

# Belleville Congregational Church

November 2012  
News and Views



### 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,

It's that time of year! Yes, we set clocks back, say goodbye to colorful foliage, turn heat on, get out sweaters, watch some football, plan for Thanksgiving gatherings ..... and yes, prayerfully respond to a fall stewardship drive!

I've thought a lot about why people do or do not get involved in a church community. Negatives can pop into mind, like a memorable guest sermon on "what gives Christians a bad name," like theological conundrums regarding sacraments, creation, or salvation, or perhaps experiences we have had in church that have been not so loving.

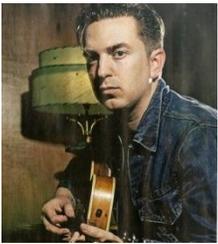
I believe and trust that the positive reasons for being an integral part of a Christian community far outweigh the occasional negatives, and that is what comes to mind when I think of committing my time, talent and treasure to a particular community, the Belleville community. I often tell people that what we do on Sunday morning is focus on the gospel message of love as our "ideal," or our "goal," knowing full well that we will always fall short, hence the need for grace, both from God and from one another. Where could we find any other community with such a wonderful purpose and charter to live by, growing as best we can in grace and love to fulfill the vision!

This fall to kick off the stewardship drive I found inspiration from the book of Ruth! Ruth, a Moabite widow, commits to Naomi, her Jewish mother in law, also a widow, saying "Your people will be my people" and "Your God will be my God." A rather amazing commitment from an in-law! Ruth obviously found a special love and grace from one who loved God. Those who love Christ also find special bonds of love and grace (blest be the tie) with others so committed. I'm sure we all have stories of wonderful times and relationships we've experienced Christian fellowship, past and present. The saying rings true that no one can be a Christian alone. We love God and neighbor only in an ongoing relationship. So I ask you to join me in supporting the community of Belleville once more, both the love and mission of Christ, by committing your time, talent and treasure this next year as generously as you can. Faithfully yours in Christ,

Ross Varney, Pastor



We are thrilled to announce the 2012-2013 season! We have amazing artists coming to grace our stage. Hope you can join in the fun and please help spread the word! Tickets go on sale September 5<sup>th</sup>. For more information, visit the church website or email us at [bellevilleconcerts@gmail.com](mailto:bellevilleconcerts@gmail.com).



### **#2 Roots Rock 'n Roll Dance**

**JD McPherson**

**November 16, 2012, 8 pm**

JD McPherson is known for his fresh take and new rock and roll, rhythm and blues, and rockabilly music which is rooted in his love of and respect for the music of the 1950s. As a visual artist, Broken Arrow, Oklahoma native JD McPherson is well versed in the process of working within clearly defined formal parameters, and he employs a similarly rigorous discipline with his music. JD McPherson is known for energetic live shows and has been featured on Conan and "North Side Girl," has registered well over 350,000 YouTube views. [www.jdmcpherson.com](http://www.jdmcpherson.com)

**Second show: Sunday November 18, 2012, 7pm**



### **#3 Soul and Blues Concert**

**Ruthie Foster**

**Thursday, December 6, 2012, 8 pm**

Ruthie Foster has an eclectic music history which produces a combustible blend of soul, blues, rock, folk and gospel. Ruthie was a Grammy Nominee for *The Truth According to Ruthie Foster* (Best Contemporary Blues Album). *The Boston Globe* states: "... when someone with real chops like Ruthie Foster steps up, attention must be paid." *Keyboard Player Magazine* says: "...she is definitely a singer from the old school, whose huge, full-bodied voice has drawn frequent comparisons with such legends as (Aretha) Franklin and Ella Fitzgerald." [www.ruthiefoster.com](http://www.ruthiefoster.com)



#### **#4 Mardi Gras Dance and Dinner**

##### **Jeffery Broussard and the Creole Cowboys**

**February 8, 2013, 8 pm**

This annual event at Belleville has sold out the past two years. This year features the accordion mastery and soulful vocals of front man, Jeffery Broussard. His range, seldom seen in Zydeco, includes traditional songs of the old masters, original tunes, single-note and triple-note accordion, and fiddle. Although accordion is his main instrument, Jeffery plays guitar, bass, fiddle and percussion instruments. *The New York Times* states: "Mr. Broussard and the Creole Cowboys are fabulous. You start moving in your seat as soon as their rhythmic, rich melodies, both joyous and mournful, start filling the theater." [www.jefferybroussard.com](http://www.jefferybroussard.com)



#### **#5 St. Patrick's Day Concert & Dinner**

##### **Goitse (*Direct from Ireland!*)**

**March 15, 2013, 8 pm**

Goitse is a flourishing, highly-talented, five piece band making a name for themselves as one of the most sought after bands amongst connoisseurs of Irish traditional music. Their fast-paced, energetic playing has seen them enjoying a growing fan base through show stopping performances in Ireland, America, Germany, Finland, Denmark and Africa. <http://goitse.ie/>

# Boston String Quartet to Perform at Belleville as Fundraiser!



We are pleased to host the Boston String Quartet for two shows this year. They will rent the Stage Room and after covering their costs, will donate half of the proceeds to Belleville!

## Help Needed

Volunteers are needed to help make the shows a success. Opportunities include: Beforehand: help to spread the word, selling tickets, other planning Day of show: help to set up Stage Room chairs, sell refreshments (benefits Belleville), ticket taking, ushering, etc. If you are interested, please contact Marcia Samuelson at [marciasamuelson@msn.com](mailto:marciasamuelson@msn.com) or 978.462.2280.

## Christmas Show

**Sunday, December 16, 2pm**

## About the Boston String Quartet

Adopting a daring approach to music entertainment, the Boston String Quartet is a high-energy ensemble with an unconventional emphasis on rhythm and beats. Since its formation in 2004, the Quartet has been a creative leader in fusing contemporary music with classical tradition, and the *Boston Globe* credits them with continually "exploring different ways of sparking musical interest." The members of the Quartet specialize in retelling modern music with original arrangements of rock, jazz, and world music, and have redefined the twenty-first century classical musician with a complete approach to artistry through composition/arrangement, storytelling, theatrics, and performing. For more information, visit <http://bostonstringquartet.com/>

# 2012 Calendar

## November 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				<b>1</b> <b>Recycling</b> <b>12:30</b> Gentle Chair Yoga <b>7:30pm</b> Choir Practice	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> <b>9am</b> Thrift Shop
<b>4</b> <b>10:00am</b> Worship <b>4pm</b> Visionary Book Group.	<b>5</b> <b>7pm</b> CODA	<b>6</b> <b>5pm</b> Dragonfly Swim Team <b>7pm</b> Stewardship & Finance	<b>7</b> <b>9am</b> Thrift Shop <b>1pm</b> Roots Mtg	<b>8</b> <b>12:30</b> Gentle Chair Yoga <b>7:30pm</b> Choir Practice	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> <b>9am</b> 3MB Fencing <b>9am</b> Thrift Shop
<b>11</b> <b>10am</b> Worship	<b>12</b> <b>4pm</b> Women's Group <b>7pm</b> CODA	<b>13</b> <b>1:30pm</b> Service Club <b>5pm</b> Dragonfly Swim Team <b>8pm</b> Executive Committee	<b>14</b> <b>9am</b> Thrift Shop <b>1pm</b> Roots Mtg <b>2pm</b> Roots set-up	<b>15</b> <b>Recycling</b> <b>12:30</b> Gentle Chair Yoga <b>7:30pm</b> Choir Practice	<b>16</b> <b>8pm</b> Roots Rock 'n Roll Dance with JD McPherson	<b>17</b> <b>9am</b> Thrift Shop
<b>18</b> <b>10am</b> Worship - Stewardship Sunday <b>7pm</b> Roots Rock'n Roll Dance with JD McPherson 2 <sup>nd</sup> show	<b>19</b> <b>7pm</b> CODA	<b>20</b> <b>5pm</b> Dragonfly Swim Team	<b>21</b> <b>9am</b> Thrift Shop <b>1pm</b> Roots Mtg	<b>22</b> <b>THANKSGIVING</b>	<b>23</b> <b>News &amp; Views deadline</b>	<b>24</b> <b>9am</b> 3 MB Fencing <b>9am</b> Thrift Shop
<b>25</b> <b>9am</b> Choir Practice <b>10a m</b> Worship	<b>26</b> <b>7pm</b> CODA	<b>27</b> <b>5pm</b> Dragonfly Swim Team <b>6pm</b> Men's Fellowship Dinner	<b>28</b> <b>9am</b> Thrift Shop <b>1pm</b> Roots Mtg. <b>6:30pm</b> Girl Scout Troop 63162	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	



### November

- |    |                    |
|----|--------------------|
| 6  | Jamie Beuparlant   |
| 10 | Jon Williamson     |
| 10 | Helen Hatcher      |
| 26 | Sue Wolfendale     |
| 28 | Jonathan Pearson   |
| 28 | Christina Grandoni |

### Service Club

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, November 13 in the Bannister Room at our regular time of 1:30.

Our featured guest is Steve Wiswell. He will be presenting a slide show of Mount Desert Island in Arcadia National Park in Maine. Can't wait to see these beautiful pictures.

Please join us and bring a friend.



**Open every Wednesday and Saturday  
9am – noon.**



### Thanksgiving Prayer

*Heavenly Father, on Thanksgiving Day  
We bow our hearts to You and pray.  
We give You thanks for all You've done  
Especially for the gift of [Jesus](#), Your Son.  
For beauty in nature, Your glory we see  
For joy and health, friends and family,  
For daily provision, Your mercy and care  
These are the blessings You graciously share.  
So today we offer this response of praise  
With a promise to follow You all of our days. Mary Fairchild*



## SCRIPTURE READERS

### November

- 4 Gail Gandolfi
- 11 Carolyn Kyle
- 18 Jim Marshall
- 25 Cathy Morrow

### December

- 2 Bill Silsby
- 9 Emery Rice
- 16 Nancy Smith
- 23 Marion Spark
- 30 Peggy Utterback

If you cannot read on the date that you have been assigned, no worries, just call the next person on the list or send out an email and trade.

Peace,  
Gail



## Coffee Hour

### **November 2012**

- 11/4 Nancy Canali, Kelly Burke-Anderson & Diana Bondar
- 11/11 Bob Locke, Marcia Samuelson & Jim Marshall
- 11/18 Audrey Clarkson, Nancy Tsakirgis & Irene Bradford
- 11/25 Marion Spark, Kathy Raywood & Ben Heersink

### **December 2012**

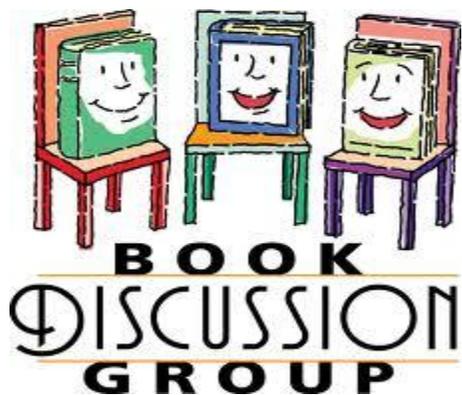
- 12/2 Peggy Utterback, Marge Killam & Mardee Beuparlant
- 12/9 Sue Wolfendale, Norma Dean & Lynn Varney
- 12/16 Diane Crofts & Jean Hanson
- 12/23 Audrey Clarkson, Lori Wiswell & Debra Moore
- 12/30 No Coffee Hour –Holiday Weekend

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 included in the News and Views and is posted on the bulletin board. Please feel free to swap around with anyone if the assigned week is a conflict for you.

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

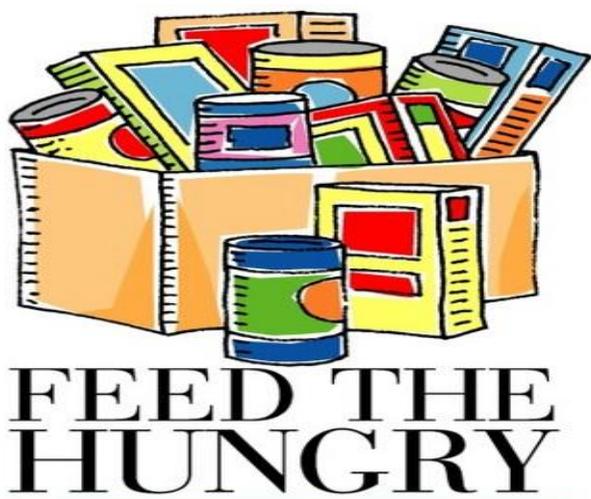


- |                        |    |  |
|------------------------|----|--|
| <b><u>November</u></b> | 4  | COMMUNION<br>Rita Vreeland & Michelle Anderson |
|                        | 11 | Norma & Timothy Dean                           |
|                        | 18 | Jean Kirkpatrick & Sue Heersink                |
|                        | 25 | Gail Gandolfi & Carolyn Kyle                   |
| <b><u>December</u></b> | 2  | Bill Silsby                                    |
|                        | 9  | Emery Rice                                     |
|                        | 23 | Marion Spark                                   |
|                        | 30 | Peggy Utterback                                |



Advent adult book discussion: Marcus Borg, *Speaking Christian* will begin on December 2<sup>nd</sup> in the parlor at 11:15 after worship. If you would like a copy of the book please sign up by October 28 to give us time to order. Sign-up sheet will be available at coffee hour or see Kelly or Gail.

## Thanksgiving Sunday November 18, 2012



Attention all of you wonderful and giving people of Belleville! The Sunday school will once again be conducting an ingathering of food for the local food pantries. We will be collecting non-perishable items beginning October 28th, culminating with the blessing of the food on Thanksgiving Sunday, Nov. 18, 2012. We will have receptacles in the Chapel, in the rear pews, or you can give these donations to the Sunday school teachers or children for storage in the Sunday school rooms. If you would like to help taking donations to a food pantry, please see one of the Sunday school teachers: Pam Ellis, Kelly Burke-Anderson, or Marcia Samuelson.

Thank you! Your generosity is always appreciated.  
The Sunday school of Belleville



The Christmas season is almost upon us! Worship and Education is looking for Advent readers for Hope, Peace, Joy (Love has already been spoken for by Lynne and Ross Varney) and the Christmas Eve lighting. If you would like to volunteer this year please let us know. The first Sunday of Advent is December 2<sup>nd</sup>.  
Kelly Burke-Anderson, Gail Gandolfi, Sue Heersink and Lynn Varney  
Board of Worship and Education

## Advent Candle lighting

# Belleville Congregational Church

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Newburyport, MA 01950  
Permit No. 105

## 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](mailto:bcchurch@worldpath.net)  
Website: [www.bellevillechurch.org](http://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 20<sup>th</sup> of each month.

Thank you!

## Church Officers:

### Moderator

William Silsby

### Clerk

Jean Hansen

### Treasurer

Mary Lou Tyler

### Collector

### Assistant Treasurer

William Silsby

### Memorial Fund Treasurer

Kelly Burke-Anderson

### Auditor

Jim Samuelson

### Members-at-Large (Ex. Board)

Brenda Marshall

[Vacancy](#)

## Contact Persons:

### Board of Fellowship & Outreach

Diane Crofts

### Board of Worship & Education

Kelly Burke-Anderson

### Board of Stewardship & Finance

Hans Erwich

### UCC Delegate

Emery Rice

### Sunday School Coordinator

Pam Ellis

### Flower Coordinator

Shirley Locke

### Hospitality Coordinator

Audrey Clarkson