

THE BROOKSIDE CHRONICLE

Brookside Congregational Church, United Church of Christ

2013 Elm Street, Manchester, NH 03104-2528

Tel. (603) 669-2807 • Fax (603) 668-9041

Visit Our Web Site: www.brooksideecc.org

February, 2009

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Getting to Know You... More "Meet & Greet" Times with Pastor Dawn

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Musical Talent from Hillside Middle School + Make-a-Sundae = MUSICAL FEAST!

(Thursday, Feb. 19...more on page 5)

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

*Join us on
Ash Wednesday,
February 25*

~ ~ ~

Supper – Worship – Study

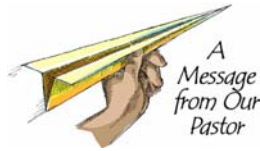


LENT BEGINS

...details on page 2

Dawn's Doings

Some Breathing Room - Let's Gather!



Since Lent is later this year, we have some breathing room between Christmas and Lent. Ordinary time it is called, these Sundays and weeks after Epiphany.

In February, I would like to meet more of you in small groups. The purposes of these groups are to get to know each other and to engage in conversation regarding particular areas of focus for our ministry together. There seems to be much interest in developing a Called to Care Ministry within our congregation from the feedback I received regarding a sermon illustration about Helen. The prayer list has already been added to the bulletin and some have expressed an interest in sending cards to parishioners, visiting, and providing meals, as needed.

Also responses to two key points in my sermon on January 4

- the church wanting to move forward, rather than treading water, and
- positive feedback on "our vision inspiring our financial base, rather than finances defining and limiting our vision" - indicate that there is energy to move ahead, and I would like to have your input on where we might focus our time and resources. I have ideas, but I want to hear from you.

- Who/What brought you to Brookside?
- Why did you decide to become a part of Brookside?
- What is the particular niche you see Brookside having among the Manchester area churches?
- In what particular focus of ministry would you be excited to participate?
- What do you believe God is calling Brookside to be and do in this time and place?
- For fun, in ten words or less what would you say in an advertisement about Brookside?

Please call the office at **669-2807** or email pastor@brooksideecc.org if you plan to

attend one of the following meetings:

- **Wednesday, February 4** at 7 p.m., Manning House Parlor
- **Thursday, February 12**, noon time, Manning House Dining Room, bring a bag lunch
- **Wednesday, February 18**, 5:30 p.m., Manning House Parlor

Each meeting will last an hour. Name tags, tea, and coffee will be provided.

I hope you will be able to come to one of the gatherings. If you are not able to attend, please consider the questions posed and send me your responses.

Grace and peace,
Pastor Dawn

Lent Begins Feb. 25, Ash Wednesday

Join us on Ash Wednesday for:

6:00 p.m. - Soup and Bread supper in Manning House

7:00 p.m. - Worship Service, Chapel

7:30 p.m. - Lenten Study in the Lounge

This year's Lenten Study will focus on *Sabbath: Remember, Rest, Reconnect, Renewal and Re-member*. At the first class, on Ash Wednesday, we will explore the biblical understandings of Sabbath with special attention to Sabbath as contributing to the fullness of human life.

Care to Join Us?

If you would like to become a covenant member of Brookside Congregational Church, please speak with *Pastor Dawn* (**669-2807, ext. 101** or pastor@brooksideecc.org). A special gathering will be planned when we have a group of folks who have expressed an interest in learning more.





Christian Ed. Is for All

Contact Info for pages 3-5:

- Sue Benson:
627-3300; mumalee@comcast.net
 Jean Dickson:
424-7405; jad3of6@hotmail.com
 Fran Hakenson:
377-6907; fhakenson@yahoo.com
 Pete Lovejoy:
487-3532; petelovejoy@comcast.net
 Ed Mitchell:
345-4335; epmitchell@comcast.net

News Flash on "Splash"

We are starting a new program for parents of children under age three, "Splash." Starting with the child's birth month the parents will receive a two-page newsletter in the mail. This newsletter includes articles that help parents with their most important task of faith formation. Their first mailing for each year will include a CD of music that is appropriate for that age level. We are looking forward to including all children baptized in the church in this program. For more information, or if you have questions, see *Fran Hakenson* or any member of the Board of Christian Education.

Fran Hakenson Shares the Latest on Our Church School Program

Can you believe we are half way through this Church School year? We have 3 Units finished and are on our 4th Unit: "Calling the Disciples." We have five workshops in this Unit: Art with Donna Molony and Brenda Law, Storytelling with Jeff Fletcher, Music with Debi Rapson, Cooking with Denise Forest and Games with Karyn O'Neil. This Unit takes us through the church season of Epiphany, with our sharing Sunday being **February 22**, the Sunday before Lent begins.

Our Sharing Sunday for the Unit, "Christmas Around the World" was dampened by a snow storm, but we still shared even though there were only 5 children who came forward. The Epiphany Play that was performed by the confirmation class was well done although we had 3 last minute replacements.

For your information, any Sunday there is a worship service (and we are told that Dawn does not cancel worship because of bad weather), there will be the scheduled church school program. We might regroup the children, but there will be church school.

Children's Heifer Donations Adding Up

The Church School children's offerings are going to Heifer Project again during this Unit. We collected \$31.50 during the last Unit. We thank the children who regularly brought their offerings. At the sharing on February 22, we will talk about what we can purchase with our offerings.

"CALLING THE DISCIPLES" – remaining workshops are as follows:

Age Group	4-5 year olds	1 st & 2 nd Gr.	3 rd , 4 th , 5 th Gr.	6 th & 7 th Gr.
Feb. 1	Games	Art	Cooking	Storytelling
Feb. 8	Art	Cooking	Games	Music
Feb. 15	Storytelling	Games	Music	Cooking
Feb. 22	Sharing	Sharing	Sharing	Sharing

JUST 4 YOUTH!

Middle School Youth Group Gears Up for Service and Fun

The months of February and March provide several opportunities for Middle School Youth fellowship and service.

Sunday, Feb. 1 – Tubing at McIntyre: 12:30-2:30 – \$14 per person - lunch will be provided after morning service before we travel to McIntyre. This will be a combined Middle School and Sr. High Youth Group event. Please let *Jean Dickson* or *Sue Benson* know if you need assistance with the cost.

Saturday, Feb. 14 – Visit to Courville Retirement Community: 10:00-1:00 – we will join the residents of Courville for a February/Valentine theme activity followed by lunch at Pappy's Pizza. Meet at Brookside at 9:45. Pick up at Pappy's on Elm Street.

30 Hour Famine - March 7-8: In our super-sized, value-meal world 14,000 kids shouldn't die each day because of hunger. But they do. The good news is, you and your group can do something about it. Every \$30 raised through the 30 Hour Famine can help feed and care for a hungry child for a month. Famine Kits will be available early in February. This event is open to youth in 6th grade (or age 12) and up with parent signed permission. Sr. High youth are welcome to join us. We will meet at 8:30 Saturday morning, **March 7**, in the Youth Lounge at Brookside and continue through to 1:00 Sunday, **March 8** – ending our Famine with sharing of communion and a lunch of pizza. Please contact *Jean Dickson* or *Sue Benson* with questions.

Tuesday, March 31 – Serve dinner at New Horizons Soup Kitchen: meet at Brookside at 3:30. We will eat dinner at a local restaurant after we serve, with a return to Brookside at approximately 7:00.

Senior High Youth Group to Meet Three Times in February

February will be a busy month for the Sr. High Group, beginning with our re-scheduled snow-tubing event.

Sunday, February 1: Lunch at Brookside, then leave at noon for snow-tubing at McIntyre for a 12:30-2:30 session. The cost is \$14 per person; be sure to dress appropriately for the weather!

Friday, Feb. 6 – Saturday, Feb. 7: Ski Trip to Waterville Valley (we'll stay at the Mitchells' condo). Leave at 5:30 p.m. on Friday and return Saturday at approximately 6:30 p.m. Bring money for lift tickets, ski or snowboard rental, and/or lessons.

Sunday, Feb. 15: Meeting at church with games; lunch provided.

Contact *Ed Mitchell* for more info.

Confirmation Class

The confirmation class will meet after worship on **Sunday, February 1** from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., with pizza and beverage provided. Rides will be arranged so that Confirmands may also participate in snow-tubing at McIntyre, but be sure to contact Pastor Dawn beforehand.

Future dates of confirmation class are **March 1** and **April 5**, 11:30-1 with lunch provided. Please RSVP to Pastor Dawn, pastor@brooksideecc.org. Confirmation Sunday will be **April 19**.



Adult Study Group Wraps Up This Month

Our adult study group, *Exploring the Bible Again for the First Time*, will meet **Mondays, February 2 & 16** at 7:00 p.m., and **Wednesdays, February 4, 11 & 18** at Noon (alternate



time to the Monday class). Leaders are *Fran Hakenson* and *Pete Lovejoy*.



Share Some Thought-Provoking Reading

The Women's Study Group recently started on a new book, *Bad Girls of the Bible: Exploring Women of Questionable Virtue* by Barbara Essex. We meet on **Thursdays** at 6:30 p.m. in the Lounge – all are welcome to join us! For more information, please contact *Fran Hakenson*.

Knit or Crochet a Meaningful Piece

Prayer Shawl Ministry is starting up again at Brookside after a brief respite over the holidays. Care and the love of knitting (and crochet) have been combined into a prayerful ministry that reaches out to those in need of comfort and solace. Many blessings are knitted into every shawl. The knitter begins each shawl with prayers for the recipient (known by God). When the shawl is completed it is dedicated in prayer before being sent along its way. *Sue Benson* and *Jean Dickson* are currently facilitating this ministry at Brookside and would be happy to answer any questions.

We would like your feedback on day and time that might work well for a weekly gathering at the church. Shawls can be made at home and brought in to be included in periodic dedications incorporated into a Sunday morning service. Brochures with information about the history of this ministry that started in 1998 in Hartford, CT, and patterns for knitting or crocheting can be found in a basket in the Narthex, or on-line at www.shawlministry.com.

Our Music Director Writes

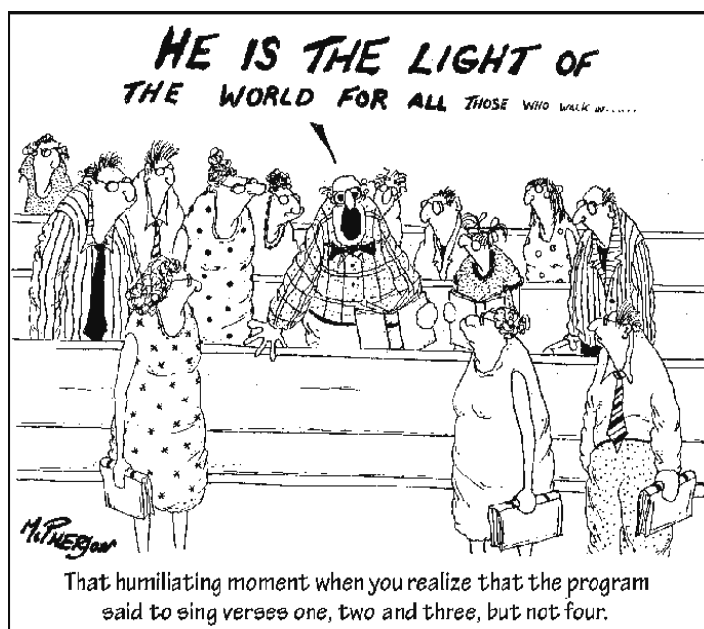


The music department is working on various tasks and events to bring to Brookside. First, I am always seeking new members to join our musical army by joining the chancel choir or having your child in the Youth Choir or the Kids' Choir. If you, or your child, have felt religious energy needing release then consider singing in the choirs. Increasing membership in the music department is a small way to thank those who have brought music to us over the years. Why not sing?

Be sure to save **Thursday, February 19** for the annual Musical Feast celebration featuring the Hillside Music Department. Many of you remember the festivities of last year's Valentines theme and the outstanding performances from the Hillside Jazz Band, Honors Orchestra, and Select Choir. This year's event will feature extraordinary musicians, as well as ice cream sundaes after the concert. The time is not final but be on the lookout for posters around the church and listen for announcements before worship.

Good things are happening at Brookside!

Blessings,
Rob St. Cyr



KIDS' PAGE TO GO HERE



Families in Transition Adopt-a-Store Program

Join us on **Saturday, February 7, from 9:30 a.m. – Noon**, at the Family Outfitters Thrift Store on Second Street. We are organizing a group of at least 5 individuals from Brookside to assist the thrift store staff in sorting clothing, books, and other donated items. This is a great fellowship opportunity: connect with other Brookside members while helping those in need. Families in Transition provides numerous services to homeless families in our community, and 100% of profits from sales go to their programming. The thrift store also serves as an employment and training program for FIT participants and alumni who gain retail expertise at all levels. If you would like to learn more about FIT's social entrepreneurial endeavor, visit www.FamilyOutfitters.org. If you would like to volunteer on February 7th, please contact Sarah Duffley at **858-4233** or at duffleytaylor@gmail.com



Through the generosity and kindness of the congregation, three boxes of mittens, hats and gloves and a bag of children's books were collected during the Christmas season. The boxes were delivered to Child Health Services. Susan Ouelette, the Volunteer Coordinator at CHS, was very grateful for the contribution. Many times, people walk into the agency in the extreme cold of winter and do not have these items, so agency workers will now be able to send them off a little more comfortable than when they arrived.

Loaves and Fishes

Thanks to your generosity, we collected 30 bags of groceries for the New Horizons Food Pantry in January.



Our next collection date is **February 1**. Their wish list currently includes: diapers (larger sizes), baby formula, peanut butter, jelly, macaroni & cheese, baked beans, canned goods, tomato sauce, pasta, and tuna. Thanks again!

Lenten Loaves and Fishes

Due to the overwhelming success of our Lenten Loaves & Fishes offering last year, we will once again hold this special collection throughout Lent, which begins on **February 25**. Here's how it works: bring in a canned good or other item **every time** you come to church, whether it be for a service, a meeting, or a study group. Please join us in this Lenten observance. You can make a difference in the lives of people in need in our own community by performing this simple act!



Valentines to Give Your Children

- Acceptance – Teach kids that you love them for who and what they are. Give this gift with a kiss.
- Self-confidence – Help children understand that they can trust themselves. Give this gift with a hug.
- Life without needless fears – Don't let your kids see you as a worrier. Give this gift with laughter.
- Appreciation – Help children acquire a spark of gratitude and enjoy all of life. Give this gift as they go out the door.
- Faith – Introduce your children to God, the best friend they'll ever have. Give this gift by taking them to church every Sunday.

(from *Newsletter Newsletter*, ©2008)

Holy Communion

The sacrament of Communion will be celebrated on **Sunday, February 1**, served by: *Jeff Fletcher, Dale Trombley, Jeff Rapson, Kerry Richardson, Russ Dunn, Dennis Giguere* and *Kathleen Dube*.



Nursing Home Services

Worship services this month are as follows:

- **Monday, February 2:**
 - Masonic Home, 1:30 p.m.
 - **Sunday, February 15:**
 - 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!

Baptisms

Baptized on January 18 was *Brianna Cynthia Newell*, daughter of Christopher and Kim Newell.

The sacrament of Baptism is generally scheduled monthly, on the third Sunday. If you are interested in receiving this sacrament on **February 15, March 15** or a date further out, please speak with *Pastor Dawn* (669-2807, ext. 101 or pastor@brooksidecc.org).

Babysitting Training Offered

If you're 11-15 years old and would like to take a babysitting class sponsored by the Parish Nurse program, please call **626-2626** to sign up. Dates are **Tuesday, February 24** and **Thursday, February 26** from 9:45 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Parish of the Transfiguration on Kelley Street; the fee is \$48.

Do You Have Medical Training?

A recent event has caused the Diaconate to review our procedures for the care of worshippers who may be in medical distress. We will call 911 immediately. However, we

would like to identify members who have some medical training and would be willing to help until emergency responders arrive. Please call the office or speak to *Pastor Dawn* if you would be willing to fill that role.

To Your Health!



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 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.

Women's Union Still on Hiatus

Remember, we won't meet in 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*.

Chronicle Deadline

Items for the March *Chronicle* should be submitted by **Sunday, February 8**. You can deliver them in person, send them by mail, fax them to **668-9041**, or e-mail them to: nicoleg@brooksidecc.org. Thanks.



Keeping Tabs on Our Finances

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, 2008

December	<u>Actual vs. Budget</u>		
	Actual	Budget	Var.
Total Income	27,922	33,777	(5,855)
Total Expenses	20,595	32,446	(11,851)
Net Gain (Loss)	7,327	1,330	5,997
Year-to-date			
Total Income	329,718	321,875	7,843
Total Expenses	333,834	329,763	4,071
Net Gain (Loss)	(4,116)	(7,888)	(3,772)
YTD Pledges	158,307	149,745	8,562

DOORPERSON

February 1 Dennis Giguere	February 8 Dave Migliori
February 15 Mike Wentzell	February 22 Keith Hamer

GREETERS

February 1	Elizabeth & Robert Dunn
February 8	Glen, Anita Williamson & family
February 15	Debi & Jeff Rapson
February 22	Donna & Rod Leavell

TRUSTEE OF THE WEEK

February 1 Laura Sevigny	February 8 Joe Lachance
February 15 Pete Farwell	February 22 Dawn Brockett

CE PERSON OF THE WEEK

February 1 Ed Mitchell	February 8
February 15 Liberty & Thandi Dhliwayo	February 22 Chris Bulkley

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.

Fellowship Hour Schedule

Monthly hosts for Fellowship Hour are:

- **Feb:** Christian Ed. Board
- **Mar:** Outreach Board
- **Apr:** Music Committee



DEACONS OF THE WEEK

February 1 Keith Hamer Dennis Giguere	February 8 Joyce Lovejoy Keith Hamer
February 15 Jeff Rapson Joyce Lovejoy	February 22 Jeff Rapson



The Lectionary

Each issue of the *Chronicle* features monthly Bible readings, so that you can read and reflect on your own, at a time that suites you best.

Lectionary for February

February 1

Old Testament	Deuteronomy 18:15-20 Psalm 111
New Testament	1 Corinthians 8:1-13 Mark 1:21-28

February 8

Old Testament	Isaiah 40:21-31 Psalm 147:1-11, 20c
New Testament	1 Corinthians 9:16-23 Mark 1:29-39

February 15

Old Testament	2 Kings 5:1-14 Psalm 30
New Testament	1 Corinthians 9:24-27 Mark 1:40-45

February 22

Old Testament	2 Kings 2:1-12 Psalm 50:1-6
New Testament	2 Corinthians 4:3-6 Mark 9:2-9

READERS

February 1 Emily Harris	February 8 Gretchen Newman
February 15 Jeff Rapson	February 22 Judi Mitchell

**Brookside Congregational Church,
United Church of Christ
2013 Elm Street
Manchester, NH 03104
Telephone (603) 669-2807
Fax (603) 668-9041
Web Site: www.brooksidecc.org**

Sunday Worship & Church School: 10 a.m.
Church Office Hours: Monday - Friday
9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Rev. Dr. Dawn Berry, Pastor
Office Hours 9-2, Mon.-Thurs.
Office tel. 669-2807 x 101; home 746-5033
email: pastor@brooksidecc.org

Please remember that the pastor is frequently called away, or may have other commitments during the day. It is best to call first if you need to speak with her.

ACOLYTES

February 1 Emily Lachance	February 8 Claire Tourigny
February 15 Meagan Wong	February 22 Catherine Stantial

USHERS

February 1 Ed Mitchell Bob Lachance Anne Lachance John Cooperider	February 8 Bill Hoysradt Karyn O'Neil David Gates
February 15 Tricia Lucas Jeff Fletcher Peter Lovejoy Becky Guimont	February 22 Heather Soucy Jim Soucy