



MISSION OF BELLEVILLE CHURCH

Centered in the inclusive love of Jesus Christ, we seek to be a welcoming, affirming, and healing congregation. Led by the Holy Spirit, we are inspired to grow and be renewed through our worship, fellowship, Scripture study and the sharing of our gifts. Strengthened by God's love and guidance, we strive to serve with compassion those in need, both near and far.

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Dear Friends,

We live in a very complex world..... especially in the realm of faith and "justice." With the Dzhokhar Tsarnaev trial, emotions are still raw, and people on both sides have compelling arguments. Our Thursday evening Bible study was all over the map discussing what is best. Even the WWJD (what would Jesus do) question did not clarify it totally for us..... While on the one hand, there are the wonderful phrases about us "not judging" and that Jesus himself did not come to judge, but to redeem. There are plenty of other passages where Jesus implies punishment, eternal, for various offenses, not even violent ones! John Keller spoke of letting him rot in prison for decades before rotting in hell! I think my own mother would say string him up! Some look at the sheer cost factors of life imprisonment versus getting rid of someone. Some are looking at the media factors..... which route will create less sensationalism? Some weigh the retaliation factors from the militant terrorist world.

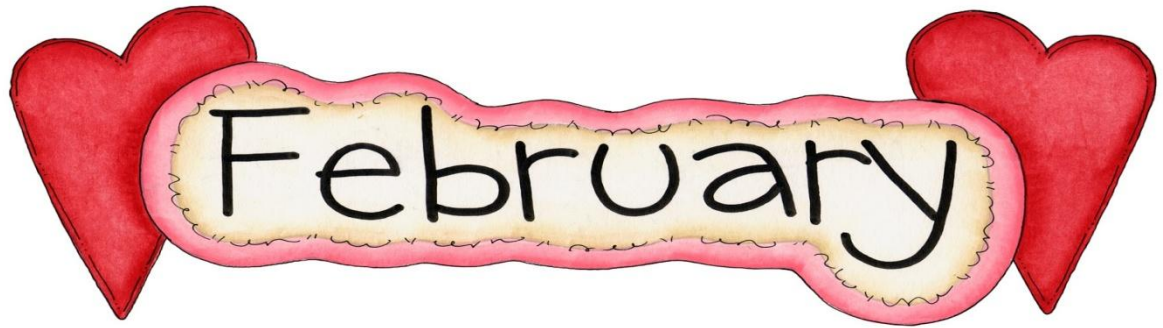
I remember after the bombings that I did include a thought in one sermon about imagining what could have happened if someone, say on that Dartmouth college campus, had taken Dzhokhar aside and really surrounded him with love and support for all the challenges of growing up. The younger brother especially could have been influenced for a positive path. I saw in him just a baby face, age 19. Someone in our Bible study mentioned that scientific studies have proven that the brain is not fully matured till about age 25! Is his soul redeemable? Certainly, yes. What about the poor workers who have to do the executing, to be the ones to take a human life, and watch it happen? I suppose I'm an advocate of weighing the most humane factors..... and killing can never be "humane." I resonate with the victims' families who say that the death penalty will never give them their loved one back, or never give back an amputated limb. Maybe I'm thinking of the kindergarten teaching that 2 wrongs don't make a right.


Whatever happens, I hope as followers of Christ we can do everything in our power to be teaching nonviolence, and instill the ways of peace and nonviolence so well into our children and youth that one will never go astray and act out violently with raw, unreflective anger.

Yours on the continual path toward peace, in the redemptive ways of Christ,

Ross

2014 CALENDAR



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 9am Thrift Shop 9am 3MB Fencing
2 10am Worship	3 7pm CODA	4	5 9 am Thrift Shop 6:30pm Worship & Education 7pm Stewardship & Finance	6 7:30pm Choir practice	7	8 9am Thrift Shop 9am 3MB Fencing
9 10am Worship	10 7pm CODA	11	12 9am Thrift Shop	13 7:30pm Choir practice	14 Valentine's Day 	15 9am Thrift Shop 9am 3MB Fencing
16 10am Worship 3pm Sacred Harp Singers	17 7pm CODA	18 News & Views deadline	19 9am Thrift Shop 6:30pm Men's Fellowship Supper	20 7:30pm Choir practice	21	22 9am Thrift Shop 9am 3 MB Fencing
23 10a m Worship	24 7pm CODA	25	26 9am Thrift Shop	27 7:30pm Choir practice	28 8pm Steve Riley Mardi Gras	

SERVICE CLUB

No Service Club meeting in February. See you all next month.



**The thrift shop is open every Wednesday and Saturday 9am – noon.
Come by and see what's new.**



The Belleville Roots Music Concert Series announces a Mardi Gras Celebration/ Dance, featuring 2013 Grammy Award winner, Steve Riley, performing with the Mamou Playboys

**Friday, February 28th at 8 PM at the Belleville Stage, 300 High Street, Newburyport.
Tickets are \$30 in advance/\$35 day of show/\$10 ages 18 and under.**

For more information, email:

bellevilleconcerts@gmail.com

Or visit us at

www.bellevillechurch.org/roots.php



February

3 *Peggy Utterback*
4 *Robert Gould*
5 *Jane Thomas*
12 *E.J. Dean*
13 *Emery Rice*
15 *Dot Williamson*
15 *Marion Spark*
16 *Nancy Brown*
22 *George Beauparlant*
24 *Luke Gandolfi*
27 *Anna May Guyette*
28 *Jamie Gandolfi*

March

5 *Lily DeLong*
9 *Cathie Gould*
13 *Gail Gandolfi*
15 *Hunter Anderson*
17 *Carter Jan*
19 *Barbara Colten*
21 *Diana Bondar*
23 *Steve Locke*
28 *Diane Crofts*



Scripture readers

February

- 2 Hunter Anderson
- 9 Bill Silsby
- 16 Chapel Allard & Annika Ellis
- 23 Lynn Varney

March

- 2 Peggy Utterback
- 9 Ben Heersink
- 16 Emery Rice
- 23 Sue Heersink
- 30 Kelly Burke-Anderson

If you cannot read on the date that you have been assigned, just call the next person on the list or send out an email and trade.



February

- 2 Hans Erwich & Rita Vreeland
- 9 Peggy Utterback & Kathy Raywood
- 16 Jean Kirkpatrick & Carolyn Kyle
- 23 Anna Guyette & Bob Locke

March

- 2 Hunter Anderson & Jon Pearson
- 9 Bob & Shirley Locke
- 16 Jean Kirkpatrick & Mardee Beuparlant
- 23 Norma Dean & Judi Smith
- 30 Ben & Sue Heersink



February hosts

- 2 Sue Wolfendale, Anna Guyette & Jean Hansen
- 9 Diane Crofts, Pam Ellis & Nancy Canali
- 16 No Coffee Hour – School vacation
- 23 Janet Woodman, Irene Bradford & Jean Kirkpatrick

March hosts

- 2 Mardee Beuparlant, Diana Bondar & Helen Hatcher
- 9 Nancy Tsakirgis, Karen Conway & Marcia Samuelson
- 16 Peggy Utterback, Rita Vreeland & Kelly Burke-Anderson
- 23 Sue Wolfendale, Norma Dean & Jane Thomas
- 30 Sue Heersink, Marion Spark & Diane Crofts

The first person listed is asked to please take charge of the coffee hour for that week and can notify the rest of the committee if needed. This schedule is posted on the bulletin board. Please feel free to swap around with anyone if the assigned week is a conflict for you. Please let the office know if there is a change.

The church will supply the napkins, cups, plates, coffee, cream, sugar and juice.

Anyone can bring something for coffee hour even if it is not your week. You do not have to be listed to donate. All donations are gratefully accepted.



Belleville Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
300 High Street
Newburyport, MA 01950
978-465-7734
bcchurch@worldpath.net
bellevillechurch.org

Church Staff & Contact Information

Pastor Ross Varney 978-462-4899
Office hours: Tuesday 11 AM - Noon;
Wednesday & Thursday 10:30 AM - Noon;
or by appointment, suggested Wed/Thur.
evenings
Please call to assure the pastor is available.

Church Office 978-465-7734
Valerie Gates, Office Administrator
Office hours: Tuesday, Thursday and
Friday 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Church Email: bcchurch@worldpath.net
Website: www.bellevillechurch.org

David Morrow, Organist/Choir Director
Bob Locke, Sexton

Newsletter Submissions

Do you have an article that you would like to include in
the monthly newsletter?
If so, please submit your article to the church office by the
20th of each month.
Thank you!

Church Officers

Moderator: William Silsby
Clerk: Rita Vreeland
Treasurer: Mary Lou Tyler
Memorial Fund Treasurer: Kelly
Burke-Anderson
Auditor: Kathy Raywood
Members-at-Large (Ex. Board)

Contact Persons

Board of Fellowship & Outreach:
Diane Crofts
Board of Worship & Education:
Kelly Burke-Anderson
Board of Stewardship & Finance:
Hans Erwich, Jim Samuelson
UCC Delegate: Emery Rice

Sunday School Coordinator

Pam Ellis

Flower Coordinator

Shirley Locke

Hospitality Coordinator

Steve & Lori Wiswell