



# The Brookside Bridge

## *Keeping You Connected*



### Minister's Message

A new year inspires us to reflect on the year behind us. As your minister, I believe that God has been our persistent guide through 2024. On Christmas Eve, we experienced faith in action! The Youth Bell Choir, directed by Christina Alvarez, accompanied our candle lighting ceremony with great joy. Jordan led the Brookside Choir with kindness and terrific skill. The group of singers continues to be devoted to and supportive of one another. Music is a highlight of Brookside Church! Spiritual Art, with Amber Nicole Cannan, continues to be a stronghold in our youth ministry programs.

Christian Formation has been the center of our spiritual life together. Throughout Advent, Blue Christmas, and Christmas Eve, they consistently helped lead worship with grace. Our Technology Crew, showing up for every worship service, offered the sound and live stream for all the holiday services. The numbers of participants with our on-line community matched our in-person participation at around 300 viewers.

This Sunday is Epiphany, the season of appreciating the Light that is here. Please join me on Sunday for communion and a reunion of former members. Judi Mitchell will be singing our anthem.

Happy New Year!  
Rev. Laura

### Thrift Shop Call Out

We have recently experienced an influx of requests for warm clothing and coats and there is an immediate need for inventory to cover what we anticipate will be a continuing need as we progress through the cold weather. The most needed items are:

- Men's coats, warm shirts, pants/jeans, gloves, hats, boots (small, medium and large)
- Children's clothing and coats -especially preteen and teen -boys clothing is especially needed
- Twin-sized comforters, kitchen utensils, silverware, and umbrellas

Please check your closets and if you have any of these items that are still in good condition and you are willing to part with them, we will gladly find a new home for them.

Our drop-off hours are during Thrift Shop operating hours, Tuesday through Saturday, 9-1. Questions can be directed to Denise Forest at [denfor@comcast.net](mailto:denfor@comcast.net)

---



### Christmas Drive for Elementary Schools

The Mission Ministry has decided to collaborate with Webster and Jewitt Elementary schools next month to help the kids who attend those schools and their families. We are having a socks and book drive. Please bring new children's socks and books to church and drop them off at the designated boxes. The target age of the children is between 5 and 10 years old. They are hopefully going to be placed at the narthex and near the offices. We will be extending the drive through January.

---



### Open Flower Dates in January

We have open flower dates on **Sunday, January 5 and 26**. If you would like to donate flowers for worship, please reach out to [Sarah Merrill](#).

---

### UKAMA 2024 Appeal

The Ukama Partnership is a church to church prayer partnership between the New Hampshire Conference, United Church of Christ and the United Church of Christ in Zimbabwe. **Brookside** has been in UKAMA relationship with **Sakubva Church** in Mutare, Zimbabwe since 1996, praying for one another, communicating by letters, Facebook and email. We have hosted visiting delegates and had opportunity to go to Zimbabwe twice in 1997 and 2010. Through the Ukama Partnership, we have understood that "hama" or 'family' in Christ knows no boundaries or borders.

The Ukama Mission Group of the NHC/UCC has launched an appeal to assist the UCCZ to purchase food and seed for its members. The 2024 Ukama Partnership Appeal focuses on Food Security for our Hama in Zimbabwe through a shared project of the UCCZ and the NHC/UCC UMG.

**Brookside's appeal will start on Ukama Sunday, October 20 and go through early January 2025.** Checks can be made to Brookside Church or to NHC/UCC with the notation: *Zimbabwe Appeal* on the memo line. Funds will be transmitted periodically through the Conference office as travelers go to Zimbabwe or wire transmissions are deemed safe.

---

### An Invitation to join the Brookside Choir

Worship is an important part of Sunday service at Brookside. We are grateful for our current choir members and musicians who are excited to work on musical selections under the leadership of our Music Leader, Jordan Gravel. We also want to extend an open invitation to anyone who would like to join this inclusive and music-loving community. The choir rehearses on Sunday mornings before service from 8:30-9:30 am. If you have any questions about joining, contact Jordan at [jordangravel@gmail.com](mailto:jordangravel@gmail.com).

---



### After Worship Fellowship

Please join us after Sunday worship for Fellowship! Following indoor worship, we meet in Fellowship Hall. 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](mailto: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

**Sunday, January 5th**  
8:30 am Choir Rehearsal,  
Sanctuary  
10:00 am Worship Service,  
Sanctuary

**Tuesday, January 7th**  
11:45 Gals on the Go,  
Granite State Lunchbox  
6:00 pm Christian  
Formation Meeting, via  
Zoom

**Sunday, January 12th**  
8:30 am Choir Rehearsal,  
Sanctuary  
10:00 am Worship Service,  
Sanctuary

**Tuesday, January 14th**

**Sunday, January 19th**

**Tuesday, January 21st**

9:00 am No Green  
Bananas, Granite State  
Lunchbox  
5:30 pm Building &  
Grounds Meeting, via  
Zoom  
6:30 pm Stewardship  
Meeting, via Zoom

8:30 am Choir Rehearsal,  
Sanctuary  
10:00 am Worship Service,  
Sanctuary

6:00 pm COM Meeting via  
Zoom

Visit our Website

Brookside Congregational Church | 603-669-2807 | 603-668-9041 Fax | [www.brooksidecc.org](http://www.brooksidecc.org)

STAY CONNECTED



Brookside Congregational Church, UCC | 2013 Elm Street | Manchester, NH 03104 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!