

January 8, 2025

BROOKSIDE
Congregational Church



The Brookside Bridge

Keeping You Connected



Minister's Message

When Jesus appeared on the shore of the Jordan River, John the Baptist recognized him as the Messiah. John's entire life had been preparing for this Holy encounter. Come to church on Sunday as we join these two men at the beginning of the ministry of Jesus. Our youth program will explore the life of river water while our choir sings Wade in the Water.

I look forward to seeing everyone on this second Sunday of Epiphany.

Sincerely,
Rev. Laura

Help Needed

We will be taking down the remaining Christmas decorations following the service on Sunday. If you can help, please join us in Fellowship Hall after worship.

2025 Pledge Campaign Update

Greetings, Brookside family & friends!

The current pledge total for the 2025 Campaign is \$125,090.00! That means we are \$34,910.00 away from our goal of \$160,000.00. A great big thank you goes out to all those who have made a commitment to support Brookside, together we have reached 78% of our campaign goal. If you are considering making a financial contribution, **it isn't too late** and your generosity could enable us to "reach new heights", which would be truly amazing!

Don't miss out on your opportunity to be part of this exciting 2025 Brookside Pledge Campaign! Send in your pledge form, contact the office, seek out one of the Stewardship ministry members or donate online.

Thank You!!

Annual Meeting

On Sunday, January 26th, we will celebrate the 2024 year and follow that up with our Annual Meeting in the Sanctuary at the end of our service time. In an effort to make it "easy" to do this transition, we would like to encourage anyone who feels so inclined to

bring a snack to share. If you wish to bring a snack, you can simply drop it on a table in the Narthex before the service that day. This is NOT a full on pot luck, but snacks would be greatly appreciated! Thank you!!

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



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.

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.



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@brooksideecc.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 12 th

Tuesday, January 14th

Sunday, January 19th

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

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

Tuesday, January 21st
6:00 pm COM Meeting via
Zoom

Sunday, January 26th
8:30 am Choir Rehearsal,
Sanctuary
10:00 am Worship Service,
Sanctuary
11:15 am Annual Meeting,
Sanctuary

Tuesday, January 28th
9:00 am No Green
Bananas, Sanctuary

Visit our Website

Brookside Congregational Church | 603-669-2807 | 603-668-9041 Fax | www.brooksidecc.org

STAY CONNECTED



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

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