McIntyre. We'll have lunch at Brookside, then leave at noon for a 12:30-2:30 tubing session. The cost is \$14 per person; be sure to dress appropriately for the weather!

### **Connect With Our Sister Church in Zimbabwe**



Join us in the Lounge at 11:00 a.m. on **Monday, January 26** as we speak by phone with members of the Sakubva Church in Mutare, Zimbabwe and share our mutual faith, concerns and prayers. All those who wish to participate are invited to be here.



### **Loaves and Fishes**

Thanks for your generosity! During December, we collected **39 bags** of food for New Horizons' food pantry.

As we begin the New Year, consider making one of your resolutions donating regularly to *Loaves & Fishes*! Food pantries are always most utilized in the winter months, and given the tough economic times, this is more true than ever. New Horizons' food pantry is most in need of the following items: diapers (especially larger sizes), baby formula, peanut butter, jelly, baked beans, macaroni & cheese, canned goods, tomato sauce, pasta, and tuna. Our next *Loaves & Fishes* collection will be held on **January 4**. Thanks for your support!

### **Share the Warmth with Hats, Mittens and Scarves**

Help keep someone else warm this winter! Now through **Sunday, January 11**, place hats, mittens, and scarves under the Christmas tree. They will then be distributed to a school or to a local agency. Thank you!

### **Thanks for Your Help**

Thanks to all who shared in the Christmas spirit and helped us provide 74 baskets to families in need of assistance. From donating food and money to organizing and assembling baskets, your assistance is greatly appreciated.



### **Jean Dickson Completes Mission Interpreter's Training!**

The NH Conference, United Church of Christ, has announced that *Jean Dickson* of Brookside Congregational Church recently completed Mission Interpreter's training. She joins 550 other mission interpreters across the United Church of Christ, including Rebecca Herr of Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ. Both Jean and Re-

becca are available to congregations to interpret the mission we share through Wider Church Ministries and Global Ministries in the United Church of Christ.



### **Holy Communion**

The sacrament of Communion will be celebrated by intinction on **Sunday, January 4**, served by members of our Diaconate: *Kerry Richardson, Don Waldrup* and *Dale Trombley*.

### **With Sympathy**

Former member *Mary Wiggin*, 102, died in Florida December 6, survived by a son and daughter. She was a member of Franklin Street/Brookside Church from 1938-1972.

### **Health Matters**

Beginning **January 8**, the Parish Nurse has hours here every week, on Thursdays from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. 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 other events in Manchester.



Another round of *Chair Massage* will take place on **Thursday, January 8**, between 9:30 & 11:30 a.m. Call **663-8004** to reserve a time slot (the cost is \$10 for 15 minutes).

### **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.

## Nursing Home Services

Worship services this month are as follows:

– **Monday, January 5:**

- Masonic Home, 1:30 p.m.

– **Sunday, January 18:**

- Courville at Manchester, 2:00 p.m.

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



## Join Us for Food and Fellowship

Our next Fellowship Dinner is scheduled for **Saturday, January 24**. Gather at 5:30 in Fellowship Hall, supper will be served at 6.

## Checking On Our Financial Status

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](mailto:ggoodman@elliott-hs.org).

## StewardSHIP Could Use a Bit More Flotation



God Loves a  
Cheerful  
Giver

As of December 28<sup>th</sup> we have received 120 Faith Promises totaling \$155,584. This compares to 129 Faith Promises totaling \$163,548 in mid-December of 2007. If you are a covenant member of the church,

then we ask that you please send your Faith Promise card in as soon as possible.

The Faith Promise Committee

### *This 'n' That, Please Read:*

1. **2009 Offering Envelopes** are in the Narthex; please find and take yours the next time you're in the building.
2. **Annual Reports** covering the year 2008 (both written and financial) are due in the office **no later than Monday, January 5**. Electronic versions (in MS Word, please) may be emailed to [nicoleg@brooksidecc.org](mailto:nicoleg@brooksidecc.org).
3. **Deadline for the February Chronicle** is **Sunday, January 11**. Please submit all material by that date, by mail, personal delivery, email ([nicoleg@brooksidecc.org](mailto:nicoleg@brooksidecc.org)) or fax, **668-9041**. Thanks.



### TREASURER'S REPORT

For the period ending November 30, 2008

November	<u>Actual vs. Budget</u>		
	Actual	Budget	Var
Total Income	25,875	25,632	243
Total Expenses	23,134	21,326	1,807
Net Gain (Loss)	2,742	4,305	(1,564)
<b>Year-to-date</b>			
Total Income	301,796	288,098	13,698
Total Expenses	313,239	297,317	15,923
Net Gain (Loss)	(11,443)	(9,219)	(2,225)
<b>YTD Pledges</b>	144,725	131,775	12,950

### A Note from the Treasurer:

As I have been tracking our financials throughout the year, I have found it amazing and heartening to see our pledge income continue to track higher than we anticipated. I am humbled to be a part of this group of loyal and generous individuals who make up our membership.

Although we continue to struggle this year due in part to much higher than planned heating costs, your time and effort and contributions have made 2008 much less devastating than it might have been. It's an honor to serve you all. God bless you and here's to a better 2009.

*Gail*



### **Winter Blues Service To Be Offered**

You are invited to attend this community service of remembrance and comfort, **Thursday, January 22** at 6:30 p.m. in the Chapel, offered by Pastoral Counseling Services, Brookside Congregational Church, Temple Adath Yeshurun and Goodwin Funeral Home. RSVP or get more information by calling Pastoral Counseling Services, **627-2702**.

### **Women's Union Goes on Hiatus**

Just a reminder that we don't meet in January or February... but plan to come to our next meeting on **Thursday, March 19** for our famous corned beef dinner and a traditional Irish program! Details will be in the *March Chronicle*.

#### **DOORPERSON**

<b>January 4</b> Don Waldrup	<b>January 11</b> Jim Peace
<b>January 18</b> Rod Leavell	<b>January 25</b> Scott Antonucci

#### **ACOLYTES**

<b>January 4</b> Jason Davison	<b>January 11</b> Phoenix Thomas
<b>January 18</b> Matt Dube	<b>January 25</b> Sara Ferranti



#### **Fellowship Hour Schedule**

Monthly hosts for Fellowship Hour are:

- **Jan:** Christian Ed. Board
- **Feb:** Christian Ed. Board
- **Mar:** Outreach Board

#### **GREETERS**

<b>January 4</b> Mike Wentzell	<b>January 11</b> Laura & Roger Sevigny
<b>January 18</b> Bob & Sarah Merrill	<b>January 25</b> Don Waldrup

#### **TRUSTEE OF THE WEEK**

<b>January 4</b> Steve Ferranti	<b>January 11</b> Laura Sevigny
<b>January 18</b> Steve Ferranti	<b>January 25</b> Dave Migliori

#### **CE PERSON OF THE WEEK**

<b>January 4</b> Thandi Dhlwayo	<b>January 11</b> Ed Mitchell
<b>January 18</b> Liberty Dhlwayo	<b>January 25</b> Ed Mitchell

#### **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.

