



Brookline Community Church NEWSLETTER



March 2015

Message from the Minister

There was a point during the snow flurries on Ash Wednesday when I was afraid we wouldn't see each other again until Easter. It's been a hard winter for most of us, with more snow on our plates than we know how to say grace over.

We're in the heart of Lent, a good time to look at what is in our lives and decide what we want to keep and what we can get rid of. Easter will come with its promise that this world is not all there is. But for now, we're living in the heart of this world, with all its particular challenges.

Lent is a great time to let go of the things which distract us. We'll be having a four hour workshop starting at 11:30 a.m. March 22nd, focusing on hearing God's voice in our daily lives. We'll do some exercises to build those skills and have some pizza and good conversation.

The children are well launched into their study of Moses and the Passover. During worship on Palm Sunday we'll be celebrating how this is one of the stories that makes us who we are.

We're still singing and praying and cooking as well, feeding souls and bodies with much gusto. If you can join the community on Saturday, March 21st for breakfast, you'll be supporting Outreach's work with Marguerite's Place, Nashua Soup Kitchen & Shelter, and the Brookline Food Pantry.

Join us for any and all of these things. Join us in celebrating how much there is around us, even if the snows have not completely melted away.

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



Calendar of Events

MARCH

15 Deacons Meeting

8:30 a.m.

Worship Service of Loss & Remembrance

10:00 a.m.

Coffee Hour

11:00 a.m.

New Member Session

11:20 a.m.

21 Breakfast Buffet Fundraiser

7:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

22 Finance Meeting

8:30 a.m.

Worship Service

10:00 a.m.

Coffee Hour

11:00 a.m.

Lenten Retreat

11:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

28 Take-home Meals Cooking Day

8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

28 Brookline/Mason Democrats Annual Pasta Dinner

7:00 p.m.

29 Palm Sunday Worship Service - Welcome New Members

10:00 a.m.

Coffee Hour

11:00 a.m.



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!

Calendar of Events

APRIL

2 Maundy Thursday

Soup & Bread Supper 6:00 p.m.

Tenebrae Service 7:00 p.m.

3 Good Friday Vigil

Noon - 9:00 p.m.

5 Easter Sunrise Service

6:00 a.m. (location TBD)

Coffee Hour

7:00 a.m.

Easter Worship Service

10:00 a.m.

Coffee Hour

11:00 a.m.

12 Cabinet Meeting

8:30 a.m.

Worship Service

10:00 a.m.

Coffee Hour

11:00 a.m.

19 Deacons Meeting

8:30 a.m.

Worship Service

10:00 a.m.

Coffee Hour

11:00 a.m.

26 Finance Meeting

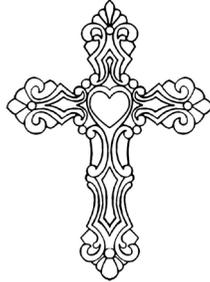
8:30 a.m.

Worship Service

10:00 a.m.

Coffee Hour

11:00 a.m.



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 22nd. Please take your flowers home to enjoy after the 10 a.m. Easter Service.



H O L Y · W E E K

Palm Sunday, March 29

The Palm Celebration will include the distribution of palms.

Maundy Thursday, Supper & Service, April 2

There will be a simple supper of soup and bread at 6:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. The Service of Tenebrae begins at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary.

Good Friday, April 3

The church will be open from 12:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. 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, April 5

Sunrise Service on Musket Mountain will begin at 6:00 a.m. (if enough of the snow has melted; if there is too much snow the service will be held in a location yet to be determined). 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 a.m. at the church followed by a coffee hour.



Brookline Breakfast Buffet

We will be having our first Breakfast Buffet of the year on Saturday, March 21st, 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 Marguerite's Place, the Nashua Soup Kitchen & Shelter, and the Brookline Food Pantry.

The menu includes scrambled eggs, breakfast casseroles, French toast casserole, pancakes, bacon, sausage, home fries, coffee cake, a selection of cereals, donuts, fresh fruit, milk, juice, coffee & tea.

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.

New Beginnings



SAVE THE DATE!

New Beginnings will be having a Coffee House on Saturday, May 16th at 7:00 p.m. There will be a \$5 suggested donation, all proceeds will go to support the music ministry of the church.

Board of Trustees

For the past several years, we have been patching infrastructure problems at the church as they come up and, thanks to our conscientious volunteers, this has kept us afloat. For 2015, the Trustees have an approved budget for improvements and repairs and will be taking a more proactive approach.

Our first step will be to have a professional evaluation of the church and the parsonage to generate a prioritized list of repairs. As the weather warms up, we will begin tackling items from that list.

On a more tactical level, we have been identifying opportunities to reduce expenses at the church and are in the process of implementing them. For example, the hot water heater has a new insulating blanket and is now on a timer, the thermostats have been programmed, and several lights have been replaced with compact fluorescents. We're looking for ideas and individuals who'd like to help us improve and modernize the church.

Ella Anderson Trust

Thanks to a well-crafted appeal from Russell Haight and Mike Santoski, the church received a grant to upgrade its audio-visual equipment and has begun doing so. We now have the ability to watch Blu-Ray discs and streaming video in Fellowship Hall. When the system has been fully installed, we expect to be able to augment our church services with multimedia as well as live stream those services to Fellowship Hall for overflow crowds or members preparing coffee hour.

Board Member Needed

The Board of Trustees still needs one more member. If you are interested in serving as a Trustee please speak with Sanjay Cherian, Steve Martinos, or Rev. Catherine.

Wanted: power washer

If anyone has a power washer that we can borrow in the spring to remove mold that is growing on back of the church wall, please notify one of the trustees. Thank you.

Our current Trustees are:

Sanjay Cherian (temporarily), Clarence Farwell, Hank Ward, & Steve Martinos.

Board of Deacons

Sunday Service Participation

The Deacons request that members of the congregation 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.

Board Member Needed

The Board of Deacons still needs one more member. If you are interested in serving as a Deacon please speak with Mike Santoski, Carol Cherian, or Rev. Catherine.



From our church to your kitchen . . .

Many thanks to all who have contributed ingredients or money to purchase ingredients, to those who have helped on our cooking days, and to all who have purchased the meals to serve to friends and family. Your participation with this fundraiser is most appreciated!

Take-Home Meal for March

This month we will be making Beef Enchiladas. The cooking day at church will be Saturday, March 28th, 8:30 -11:30 a.m. If you would like to help cook, if you can donate ingredients, or if you would like to pre-order please contact Megan. The take-home meals will be available for pick-up at the church at 11:30 on Saturday and also on Sunday, March 29th after church. Containers will be \$10 each and serve 2-4 depending on appetite. Contact info:
Megan King: 673-2846 or kingmegan7@gmail.com.

Still available:

We still have a few containers of Stuffed Shells left to sell, they're going fast so let Megan know if you're interested!

Church Calendar

To schedule events on the church calendar please contact Carol Cherian at secretary@bccnh.org or leave a message at 673-7511. Thank you!

Our Children's Faith Formation program is open to all children age three (by September 30, 2014) through Grade 12. During March the younger children will be studying Moses and the Passover, a perfect story to take us through Lent as the events of Holy Week take place during Jesus' observations of the Passover Festival in Jerusalem.



Sunday School Schedule

Moses and the Passover Story:

March 8, 15, 22, & 29

Jesus Urging Us to Give up Our Lives to Save Them:

April 12 & 19, May 3 & 10

Pentecost: The Holy Spirit in the World:

May 17 & 31, June 7 & 14

Intergenerational Worship (no Sunday School)

April 5 & 26, May 24



Board of Outreach

Senior Luncheon



Outreach will be hosting a Senior Luncheon on March 14th. 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 in to preparing the meal! The next Senior Luncheon will be held in May.



Brookline Community Church Senior Luncheon

January 17, 2015

Marguerite's Place

Thank you to everyone who donated diapers, pedialyte & clorox wipes for Marguerite's Place. The items were dropped off this past week.



"And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.'"

~ MATTHEW 40:25



Brookline Community Church
Easter Flowers 2015



The deacons will be decorating the church for Easter. If you would like to help by purchasing flowers please fill out the form below & 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:
Sunday, March 22nd

Your Name: _____

Flower Type	Quantity	Price	Total
4" Daffodils		\$5.00	
6" Daffodils		\$8.00	
8" Daffodils		\$15.00	
4" Tulips		\$5.00	
6" Tulips		\$8.00	
8" Tulips		\$15.00	
10" Tulips		\$18.00	
4" Hyacinth*		\$5.00	
6" Hyacinth*		\$8.00	
8" Hyacinth*		\$15.00	
*please select hyacinth color: <input type="checkbox"/> white <input type="checkbox"/> pink <input type="checkbox"/> blue			
Lilies: double		\$18.00	
Lilies: triple		\$25.00	
		ORDER TOTAL:	

Please make check payable to Brookline Community Church.

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.