September 22, 2026

BROOKSIDE Congregational Church

The Brookside Bridge

Keeping You Connected

Minister's Message

This week Jesus draws our attention to his relationship with the leaders of the Temple. They are concerned about his authority. “What kind of authority do you have for doing these things? Who gave you this authority?” We have an opportunity to consider the kind of leadership that is focused on God’s power rather than earthly power. As always, the Gospels are challenging!

Our youth will join Christina for Performing Arts. “Leap of Faith” women’s spirituality meets after church.

Looking forward to seeing you.
Rev. Laura

Volunteers Needed This Thursday, September 24!!

We’re looking for a few volunteers this Thursday starting at 4:30 pm to help with kitchen cleanup. If you can help, please call Dale Trombley at 603-491-3491

UCC Neighbors in Need Special Offering

Throughout the month of October, all of us at Brookside have the opportunity to participate in the 2026 United Church of Christ (UCC) Neighbors in Need offering. This year all of the Special Offerings are part of “A Year of Love” with each offering guiding and encouraging us towards generosity rooted in love.

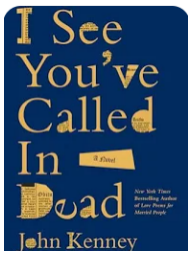
The 2026 UCC Neighbors in Need theme is “Advocacy and Justice Ministries”. This offering is based on Ephesians 5:2 “Walk in love, as Christ loved us”. As noted by the UCC, “this offering is transformative because it calls us to work towards collective justice, creating a genuine ecosystem of people who work collaboratively across issues and geographies to bring about social change”

Neighbors in Need funds justice ministries engaged in advocacy and direct support. One-third of the offering supports the Council for American Indian Ministries (CAIM), comprising over 20 Native congregations and over 1,000 individuals in the UCC, and two-thirds funds justice efforts in the National Ministries.

Donations for this special offering may be made via the DONATE button at Brooksidecc.org/donate or through Special offering envelopes located in the Narthex.

Youth Bell Choir

The youth bell choir at Brookside is open to youth ages 6+. It is a fun and low-pressure way to gain musical skills, make friends, and meaningfully participate in worship! No musical experience is necessary – all that is needed is the ability to count to 4! Youth perform pieces in worship at various times during the year, as well as during Christmas Eve and Easter services. Music is specifically written for each performance, taking into consideration the skill level and number of ringers participating. It is not necessary to participate in all performances to be a part of the bell choir. Rehearsals are before worship for the three or four Sundays prior to a performance. For more information, email Christina Alvarez, Youth Troupe Leader at youthtroupe@brooksidecc.org.



Fall Book Group - October 27 on Zoom

Join Rev. Laura for our fall book group on **Tuesday, October 27 at 6:00 pm** on Zoom. We will be discussing "I See You've Called In Dead" by John Kenney. It is a dark comedic book about a disillusioned obituary writer who accidentally publishes his own death notice**.** We will explore themes of life and mortality, and grief and connection. Please get in touch with the office if you would like to join us.

Open Flower Date

We have one open flower date on **Sunday, October 11**. If you would like to donate flowers for the service, please reach out to Sarah Merrill at slmerrill50@gmail.com.

Fall Community Concert

Join us Saturday, **October 3, 2026, 4:30 pm – 6:30 pm** in the sanctuary for a free concert (donations welcome) with local favorite Chad LaMarsh. Let music fill our church as we usher in a new season and kick off the 2027 stewardship campaign. Following the

concert, all are invited to visit our newly renovated Fellowship Hall for socializing and ice cream Sundays. Don't miss this exciting event at Brookside!!

Leap of Faith Women's Spirituality Group

Let's begin meeting again on the last Sundays of the month: **September 27 and October 25**, immediately after church. Please RSVP to louise@brooksidecc.org so we can have plenty of room for all participants. This is an open group where all women belong.

After Worship Fellowship

Please join us after Sunday worship for Fellowship! Following indoor worship, we meet in the Narthex. It's a great way to get to learn more about the happenings at Brookside and build relationships with your fellow Brooksiders. All are welcome!

Send In Your Prayer Requests

Please remember to send in your prayers for our Sunday service. (joys and concerns) Email your request to **admin@brooksidecc.org** or call the office at 669-2807.

Gals On The Go

Join us for an informal fellowship for members and friends of Brookside on the **first Tuesday of the month at 11:45 am** at the Granite State Lunchbox, 1750 Elm St., rear entrance. Come enjoy lunch, fellowship, and discussion.

No Green Bananas

This group of retired Brookside men meets on the **2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month at 9 am** at the Granite State Lunchbox, 1750 Elm St., rear entrance, to enjoy breakfast and discussion.

Pastor's Discretionary Fund

Please consider a donation to the Pastor's Discretionary Fund so that Rev. Laura can assist our members and friends facing critical financial needs.

Supporting Brookside Congregational Church

Offerings and pledges can be mailed to the Church office at the address below. If you would like to give online, please click on the button below.

Donate Here

Do You Need Medical Equipment?

Did you know that Brookside has a Medical Equipment Closet? There are crutches, canes, shower chairs, and more, available for use by anyone who needs them. Borrow for short-term or long-term use, keep as long as you need to. Contact the office (**603-669-2807**) for more information.

*****Currently we are not accepting donations.**

BROOKSIDE CALENDAR

Thursday, September 24th
7:30 am Capital Campaign Mtg., via Zoom

Sunday, September 27th
10:00 am Worship Service, Sanctuary

Tuesday, September 29th
9:00 am Staff Meeting, Rev. Laura's Office

Thursday, October 1st
7:30 am Capital Campaign Mtg., via Zoom

Sunday, October 4th
10:00 am Worship Service, Sanctuary

Tuesday, September 6th
9:00 am Staff Meeting, Rev. Laura's Office
11:45 am Gals on the Go, Granite State Lunchbox
6:00 pm Christian Formation Meeting, via Zoom

Visit our Website

Brookside Congregational Church | 603-669-2807 | 603-668-9041 Fax | www.brooksidecc.org

STAY CONNECTED

Brookside Congregational Church, UCC | 2013 Elm Street | Manchester, NH 03104 US

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