

BROOKSIDE

Congregational Church



The Brookside Bridge

Keeping You Connected



Minister's Message

Advent reminds us that though darkness seems never-ending, the Light that God promises is always within us. The last candle we light on our Advent Wreath is for Love Everlasting. Mary and Joseph forge a bond as Soul Companions, guiding us to the birth of Jesus. Please join me on Sunday for the journey to Bethlehem. This is our chance to honor Love that lives forever.

On Tuesday, we will host a community worship service, Blue Christmas at the Brook, for people who are struggling or grieving during the holidays. If you are not feeling lonely or sad, join us as a soul companion for those who do feel the heaviness of grief. Our youth bell choir will be joining us, along with the Chancel Choir, with an offering of beautiful music.

With love,
Rev. Laura

Upcoming Christmas Services

Blue Christmas: Tuesday, December 23 at 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary

Christmas Eve: Wednesday, December 24 at 5:00 pm in the Sanctuary

Sunday after Christmas: Sunday, December 28, at 9:00 am, in the Sanctuary



Pajama Sunday - Sunday, December 28

Come gather for this intergenerational Christmas Caroling Sunday, December 28. Wear your comfy clothing or pajamas and join Rev. Laura to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ.

Joining Ceremony - Sunday, January 11

If you are interested in joining Brookside, we will be holding a joining ceremony on Sunday, January 11, during the worship service. Please let Rev. Laura or the [office](#) know if you would like to join.

On **Sunday, January 4th**, after the worship service, we will be hosting a gathering in the Manning House for those interested in joining Brookside.

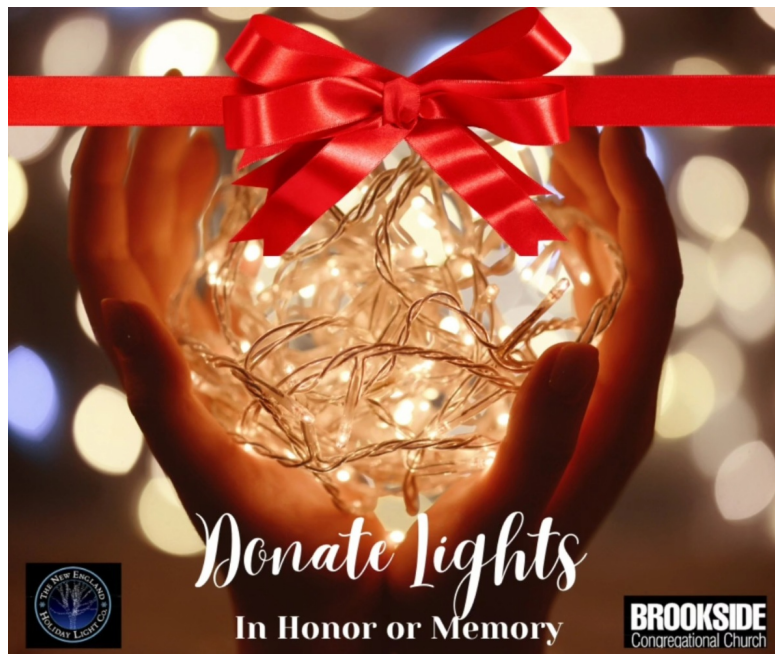


Altar Flowers -Open Date

We have an open flower date on **Sunday, January 11**. If you would like to donate flowers for worship, please get in touch with [Sarah Merrill](#).

January Book Group - "The Great Believers"

On **Thursday, January 29 at 6:00 pm**, the "Brookside Bookers" will be discussing the book "The Great Believers" by Rebecca Makkai. Join us for a fascinating discussion led by Rev. Laura. To register, please send your name and email to the office. The Zoom link will be sent to registered participants the week of the book group.



Donate lights in honor or memory at www.brooksideholidaylights.com.

If you prefer to pay with a check, you can download the form **by clicking here**. Print this form and mail it in to the church office along with your check made out to Brookside Church. Please be sure to include the name of your loved one(s).



A Very Special and Important Brookside Holiday Season Outreach effort

is about to begin -

Mission Outreach is coordinating a Brookside Congregational Church Holiday Food Drive, which will run from this Thanksgiving season through Epiphany Sunday, with all proceeds going to the NH Food Bank. Food insecurity is noted as a #1 critical concern nationwide and by our community partners. We believe, through our collective outreach, this Holiday Season Food Drive will enable us to best serve the increasing needs of individuals and families in our community.

Our Holiday Season Food Drive will begin Sunday November 16th and continue

through Epiphany, January 11th. There will be many opportunities to participate! We are incorporating this focused effort into all of the programs and activities at Brookside, including our Sunday services, Thrift Shop, Blue Christmas Service and more!

All of us and our friends, young and older, near or far, can participate in these activities and this outreach effort throughout this Winter Holiday Season (November 16th– January 11th)

For those who live locally - Specially marked Holiday Season Food Drive boxes will be located in multiple locations within Brookside and during Brookside activities. Please consider bringing some non-perishable, non-glass containers of fruit, vegetables, soups, or protein (such as tuna, peanut butter) with you on every Brookside visit!

For those who may not be in the area – Monetary donations may be sent directly to Brookside Congregational Church, 2013 Elm Street, Manchester, NH 03104 or by pressing the DONATE button on our website (www.brooksidecc.org). Please note “Holiday Season Food Drive” when donating.

Again, food insecurity is a critical issue in our wider community and beyond. As we celebrate this special Holiday season by contributing to the Brookside Holiday Food Drive, we can touch lives, and provide much needed food, to families in our community as they celebrate the season with their own special traditions. May hope, peace, joy and love be a part of this season and let us BE the Light of Christ for people in New Hampshire who are dealing with food insecurity.



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 Brooksideers. 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, December 18
7:30 am Capital Campaign Meeting, via Zoom
6:00 pm Advent Bible Study, via Zoom

Sunday, December 21
8:30 am Choir Rehearsal
10:00 am Worship, Sanctuary
11:00 am Fellowship, Narthex

Tuesday, December 23
7:00 pm Blue Christmas Candlelight Service, Sanctuary

Wednesday, December 24
5:00 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, Sanctuary

Sunday, December 28
8:30 am Choir Rehearsal
10:00 am Worship, Sanctuary
11:00 am Fellowship, Narthex

Tuesday December 30
9:00 am Staff Meeting, Rev. Laura's Office

[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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