



THE BROOKSIDE CHRONICLE

Brookside Congregational Church, United Church of Christ

2013 Elm Street, Manchester, NH 03104-2528

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Visit Our Web Site: www.brooksideecc.org

February, 2010

~ Room to Grow, Room to Serve, Room for You ~

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*Join us on
Ash Wednesday,
February 17*

~ ~ ~

Supper – Worship – Study

...details on page 2



WELCOME
to Brookside!

Lenten Doings

Lent begins with **Ash Wednesday, February 17**. We will continue our soup and bread suppers at 6 PM Wednesday evenings, followed by worship at 7:00 PM in the chapel. From 7:30 – 8:30 PM we will meet in the Lounge to explore themes of “Forgiveness in the Gospel of Luke and in our Lives.” One of the resources I am using is The Faces of Forgiveness: Searching for Wholeness and Salvation co-authored by theologian R. LeRon Shults and psychologist Steven J. Sandage.



In addition to the Wednesday night discussions, the congregation will have the opportunity to see the DVD *The Power of Forgiveness* directed by Martin Doblmeier. It is a powerful movie appropriate for middle school through adult, and explores significant historical events such as: the shooting of Amish school children, the Holocaust, and the Troubles in Northern Ireland; and how people live with such tragedy and heal through forgiveness. At the same time, a film for younger children will be shown on the story of Joseph from Genesis and his forgiveness of his brothers. Child care will continue until parents have viewed the *Power of Forgiveness*. The movies are scheduled for **Sunday, Feb. 28, 11:30 AM-1:30 PM**. Soup and beverage will be provided. Bring a sandwich. Popcorn will be served during the movies.

Another study opportunity will meet with me on the five **Wednesdays** in March from 10:30-noon. Using study materials from Kerygma, *Hosanna: A Spiritual Journey through Holy Week*, we will explore the events of Holy Week. The study corresponds to what the church school is focusing on – *Symbols of Holy Week*. Each Sunday of Lent, the readings and sermon will also center on Holy Week and what the events teach us about Jesus and our own faith and living.

Lent is a time for spiritual preparation and discipline. We can observe it by giving up something non-essential or we can observe it by taking on a new spiritual practice and involving ourselves in mission. Come join me in spiritual practice and worship as we prepare to live our faith in the world God sent Jesus to save. For God so loved the world.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Dawn

Hello and Goodbye...

We welcome *Ross King* who is a student with Bangor Theological Seminary. He will be doing a mentored practice with Brookside from **February 7 through May**. Ross is a member of Pilgrim Church, United Church of Christ in Nashua. Ross graduated from Keene State College with a Bachelor's Degree in Spanish and has a Masters Degree from Fuller Theological Seminary in Cross-Cultural Studies. He also has a Masters Degree in Educational Administration. He taught Hispanics as a bi-lingual elementary teacher and worked in urban educational reform.



Ross will be assisting in worship, preaching monthly, and offering pastoral care. He is seeking experience in the practice of pastoral ministry as he prepares for graduation and serving as a pastor in a local congregation. A committee of Raymond Brooks, convener, Tom Cleary, Joe Forest, Cindy Watts, and the Rev. Joyce Lovejoy will be working with Ross providing feedback and support as he interns with Brookside.

Farewell to *Bob Lachance* as our Assistant to the Sexton. Bob began his work with Brookside in November, 2006 and resigned effective January 28, 2010. Our thanks to Bob for being such a responsible and cheerful worker. The good news is that Bob remains a member of Brookside, and we'll see him on Sundays.

February 14 Worship to Feature Workshops for All

Workshops for everyone!! That is what will be happening on **Sunday, February 14**. We will begin worship in the Sanctuary. Then everyone will be going to a workshop centering on the theme for this unit, “Love Your Enemies” – an appropriate theme for Valentine’s Day. We will have six workshops: Art with Liberty Dhliwayo, Cooking with Sarah Duffley, Games with Peyton Fletcher, Music with Kim Whitehead, Storytelling with Bev Robie, and Science with Ellen Tourigny. The workshops will go for 35 minutes. Everyone will then return to the Sanctuary and we will share what happened in the workshops. The teachers are prepared to make this intergenerational learning experience fun and informative for all ages.

Avail Yourself of this Family Lenten Resource

On **Sunday, February 14** we will have available “Observing Lent at Home.” This booklet has easy-to-understand explanations and activities that will keep every member of the family engaged as you observe Lent. This activity guide is an excellent way to help you grow, as individuals and families, in the true meaning of the season. It emphasizes the value of honoring God and helping others.

Church School to Learn About Symbols of Holy Week in Next Unit

Our next Unit will be Symbols of Holy Week. This will be a five-week unit taking us up to Palm Sunday. In this unit the children will be learning the events of Holy Week. This will help them better understand the meaning and joy experienced on Easter Sunday.

Adult Study Group Gears Up for Final Session on “Darwin” Book

Session 9 of *Darwin, Divinity and the Dance of the Cosmos* will meet on **Monday, February 1** at 7:15 PM in the Lounge. The title of this final session is “For All That We Have Been; For All That We Are Becoming.” Fran Hakenson will lead this session.

Update on Women’s Study Group

The Women’s Study group that was meeting on Wednesdays is not gathering at this time. We often start a new session or book by having supper at Shorty’s. Since the youth are having a fund-raising at Shorty’s on **February 7**, let’s support them by having lunch together after worship. We can explore then if we want to continue, and what form the group should take after Lent. All women are invited to join us. Watch the bulletin for the time we will gather.

Women of Faith Plans Book Discussion on March 16

The book *Amish Grace: How Forgiveness Transcended Tragedy* by Donald B. Kraybill, Steven M. Nolt, and David L. Weaver-Zercher will be the basis of this discussion, facilitated by Sr. Pauline Maurier. Please read the book beforehand, and we will examine the Amish practice of forgiveness and compare with our own faith traditions. The discussion will take place on **Tuesday, March 16** at 7 PM at St. Catherine’s Parish Hall, corner of Hemlock and Webster Streets (Note: it is NOT wheelchair accessible). A free will offering will be donated to Sisters of the Holy Cross. RSVP to *Carolyn Cicciu* at c.cicciu@comcast.net or **627-9473**. For more information call *Jean Dickson*, **860-3647**.



Youth Prepare for Mission Trip

Eight of our youth group members will spend their February vacation serving the homeless and less fortunate of Miami. Like last year's mission trip to Atlanta, our youth will serve in various capacities in collaboration with the DOOR Network Missions. Participating youth group members, Thandi Dhliwayo, Peyton Fletcher, Colin Fletcher, TJ Rapson, Chris Davison, Chris Mitchell, Sam Ferranti, and Ashtyn Milling will leave on **Sunday, February 21** and return on **Friday, February 26**. Accompanying them will be two youth advisors, Debi Rapson and Ed Mitchell.

There will be two fundraising opportunities in the coming weeks:

- On **Sunday, January 31**, the youth group will hold a bake sale and serve food in conjunction with the Annual Meeting.
- On **Sunday, February 7**, we will participate in the "Fair Share" program at Shorty's Mexican Roadhouse. Go to lunch or dinner at Shorty's (eat-in or take-out) and place your meal receipt in the basket on the hostess stand labeled Brookside Church Mission Trip. Fifteen percent of your meal receipt (excluding alcohol) will be donated by Shorty's.

We still need to raise more money for the trip. Your support of our fundraising efforts is greatly appreciated. If you have any questions, please contact *Ed Mitchell* at **345-4335**.

High School Youth Group

The High School Group will meet on **Sunday, February 7** for pizza and bowling at King Lanes. We'll join in on the 11:30 phone call to Zimbabwe, then leave at the conclusion. Please bring \$12 to cover pizza and bowling costs. Questions? Contact *Ed Mitchell*, **345-4335**.

Middle School Youth Group Has Upcoming Events

Sunday, February 7 – 11:15-12:30 – Middle School Lunch and Games at Brookside. Parents are welcomed to join us.

Looking ahead:

~ 30 Hour Famine – 8:30 AM **Saturday March 20** to 1 PM **Sunday March 21**

- Information will be shared at the February meeting.

~ **Tuesday, March 30** – Middle School and High School Youth Groups join together to serve dinner at New Horizons Soup Kitchen. Meet at Brookside at 3:30 PM. We will travel to New Horizons in cars and plan to eat dinner at a local restaurant after we serve, with a return to Brookside at approximately 7:00 PM.

Confirmation Dates to Plan on:

February 17, Ash Wednesday Service in the Chapel at 7 PM. Please note our visit to Temple Adath Yeshurun for Sabbath services will be on **Friday, March 12** at 7 PM, rather than February 5. We will meet in the church parking lot at 6:30 PM. Parents may go with us if they wish.

Kim Whitehead Starts as Music Director/Organist

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU for such a warm welcome to Brookside Congregational Church! I am so honored to have been chosen to serve this faith community as Director of Music and Organist, and am truly excited to finally be working and worshipping with you.



A sincere thank you to the search committee for the HOURS spent during the selection process, and for bringing me to you! In particular, I would like to thank Elaine Giguere for being an "instrumental" part in my coming to this church, and for stepping in to direct the choir so I could end my time at the Congregational Church in Amherst with a real sense of completeness which was truly important to me. Also, thanks to Mary Copeley who served as interim organist, and best wishes to Rob St. Cyr, and his new wife Natalie, as they begin their marriage and continue their studies at LSU.

I am eager to meet you all, so please be sure to introduce yourself, but please forgive me if I don't remember all your names right away - for my sake...please wear your nametags.

Again, I'm thrilled to begin my music ministry here - it's been a real treat to begin work with the choir already - and I'm looking forward to the opportunity of "playing" a part in making music that will hopefully add joy to your worship experience at Brookside!

Looking for Young Singers to Join Junior Choir

Junior Choir will resume **February 7** after worship - my daughter is hoping all her "new friends" will come sing with her...it is open to all kids with a voice and a smile, so come join us in the Music Room for a great time!

Victorian Tea and Art Auction Moved to May 22

- ▶ Save the date, plan to help out and attend/participate – watch for more details as available.
- ▶ Do you have any quality art pieces – pictures, sculptures, etc. – to donate?

Women's Union Still on Hiatus

Remember, we won't meet in February... but plan to come to our next meeting on **Thursday, March 18** for our famous corned beef dinner and a special program on care and maintenance of jewelry. Details will be in the *March Chronicle*.

Ongoing Library Offering: "Book a Loved One"

Look for gold-colored order forms on the Library Cart in the back hallway. They explain the process of donating money to purchase a book in memory or honor of a loved one.

What Is Lent?



It is forty days of stripping down to the living essentials;
It is forty days of facing truth about one's self-indulgent evasions;
It is forty days of fellowshiping with Christ in the desert;
It is forty days of rejoicing in God's mercy and forgiveness.

Taken from Newsletter Newsletter, © Communication Resources.

Brookside Connections Provides a Wealth of Information

Learn more about our community! Join us for Brookside Connections in Fellowship Hall on **Sunday, February 7**, after worship. On that day, representatives from many of the community agencies that Brookside supports and has connections with will be here to meet and talk with the congregation about the work they do. Representatives from the various boards and committees will also be on hand to discuss how they work within our church. It is a wonderful opportunity to meet new people and learn how we are connected to many agencies in the local Manchester area.



Loaves and Fishes

Thanks to your generosity we collected 17 bags of groceries for the New Horizons Food Pantry in January. Our next collection date is **February 7**. Their wish list currently includes: diapers (larger sizes), baby formula, peanut butter, jelly, baked beans, macaroni & cheese, canned goods, tomato sauce, pasta, and tuna. Thanks again!

Help Others Via Lenten Loaves and Fishes

Participate in our Lenten Loaves & Fishes offering, a special collection throughout Lent. Beginning **February 17**, 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!

Heading to Zimbabwe

Melody Whitcher and Jean Dickson have been selected by the Ukama Advisory Board of the NH Conference to be members of the group traveling to Zimbabwe in August, 2010. They will travel through Zimbabwe experiencing the UCCZ women's gathering and visit our partner church in Sakubva. We congratulate them on their selection; we know they will be fine representatives for Brookside and have many stories to share.

Brookside Gets Recognition

The 2009 Annual Report from Andover Newton Theological School features a page about Brookside Congregational Church on its "Notable Churches" page, complete with pictures from worship and one of the community garden. A copy is posted on the bulletin board by the church office, if you would like to read further and bask in the glow.

Happy One-Year Anniversary to the Called to Care Ministry!

It doesn't seem possible that a year has passed since starting this wonderful Ministry. As many of you know, the Ministry concerns itself with the welfare of our Church members. We are 50 volunteers who have visited the sick and shut-ins, have sent cards to members who are ill, grieving, or are in the military away from home. We've sent holiday cards and just "thinking of you" type cards. We also have volunteers who have made and delivered meals in time of need.

Our goal has always been to foster Pastor Dawn's goal of strengthening the feeling of community within the church by actively caring for each other when the need arises.

We plan to honor the volunteers in service on an upcoming Sunday, followed by a reception downstairs in Fellowship Hall. Watch bulletins for more details.

Rosemary Hoysradt, Called to Care Ministry Coordinator

February, 2010



Interfaith Prayer Vigil for Just and Humane Immigration Reform

This call for action on compassionate immigration reform will take place at 3 PM on **Sunday, February 7** at St. Anne/St. Augustine's Church, 382 Beech Street in Manchester. Sponsored by the Greater Manchester Clergy Association.

VASH Volunteers Need Your Support

VASH (VA Supported Housing) is a joint venture between **HUD** and the **VA** providing **VETS** with case management from a social worker and a housing voucher for five years. This program enables **VETS** to obtain permanent, safe housing and get back on their feet. The VA helps provide access to job training programs, college, and volunteer positions. The **VETS** entering **VASH** are of all ages and have served in various capacities in the military, including Operation Enduring Freedom/Operation Iraqi Freedom, and Vietnam. Many of the female and male **VETS** have families who are coming out of a transitional situation and have lost their belongings along the way, usually from not being able to afford storage.

The volunteers of **VASH** need **your** help with donations of kitchen ware and small appliances. Bureaus, night stands, coffee and end tables, kitchen tables and chairs, television stands, lamps, and bed frames are some of our furniture needs. We accept gently used, clean couches, love seats, chairs, and anything needed to begin a home. We are proud to say that we have helped to outfit 35 apartments so far through donations from the public. There are many other ways you can help as well. We are always looking for moving help; you can adopt a family for a holiday, provide access to recreational opportunities, or provide refreshments for one of our groups.

The **VASH** furniture recycling program has a storage trailer at the VAMC where items can be accepted by appointment, weekends or weekdays. For donations, please contact Voluntary Services, Manchester VA, at 624-4366, X6419 or Tracey Noonan, VASH Program Manager, at 624-4366, X6883 or Tracey.Noonan@va.gov.

Store gift cards or gas cards are always a welcome donation. For these, or **cash** donations, please note **VASH** on your check and submit to:

Manchester VAMC Attn: Voluntary Services
718 Smyth Rd.
Manchester, NH 03104

THE VASH VOLUNTEERS THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!!!

Thank-you Received for Books and Hats/Mittens/Scarves

We recently received the following letter:

To the Parishioners of Brookside Congregational Church:

The participants of the Southern NH Services, Inc. (SNHS) Women Infants and Children Program (WIC) and Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) would like to thank you for your generous donations this winter season. The cold weather clothing items and books were given out to families participating in our programs in both the Greater Manchester and Nashua area. So, with the cold weather upon us I would like to say thank you on behalf of all of the warm ears, fingers, and toes.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Wall

Special Projects Assistant

Community Health and Nutrition Services

If You Would Like to Schedule a Baptism

The sacrament of Baptism is generally scheduled monthly, on the third Sunday. If you are interested in receiving this sacrament on **March 21, April 18, May 16, June 20**, or a date further out, please speak with *Pastor Dawn* (669-2807, ext. 101 or pastor@brooksidecc.org).

Three Become Members – Are You Interested in Joining?

We welcome the following who became Covenant members of Brookside on January 24: *Judy Foley, and Andrew & Suzanne Pyszka*.

If you would like to become a covenant member of Brookside Congregational Church on our next schedule joining date, **April 11**, please speak with Pastor Dawn (see contact info above). A special gathering will be planned when we have a group of folks who have expressed an interest in learning more.

A Loss in Our Church Family

Shirley Barakis, a Brookside member since 1986, died January 10. She had been actively involved in many areas of life at Brookside prior to a deterioration in her health. Condolences go to husband Jim.



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!

Chair Massage is available at this site, usually on the first Thursday of the month. The cost is \$10 for 15 minutes. Benefits are improved circulation, relaxed muscles, relief of body tension and improved flexibility. To reserve a chair massage time, call the Parish Nurse office at **663-8004**.

Please Note: When there is a snow emergency and no school in Manchester, the parish nurse will NOT be here.

If You're Hospitalized...

Remember to call the church office (669-2807) if you want the pastor to know that you're in the hospital. Due to federal law, hospitals can no longer provide us with this information.

Lucky 13 = Chronicle Deadline

Please submit all items for the March *Chronicle* by **Saturday, February 13**. You can deliver them in person, send them by mail, fax them to **668-9041**, or e-mail them to: nicoleg@brooksidecc.org.

(PS If you happen to wait until Sunday the 14th, it really won't cause the sky to fall in.)



DOORPERSON

February 7 Keith Hamer	February 14 Jeff & TJ Rapson
February 21 Don Waldrupe	February 28 Jim Peace

ACOLYTES

February 7 Sara Ferranti	February 14 Megan Cleary
February 21 Sara Dube	February 28 Megan Brockett

GREETERS

Feb. 7	Dennis & Elaine Giguere
Feb. 14	Laura & Roger Sevigny
Feb. 21	Bob & Sarah Merrill
Feb. 28	Chris & Sarah Taylor & family

READERS

February 7 Stephen Ferranti	February 14 Melody Whitcher
February 21 Judi Mitchell	February 28 Raymond Brooks

USHERS

February 7 Joe Lachance Karyn O'Neil Bob Lachance Anne Lachance	February 14 Jeff Rapson Pete Lovejoy Becky Guimont Kathleen Dube
February 21 Keith Hamer Jean Spruce Cilva Tanguay Joe Lachance	February 28 Doug Thomas Heather Soucy Jim Soucy

CE PERSON OF THE WEEK

February 7 Ed Mitchell	February 14 All CE Board Members
February 21 Chris Bulkley	February 28 Heather Soucy

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.

TRUSTEE OF THE WEEK

February 7	February 14 Joe Lachance
February 21 Dave Migliori	February 28 Karyn O'Neil

Fellowship Hour Schedule

Monthly hosts for Fellowship Hour are:

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



* A JAR OF *
**Love and
 Appreciation**



Sometimes we forget to show love and appreciation to people who are closest to us. Use this fun craft to let everyone in your family know how much you care.

What you need:

- Plastic jar with lid
- Heart-shaped foam pieces
- Heart-shaped stickers
- Glue
- Construction paper
- Scissors
- Pencil or crayons

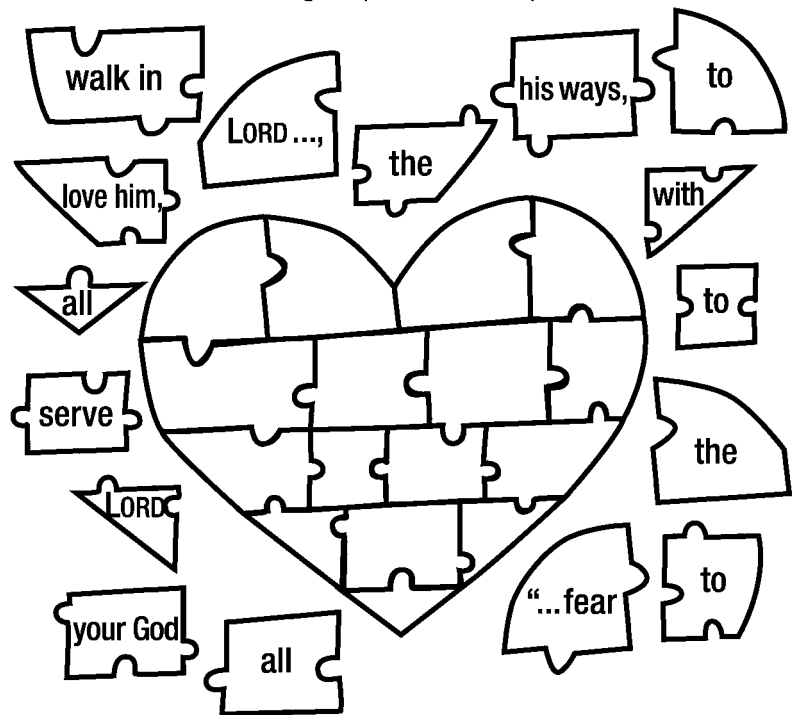
What you do:

1. Decorate the jar and lid with heart-shaped foam pieces and stickers.
2. Cut out 2" or 3" heart shapes from the construction paper.
3. On each paper heart, write what you appreciate and love about your family and each member. Have all family members do this, too.
4. Place the heart messages inside the jar. Fold them in half, if necessary.
5. On each day in February, pull out one heart and read the message aloud to the family.
6. Notice the changes in your family when everyone feels loved and appreciated!



In Deuteronomy 10:12 (NIV), Israel is asked a question that's also for us to answer: "What does the LORD your God ask of you?"

To find the answer, write the words from the puzzle pieces on the matching shapes in the completed heart.



... your heart and with all your soul ..."

Answer: "... fear the LORD ...", "to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the LORD your God with all ..."

BROOKSIDE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
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(February 2010)

OFFICERS, BOARD, COMMITTEE AND STAFF MEMBERS

~ Note: Names below are contingent on voting at Annual Meeting, Jan. 31, 2010 ~

Moderator

Bill Hoysradt

Treasurer

Gail Goodman

Clerk

Donna Ferranti

Trustees

Greg Berry
Dawn Brockett
Steve Ferranti
Dennis Giguere
Joe Lachance
Tricia Lucas
Dave Migliori
Karyn O'Neil

Diaconate

Kathleen Dube
Jeff Fletcher
Joyce Lovejoy
Jeff Rapson
Kerry Richardson
Laura Sevigny
Chris Taylor
Dale Trombley

Christian Education

Lance Auger
Chris Bulkley
Robin Davison
Liberty Dhliwayo
Thandi Dhliwayo
Peter Lovejoy
Ed Mitchell
Kira Morehouse
Heather Soucy

Outreach

Jean Dickson
Sarah Duffley
Denise Forest
Janet Kolkebeck
Anne Lachance
Rod Leavell
Lindsay MacPhail
Cindy Migliori
Herb Pence
Beverly Robie
Mike Wentzell

Nominating

Dawn Brockett
Roger Sevigny

Music

George Abbott
Joe Forest
Elaine Giguere
Bob Milling
Debi Rapson
Steve Stanley
Paula Wakefield

Flowers

Betsy Antonucci
Anne Lachance
Ellen Tourigny
Dale Trombley

Stewardship

Dawn Brockett
Mary Farwell
Denise Forest
Bill Hoysradt
Tricia Lucas
Ed Mitchell
Laura Sevigny

**Called to Care
Coordinator**

Rosemary Hoysradt

Women's Union

Sally Sederquist, Pres.
Melody Witcher, V.P. 1
Carole Witcher, V.P. 2
Ellie Kelton,
Standing/Steering Rep.
Marilyn Hingston, Sec.
Martha Cushing, Treas.

Thrift Shop

Co-chairs:
Joan Constantine,
Penny Stillman
Bill Hoysradt, Treas.

Librarian

Donna Moody

Church Historian

Ellie Kelton
Janet Stiles, Assistant

Church Delegates

Jean Dickson
Roger Sevigny

Trustee to Elliot

Ed Mitchell

Pastor

Rev. Dr. Dawn Berry
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Sexton

Arthur Morehead

