



# Brookline Community Church **NEWSLETTER**



August 2011

## Message from the Minister

July is too quickly drawing to a close and I have so many things to attend to that are not being done. Our new home is progressing well and soon we hope to be in it. I have to sort out what to take and what not to take and then pack what we need to take.

And all of this comes with many good memories of our work here together. Worship services, weddings, baptisms, confirmation classes, adult study groups, funerals, and involvement in community and church activities.

I have completely enjoyed getting to know so many of you better, as has Sally, who has been teaching in Brookline for many years.

Now we all move on to new adventures—you with new leadership, and Sally and myself with a new community in Maine. We do not know what the future holds, but I do truly believe God is in control, and with that I know the road ahead will be hopeful and rewarding.

Take very good care and may God be with all of you.

Peace,  
David



## Thank You

David and Sally extend their sincere thanks to the Deacons and all who attended the Farewell Picnic on the 16<sup>th</sup>. The food was great, the company was wonderful, and the gift of an elm tree was most appreciated!

## Calendar of Events

### JULY

- 23 Spaghetti Supper, Eagle Scout Fundraiser**  
5:30 - 8:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall
- 24 Worship Service at Cathedral of the Pines**  
10:00 a.m.
- 31 Worship Service**  
9:00 a.m.

### AUGUST

- 7 Communion Service**  
9:00 a.m.
- 14 Worship Service at Lake Potanipo**  
9:00 a.m.
- 20 Boyscout Court of Honor**  
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall
- 21 Worship Service**  
9:00 a.m.
- 28 Worship Service**  
9:00 a.m.



### Fourth of July Bake Sale

The bake sale was a success (we made \$198), thanks to all the people who helped! There was an amazing variety of homemade treats to choose from—cupcakes, cookies, brownies, donuts, muffins, scones, donut pops, cookie bars, whole pies, zucchini bread, freshly popped popcorn—you name it. We also sold apples, lemonade, water, and coffee. A sincere thank you to all who contributed food, drinks, time, a tent, a wagon . . . it was much appreciated.



## Board of Outreach

### **Heifer Project**

We will continue to collect donations for Heifer throughout the summer but will not have a special "Heifer Sunday" in July, August, and September. Collection envelopes will be available in the pews during this time.

## Pastoral Search Committee

This month, we successfully concluded our search for an Interim Minister and we are pleased to welcome Pastor Renee Rouse to our community. Pastor Renee has been very successful as an Interim at other churches and she certainly made a powerful impression on our committee and those deacons who met with her. Though we will have to adjust to life without Reverend David Smith after so many years together, we look forward to working closely with Pastor Renee as we begin the reflective and prayerful process of finding our next settled pastor. You'll find her introductory greeting to our church elsewhere in this newsletter.

## A Warm Welcome...

The Brookline Community Church would like to extend a warm welcome to our new Sunday School Superintendent, Sheryl Ellis.

Sheryl has lived in Hollis for 6 years. She is married to Jim, an Air Force retiree who works at Hanscom Air Force Base, and has three sons, one granddaughter, and two dogs. She has degrees in Computer Science and Business and works at MIT Lincoln Laboratory in Lexington, MA. Sheryl loves murder mysteries, bingo, and traveling, but her passion is teaching children about the love of God in a fun, friendly and meaningful way.

Sheryl feels that all children should be exposed to the possibilities of the love that Jesus has for us, and that there should be a connection between God, the child, the church, the family, and the community. She believes that Sunday school should include crafts, games, music and lots of the Holy Spirit. Sheryl wants to make Sunday school a fun and rewarding experience that will keep the children coming back for more.

She is really looking forward to September and meeting all the children of our church. She would like anyone who is interested in either teaching or assisting Sunday school to please contact her at [sheryle@ll.mit.edu](mailto:sheryle@ll.mit.edu).

## Board of Christian Education

### *Children's Corner*



#### **Sunday School**

It's not too early to start thinking about your plans for the fall . . . please consider teaching or assisting a Sunday School class for one or more quarters during the 2011-2012 school year!

## **Youth Group**



The Youth Group would like to thank the Merryman's for hosting their Summer Cookout again this year! A good time was had by all and plans were made for Youth Group meetings and activities during the summer:

- an overnight stay at Camp Horton in Gorham, NH (July 18-19)
- a trip to the beach in August (date & time TBA)
- a movie night at the Milford Drive-In (date & movie TBD)

## Newsletter Submissions

The next newsletter will come out at the end of August or the beginning of September, rather than on the third week of the month, due to summer vacation! Please submit any articles to Carol at [ccherian@charter.net](mailto:ccherian@charter.net) by August 21<sup>st</sup>.

## *Greetings to the Brookline Community Church!*

My name is Pastor Renee Rouse; I live in Deerfield, NH with my family. I will be your Interim Pastor beginning August 1<sup>st</sup> of this year.

Some of you may be asking why an interim, what does this mean? As your Interim, I am here for a specific task—to walk you as a church through this “in between time”—to help you get ready for your next settled Pastor. The word “interim” sometimes creates distress and confusion and brings resistance along with it because it is a time of “in between” one place and another place to be determined.

The way I like to think about the word “interim” is to think about the seasons of our year we all experience. Some of us love this hot weather we have had lately and some of us could do without it. Some of you love the fall season as we prepare for winter. Winter is a favorite for some of you and then spring is a favorite for others. Yet, in reality, the season of summer in New Hampshire will begin to move toward the fall season as we get to the end of August. There is a period of “in between” between August and September where we have some really nice days (Indian summer some call it) but we know the inevitable is going to happen. The leaves will begin to change from green to various colors, the mornings will have crisper air with warmer days and cooler evenings.

So, what do we all do during the “in between” of these two months? We try to spend more time outside, take longer walks, harvest and clean up the garden, go to more flea markets, go to the lake or beach, some of us do some reflecting on how we used our energy and resources. During the “in between” we use the time to do some things we just haven’t gotten to and wished we had, we take risks to do things we only thought of but believed it wasn’t the right time. Then we realize this is the time.

As the seasons come and go we spend time “in between” each season reflecting on what we should have finished or started but didn’t and try to determine if there is enough time to start before the season gets away from us and we find ourselves involved in another season that takes our thoughts and energy elsewhere.

This is the time to reflect on what has worked and what needs to change. This is the time to develop a better communication style within the lay leadership, to encourage one another, to be thankful for one another and to trust God more through His Son Jesus, as we learn more of what God desires of us as a Church in Brookline.

As we walk through this “in between time” together, I am committed as your Interim Pastor to care for you, love you, listen to you, pray for you, guide and instruct you individually and corporately as the Brookline Community Church to be more like Jesus every day. I am honored to join and serve you as we worship together.

In Jesus’s name,  
Pastor Renee