

November 6, 2024

BROOKSIDE
Congregational Church



The Brookside Bridge

Keeping You Connected



Minister's Message

As we gather to worship God this Sunday, let's be aware of our love for one another and for Jesus. The power of Loving Kindness is elevated in our Jesus story when he observes an older widow leaving the sanctuary. She pauses, takes out her change purse, and gives everything to God. In honor of her generous spirit, we will bless our annual pledges. PLEASE bring your pledge forms so everyone can participate in the 2025 campaign. Our kids will go directly to the Spiritual Art room to play with the idea of "putting our whole selves into our life together in church."

God Bless You,
Rev. Laura

Sabbatical February 7, 2025-April 7, 2025 **Rev. Laura Biddle**

Traditionally, after serving a church for five years or more, a minister is encouraged to take a sabbatical. A sabbatical is a period of paid leave granted for study, travel, and a break from a normal routine of employment. In Biblical terms, it refers to the Sabbath, a day of rest. After serving Brookside for 5 1/2 years, I will take a 2-month sabbatical for reflection, refreshment, and a rekindling of my spirit. (I'll build lots of fires during this winter break.) I hope to return with a renewed passion for my ministry at Brookside. My first Sunday back will be Palm Sunday. I will officiate at all Holy Week and Easter rituals.

During my absence, Rev. Doug Brendel will lead the congregation in worship each week. He will also be available on Sundays for pastoral care. He and I will work closely in January to prepare worship themes, including music and youth troupe ministries.

A special thanks to the Council of Ministries (COM) and Christian Formation Ministry for their encouragement and support.

Sincerely,
Rev. Laura



Call to Special Meeting

Notice is hereby given that a Special Meeting of Brookside Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, of Manchester, New Hampshire will be held via on Zoom Monday, November 25, 2024 at 7:00 pm. See [link](#) below.

This meeting is called to authorize us to proceed into Phase 2 of the Capital Campaign. We have a proposal for fire protection engineering consulting services that we believe is prudent to obtain comparable bids for the fire suppression system.

Respectfully submitted,

A rectangular image showing a handwritten signature in black ink on a light-colored background. The signature reads "Ellen Smith Tourigny" in a cursive script.

Ellen Smith Tourigny
Clerk

Link for Zoom Meeting:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3595622094?pwd=U2RFZmV2cnFoRG1Zcms0ZFJ5Wk5qOT09&omn=83270099729>

If you are unable to connect via Zoom and would like to make other arrangements to participate, please contact Dale Trombley at 603-491-3491.

Advent Bible Study

Rev Laura will be leading her traditional Advent Bible Study on **Thursdays, December 5, 12, and 19 on Zoom**. Our theme this year will be glimmers of light in the darkness.

Christmas at the Brook - Light Night, Saturday, December 7

Brookside will again be hosting its popular Holiday Light Night on December 7 from 5-7 p.m. Because of the tremendous interest in vendors to be a part of our holiday market, we are going to host the craft fair, Christmas at the Brook, in the fellowship hall from 10 a.m. running through the evening. We are excited to bring the community together in the hope and light of Christ at Brookside Church during the holiday season. In order to continue

these special traditions, we need volunteers! We will need cooking/baking, welcome desk help, set up/clean up, program ad sales, elevator operator, and more. If you would like to be a part of this event in any way, please reach out to Lisa Brock and she will find a way for you to get involved. Reach her at fleminglisarae@yahoo.com. Alternatively, you can also call the church office and speak to Louise.

Sign Up Here Thank you!:

[Christmas at the Book & Brookside Holiday Light Night - Dec. 7, 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.](#)



Neighbors in Need Offering

Throughout the month of November, all of us at Brookside have the opportunity to participate in the 2024 UCC Neighbors in Need offering.

The 2024 UCC Neighbors in Need theme “Mental Health Justice for All: Mental Health is a Universal Human Right” provides us with an opportunity to re-ignite our efforts to build a more just world for all, dismantling the shame and stigma of mental health challenges.

The UCC invites us to be part of God’s work of mental health justice, join the WISE (Welcoming, Inclusive, Supportive, and Engaged) movement for mental health in our congregation and support the Neighbors in Need offering. .

Donations for this special offering may be made via the DONATE button at Brooksideucc.org/donate or through Special offering envelopes located at the church entrances.

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

Tuesday, November 12th
11:00 am No Green Bananas, Granite State Lunchbox
5:30 pm Building and Grounds Meeting, via Zoom
6:00 pm Stewardship Meeting, via Zoom

Sunday, November 17th
8:30 am Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
10:00 am Worship Service, Sanctuary

Tuesday, November 19th
6:00 pm COM Meeting, via Zoom

Sunday, November 17th
8:30 am Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
10:00 am Worship Service, Sanctuary

Tuesday, November 19th
6:00 pm COM Meeting, via Zoom

[Visit our Website](#)

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

STAY CONNECTED



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

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