



Brookline Community Church

NEWSLETTER



November/December 2010

Message from the Minister

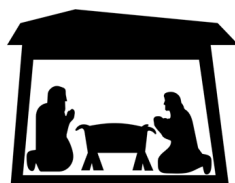
Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year 2011 — it all goes by too quickly. My time in Brookline for about nine years now has gone by too quickly as well. I do hope that we have made some progress in our years together.

I would like to clarify two things since the article appeared about me in the Brookliner. The first is that Sally and I will not move to Farmington, Maine until the middle of next year, and second, I do not intend to retire. There may or may not be a church for me to go to, but if not I will find some other occupation. Also please understand that the timing of our departure is good as it will give my wife and I a start in a new place, in a new home that will be ours. That is important to us.

Personally I have been and continue to be happy in Brookline as it is a neat town with much charm and many fine people.

As we prepare for the holidays and a new year I hope for you and yours that it will be a very good year, and for the nation may it be a time of healing, reflection and a time to help build a lasting peace.

Yours in His service,
David W. Smith



Calendar of Events

NOVEMBER

- 24 Thanksgiving Eve Service**
7:30 p.m.
- 27 Sanctuary Decoration**
9:00-11:00 a.m.
- 28 Intergenerational Service**
10:00 a.m.

DECEMBER

- 4 Breakfast with Santa** (Brookline Women's Club)
Seatings at 8:00, 9:00 & 10:00 a.m.
- 5 Soup & Chili Supper** (Youth Group)
5:00 p.m. (set-up at 4:00)
- 7 Toy Drive** (Brookline Police Dept.)
5:30-7:30 p.m.
- 11 Venture Crew Pancake Breakfast**
7:30-10:30 a.m.
- 12 Worship Service**
10:00 a.m.
Youth Group Meeting
6:00-7:30 p.m.
- 19 Christmas Pageant**
During Worship Service at 10:00 a.m.
Carol Sing
11:00 a.m. (after Worship Service)
Youth Group Christmas Celebration
6:00-7:30 p.m.
- 24 Christmas Eve Candlelight Service**
7:00 & 11:30 p.m.
- 26 Worship Service**
10:00 a.m.

Intergenerational Christmas Pageant

Sunday, December 19th

Celebrating the birth of our Lord during the regular Worship Service at 10:00 a.m. The Pageant will be followed by a traditional church Carol Sing.

Board of Outreach

The Heifer Project

The Board of Outreach and the Sunday School Program have joined together and kicked off the Heifer Project. In the coming months we will work to raise money to send to Heifer International (for more info see the Children's Corner in the Christian Education section).

SHARE Christmas

Outreach has adopted three families as part of the SHARE Holiday Project this year. If you would like to participate, please choose a tag from the wreath located in the downstairs front foyer. Follow the instructions on the information sheet near the wreath. Please return the gifts to the church on or before Sunday morning, December 5th, so they can be delivered to the SHARE office in Milford.



Board of Deacons



Sanctuary Decoration

The Deacons will be decorating the sanctuary for Christmas on Saturday, November 27th from 9:00-11:00 a.m. All are welcome to join them.

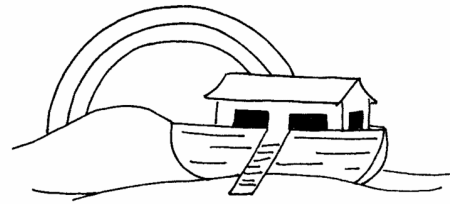
Sunday Service Sign-ups

Please don't forget to sign up to help with Sunday Services. We need volunteers to be lay readers, ushers, greeters, acolytes, and coffee hour hosts.

Stewardship Committee

The annual Time & Talent/Pledge Drive is under way. This year we have a Stewardship Booklet, which each member should have received by now. If you have not received one there are some available in Fellowship Hall near the bulletin board. Please fill out the form that can be found on the last page of the booklet and return it in the enclosed envelope by mail or in person to Rena Duncklee by December 1st. Also, don't forget to put your name on a leaf and add it to "Our Church's Ministree" in Fellowship Hall!

Christian Education



Children's Corner: The Heifer Project

On the second Sunday of each month the entire church congregation will be celebrating the Heifer Project. Across the globe, Heifer doesn't feed families, they help families feed themselves. Heifer is about self reliance, providing hungry families with a practical way to improve their conditions while also improving their environment. Heifer helps to raise families from poverty and despair to hope and prosperity.

The Sunday school lesson for this day each month will focus on helping the children to better understand the mission of the Heifer Project. They will learn how Heifer is another way we can care for God's creation and help each other as Jesus taught us to do through his life here on earth.

In October the children received an ark bank in which to save money for Heifer (ark banks are still available, if you did not get one contact someone on the Board of Outreach or your Sunday school teacher). We have encouraged the children to make this a personal project, by saving their own pennies/change/a portion of their allowance or by earning money through small chores. It is not the size of the contribution, but their personal involvement in helping this project succeed, that will make the most impact. We are working together as a church family to support Heifer.

On Heifer Sunday (second Sunday) each month we will collect the special Heifer offering during the beginning of the church service.

More information on the Heifer Project is available at www.heifer.org



Christian Education (continued)

Confirmation

We will be offering a Confirmation Class in 2011. Confirmation is open to all Youth in Grade 10 or above. Stay tuned for more details or contact Ann Desrochers with any questions.

Adult Education

Beginning in 2011, the Adult Bible Study will be a "Beginners Study of the Bible." The meeting schedule will be decided by those interested in participating. If you are interested in participating or would like more information please contact Rev. Dr. David W. Smith at the church (673-7511) or Ann Desrochers, Director of Christian Education, at 672-3937 or adesroch@charter.net.



Soup & Chili Supper

Sunday, December 5th, 5:00 p.m.

Following the Town Tree Lighting. Light dinner of soups/chili, drinks and dessert. This is a fundraiser for the BCC Youth Group.

Cost is the same as last year:

\$5 Adults 12-60 years

\$4 Seniors and 3-11 years

Under 3 Free



Youth Group



Apple Picking

On September 26th the Youth Group spent the afternoon picking apples and then baking pies and apple crisps. They peeled, cored, and sliced almost a full peck of apples and made pie crusts and crisp topping from scratch. They baked 6 pies and 6 apple crisps, made some handmade cards, sampled some of their delicious work, then delivered 9 of the pies and crisps to church members. A great time was had by all and the recipients of the unexpected apple treats were delighted.



Youth Group Calendar

NOVEMBER

28 Intergenerational Worship (Advent 1)
10:00 a.m.

DECEMBER

5 Set up for Soup & Chili Supper
4:00 p.m.

12 Regular Youth Group Meeting
6:00-7:30 p.m.

19 Christmas Celebration
6:00 p.m.

26 NO MEETING

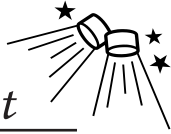
JANUARY 2011

2 Return to regular schedule



New Members

A warm welcome to new members Dona Taylor and Sally Smith, who both joined our congregation in November.



New Member Spotlight

Sally Smith is originally from Merrimac, MA. She attended Lowell State Teachers College, where she received a degree in Music. She lived in Colorado for several years, traveling extensively in the western states when she worked for Blue Cross Blue Shield. Sally has three children who all currently live in New Hampshire: Sylvia Mansfield of Brookline, Beth Kennedy of Nashua, and Mark Mansfield of New Ipswich. She has two grandsons and one granddaughter.

Although she is retired Sally still enjoys teaching piano to students in Brookline. She is also the Director of Music at the United Church of Christ in Burlington, MA. Sally is warmed by the welcome that has been extended to her by the Brookline congregation and regrets that she cannot split herself to attend both churches on Sunday mornings. She wishes all members of the Brookline congregation a Blessed and Joyous Advent and Christmas season.

Housekeeping Guidelines

The following guidelines have been drawn up for those using the church facilities. We are hoping to maintain the cleanliness of the church and to deter rodents.

1. Please do not drag tables on the floor. By lifting the tables instead, the finish will last longer.
2. Please do not take food out of Fellowship Hall.
3. Please do not put liquids, ice or coffee grounds into the trash bags. Empty all liquids into the sink before throwing out containers. There is a container for coffee grounds next to the coffee machine.
4. No one is allowed in the Sanctuary except during services or when preparing for services.
5. No child is allowed in any of the Sunday School classrooms without adult supervision.
6. Please notify the custodian, Susan (673-3227) if there is a change in meetings. This will allow the church to be used for other purposes.

Christmas Poinsettias



Red and white poinsettias will be available for purchase again this year. Order forms will be in the Sunday Worship bulletins on 11/28, 12/5, and 12/12. If you have any questions please contact Monica Rencken at 465-2309. Prices are as follows: 4" plant: \$4.25 6" plant: \$8.50 10" plant: \$17.00

Open Positions

Some of our Boards are currently in need of members to help them perform their duties. Please consider volunteering for one of these positions. Full descriptions of the responsibilities associated with each position can be found in the Appendix of the church Constitution, available online at: <http://www.bccnh.org/files/Appendix2010.pdf>.

Church Moderation:

Assistant Moderator, position open Dec. 2010

Contact: Bob Ashton 673-8977

Board of Pastoral Relations:

Pastoral Member, position open Dec. 2010

Contact: Peter Cook 673-0543

Board of Finance & Property:

Finance Member, one position open

Contact: Matt Linder 249-9294

Board of Christian Education:

Adult Area Coordinator

Children's Area Coordinator

Vacation Bible School Director

Intergenerational Worship Service Coordinator

Cradle Roll Coordinator

Contact for all Christian Education positions:

Ann Desrochers 672-5806

Board of Deacons:

Deacon, two positions open

Contact: Barbara Haskell-Higgins 882-2446

New Address

We send best wishes with Keith and Deb Baron, who will be moving to Texas in December. They have been very active in our church and will be missed. Their new address, effective December 15th, is:

Keith and Deb Baron
22606 Linden Mill Ct.
Katy, Texas 77494