



# Brookline Community Church

## NEWSLETTER



Jan/Feb/March 2016

### Message from the Minister

Someone asked me about the tradition of giving something up for Lent. I struggled to explain that while many do that as sacrifice, perhaps another way of looking at it is as a practice of getting rid of what is in the way of our relationship with Jesus.

“Oh,” he said, “like boiling down the sap to get to the good stuff.”

Yes. Just like making maple syrup. It takes a lot of work to get down to the good stuff.

And even in the middle of all that work, there are celebrations and sweetness. Lent itself is described as 40 days of preparation for Easter, but it is actually 46, with the six Sundays built in as feast days. We began Lent and the celebration of Jesus’ Transfiguration on a Sunday by celebrating how Scouting transfigures young men in our community. We had a baptism of not only one but two Morgan children on another Sunday. We’ll remember those we have lost on a Sunday in March. We have these celebrations during this time because Lent is about celebrating the fullness of life, about remembering where all the promise comes from and goes to.

So as you make your own preparations for the end of Lent, as you begin to reflect on the changes you want to make in your life to celebrate the Easter promise, think about what can get boiled away to leave you with the sweet assurance that there is so much more than this world. God has promised and is promising still. Easter is the surest sign of that promise.

In faith,  
Reverend Catherine  
minister@bccnh.org  
(603) 673-7511



### Calendar of Events

#### FEBRUARY

- 28 **Worship Service**  
10:00 am
- Coffee Hour**  
11:00 am

#### MARCH

- 6 **Pastoral Relations Meeting**  
8:30 am
- Service of Loss & Remembrance**  
10:00 am
- Coffee Hour**  
11:00 am
- 12 **Breakfast Buffet**  
7:30 - 10:30 am
- 13 **Cabinet Meeting**  
8:30 am
- Worship Service**  
10:00 am
- Coffee Hour**  
11:00 am
- New Member Class**  
11:30 am, Rev. Cath's office
- 19 **Senior Luncheon**  
11:30 am
- 20 **Deacons Meeting**  
8:30 am
- Palm Sunday Worship Service**  
10:00 am
- Coffee Hour**  
11:00 am
- 24 **Maundy Thursday/Tenebrae Service**  
7:00 pm Mason Congregational Church
- 25 **Good Friday Vigil**  
Noon - 9:00 pm
- 27 **Easter Sunrise Service**  
Musket Mountain/Andres Institute  
6:15 am
- Coffee Hour**  
7:00 am
- Easter Worship Service**  
10:00 am
- Coffee Hour & Easter Egg Hunt**  
11:00 am

## Board of Outreach



### Senior Luncheon

Outreach will be hosting a Senior Luncheon on Saturday, March 19<sup>th</sup>. We will be serving our traditional corn beef & cabbage meal to celebrate St Patrick's Day. Thank you to Ethel & Ron Long for all the work you put into preparing the meal! The next Senior Luncheon will be held in May.

## Board of Deacons

### Sunday Service Participation

Please sign up to help during worship services as Lay Reader, Greeter, Ushers, or Acolytes, and/or to host coffee hour. Youth are more than welcome to be lay readers.

### Videotaping Assistance

If anyone is interested in assisting with video taping our weekly services please speak with Russell Haight.

**Our current Deacons are:** Barbara Haskell-Higgins, Carol Cherian, Russell Haight, Mike Santoski, and Deacon Emeritus Art Fenske.



### Brookline Breakfast Buffet

We will be having a Breakfast Buffet on Saturday, March 12<sup>th</sup>, from 7:30-10:30 a.m. We are looking for help from the congregation in the form of help working during the event as well as donations of food. All proceeds from this breakfast will go to the Brookline Food Pantry and Nashua Soup Kitchen & Shelter.

Tickets are available at the door, adults and children \$7, Senior citizens \$5, ages 3 and under are free. There will also be a 50-50 raffle.

## **WANTED**

Individuals who are looking for a way to become more involved or to find a different connection with the Holy Spirit!

### Open Board Positions:

- Clerk
  - Finance Member
  - Deacons
  - Stewardship Committee
- Please see Rev. Catherine for more information.

## *Children's Corner*

Our Faith Formation program is under construction.

In the meantime children are invited to participate in some fun organized activities during church for the month of March.



Visit the BCC Faith Formation website at [faithformationbccnh.weebly.com](http://faithformationbccnh.weebly.com) for ideas of ways to celebrate Lent at home with your children!

### Take-Home Meals

*From our church to your kitchen . . .*

### Take-Home Meals

Currently available: Chicken Divine, Beef Enchiladas and Chili Mac. Containers cost \$10 each and serve 2-4 depending on appetite.

Many thanks to all who have contributed to make this fundraiser such a great success!

Our meal for March will be Ethel's Chicken Cacciatore. Contact info:

Megan King: 673-2846 or [kingmegan7@gmail.com](mailto:kingmegan7@gmail.com)



### Diaper Drive for Marguerite's Place

Thank you to all who donated to the diaper drive in February!



### *Many thanks*

to Trent M. for shoveling and keeping the church walkways free from snow this winter!



### Valentine's Chocolate Buffet Thank you

Many thanks to everyone who baked and/or made donations to our chocolate buffet fundraiser in February. The wide variety of delicious homemade chocolate desserts was enjoyed by many!



**Palm Sunday, March 20**

The Palm Celebration will include welcoming new members to the church and the distribution of palms.

**Maundy Thursday Service, March 24**

The Mason Congregational Church will host this year's Tenebrae Service at 7:00 pm.

**Good Friday, March 25**

The church will be open from 12:00 - 9:00 pm for half-hour prayers and meditation. A sign-up sheet will be available in Fellowship Hall for the two Sundays before Good Friday.

**Easter Sunday, March 27**

Sunrise Service on Musket Mountain will begin at 6:15 am. Access is via the road to Andres Institute. Light refreshments will be offered at the church after the Sunrise Service. There will also be an Easter Service at 10:00 am at the church followed by a coffee hour and an Easter Egg Hunt.



*“But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ’s gift. ... The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ.”*

~ EPHESIANS 4:7 & 11-12

**Lay Preaching Program**

Would you like to explore your gifts for preaching? The Deacons and Rev. Catherine are starting a new program for those interested in becoming lay preachers. The group will meet with Rev. Catherine every two months to select texts, outline services and sermons, and to support each other through the process of developing a worship service.

From designing the worship service to delivering the message, our goal will be to have six worship services a year lead by lay members of the congregation.

If you have ever wondered what it would be like to lead worship, please join this group! Leading worship will strengthen and deepen your relationship with God and open you to the amazing things that God is doing in all our lives. The first meeting will be in May and the first lay-lead worship service will be in June.



**Easter Flowers**

The deacons will be decorating the church for Easter. If you would like to help by purchasing flowers you can order them by filling out the form found at the end of this newsletter (order forms can also be found in the bulletin). Please return order forms in person to Carol Cherian or by mail to the church (BCC, Attn: Easter Flowers, P.O. Box 507). The deadline for orders is March 10. Please take your flowers home to enjoy after the 10:00 am. Easter Service. Thank you!

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**Sunday, March 27th**

There will be an Easter Egg Hunt on the BCC lawn (weather permitting) after the 10:00 am service. All children are invited to bring a basket and join the fun!

If you can help with donations of plastic eggs and/or candy please contact Lynne Duval at [lmchef@charter.net](mailto:lmchef@charter.net).

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Don't get left out! The BCC church directory is being updated and we'd like to include a photo of you and your family

members along with your contact info. Photos will be taken during coffee hour in the coming weeks, or can be scheduled at a time that is more convenient for you. Please contact Carol Cherian if you need to schedule a time: [secretary@bccnh.org](mailto:secretary@bccnh.org) or 672-8960. You are also welcome to email a photo of your own to be used.

The updated directory will be available in the spring.

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If you would like to receive a copy of the monthly BCC newsletter in the mail please email [secretary@bccnh.org](mailto:secretary@bccnh.org) or call 673-7511.



# *Valentines' Chocolate Buffet*

Saturday, February 13th





## Brookline Community Church Easter Flowers 2016

The deacons will be decorating the church for Easter. If you would like to help by purchasing flowers please fill out the form on the back and return in person to Carol Cherian or by mail to:

Brookline Community Church  
P.O. Box 507 Attn: Easter Flowers  
Brookline, NH 03033

**Order deadline:  
Thursday, March 10**

YOUR NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

OPTIONAL: \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

If the flowers you ordered are not available we will substitute with the most comparable choice. Please take your flowers home with you to enjoy after the Easter service. Questions? Please call Carol at 672-8960.

YOUR NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

Flower Type	Quantity	Price	Total
4" Daffodils		\$5.00	
6" Daffodils		\$8.00	
8" Daffodils		\$15.00	
<hr/>			
4" Tulips*		\$5.00	
6" Tulips*		\$8.00	
8" Tulips*		\$15.00	
*please select tulip color preference (we will do our best to obtain your choice): <input type="checkbox"/> white <input type="checkbox"/> pink <input type="checkbox"/> yellow <input type="checkbox"/> orange <input type="checkbox"/> purple			
<hr/>			
4" Hyacinth*		\$5.00	
6" Hyacinth*		\$8.00	
8" Hyacinth*		\$15.00	
*please select hyacinth color preference (we will do our best to obtain your choice): <input type="checkbox"/> white <input type="checkbox"/> pink <input type="checkbox"/> blue			
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Lily: single		\$8.00	
Lily: double		\$18.00	
Lily: triple		\$25.00	
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5" Orchid, double stem		\$20.00	
6" Orchid, single stem		\$27.00	
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6" Gardenia		\$11.00	
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		<b>TOTAL:</b>	

*Please make checks payable to Brookline Community Church.*

