

Belleville Congregational Church



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,

With sabers rattling and talk of first strikes again in the Middle East, I think that followers of Jesus' Way must affirm and proclaim that his Way is pre-eminently a way of peace and peacemaking! I just took a look again at the principles of "Just War" that were worked out by early Christian theologians. I'll only look at the first two principal conditions.

War can be justly waged, said the early apologists, only as a LAST RESORT, and only to REDRESS INJURY SUFFERED. The first point has an understood element of "no pre-emptive strikes" and that all nonviolent options must be exhausted before the use of force can be justified. Alleluia for the spirit of diplomacy, and for sanctions (damaging though nonviolent). The second point also carries the understanding of "no first strike," and the idea of war only as necessary self-defense.

I think of the images of westerns of my childhood; even the "good" gunslinger would have to wait for the bad guys to make the first move and be actively reaching for their guns, his code of honor being greater.

If we buy into self-defense only, subsequent questions become, how close to reaching for weapons are they, and how much evidence is needed?

Seems like we went through all this in Iraq only to be wrong about imminent violence. And the same questions about Iran were being discussed in 2006, to bomb or not to bomb. Can we "prove" that a hand is now that much closer now to pulling a trigger?? It seems to me that we are still in the realm of speculation and fear..... and the emotions of fear or hatred can easily lead to war, which starts the cycle/spiral of violence, as more fear and hatred is fueled on both sides.

Back to point #1. We follow the one who said "blessed are the peacemakers." Thus our faith instructs us to use negotiations to their fullest extent, resorting to force only if evidence is clear for the need for self-defense, only if truly backed into a corner. The current world situation presents us with a reason to review our faith. And it is the highest ideals of Jesus that we aspire to and work towards. Let the ideal of peacemaking guide all our thinking and actions, both globally and interpersonally.

Yours in Christ's service,
Pastor Ross Varney



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 5th. For more information, visit the church website or email us at bellevilleconcerts@gmail.com.

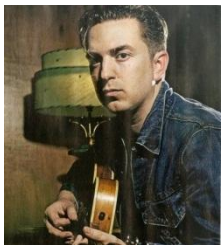


#1 Bluegrass Concert and BBQ Dinner

Sierra Hull and Highway 111

October 18, 2012, 8 pm

Sierra Hull is a singer, songwriter and mandolin player. A graduate of the Berklee College of Music in Boston, she was the first bluegrass performer to receive the Presidential Scholarship, the most prestigious award offered by the college. Sierra has performed at Carnegie Hall, the Kennedy Center and at the White House. The bluegrass world, the IBMA voting members, have nominated Sierra five times in the last three years for awards. www.sierrahull.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



#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



#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



#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 or 978.462.2280.

String Circus (Beatles Tribute)

Saturday, October 6, 7 pm

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

October 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 7pm CODA	2 5pm Dragonfly Swim Team 6:30 Antique Committee Meeting	3 9am Thrift Shop 1pm Roots Mtg	4 Recycling 12:30 Gentle Chair Yoga 7:30pm Choir Practice	5	6 8am Outdoor Flea Market 9am Thrift Shop 9am 3MB Fencing
7 10:00am Worship	8 7pm CODA	9 12:30 Service Club 5pm Dragonfly Swim Team 7pm Stewardship & Finance	10 9am Thrift Shop 1pm Roots Mtg	11 12:30 Gentle Chair Yoga 7:30pm Choir Practice	12	13 9am 3MB Fencing 9am Thrift Shop
14 10am Worship	15 4pm Women's Group 7pm CODA	16 5pm Dragonfly Swim Team 7pm Pampered Chef 7pm Visions & Vitality 8pm Executive Committee	17 9am Thrift Shop 1pm Roots Mtg 2pm Roots set-up	18 Recycling 12:30 Gentle Chair Yoga 6pm Sierra Hull Concert 7:30pm Choir Practice	19 News & Views deadline	20 9am 3MB Fencing 9am Thrift Shop
21 10am Worship	22 7pm CODA	23 5pm Dragonfly Swim Team	24 9am Thrift Shop 1pm Roots Mtg	25 12:30 Gentle Chair Yoga 7:30pm Choir Practice	26	27 9am 3 MB Fencing 9am Thrift Shop
28 10a Worship	29 7pm CODA	30 1:30- Service Club 5pm Dragonfly Swim Team 6pm Men's Fellowship Dinner	31 9am Thrift Shop 1pm Roots Mtg.			



October

8 Virginia Lowell
8 Erv Bode
8 Christopher Clarke
13 Denis Ipbuken
18 Nat Codin
16 George Hangen
22 Keith Conway
24 Janet Woodman
26 Emily Fay
29 Irene Bradford

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, October 9th in the Bannister Room. **NOTE** that we will be meeting an hour earlier at 12:30 due to our guest speaker, Michael Bulger of Plum Island. He will be sharing pictures of Plum Island in the 1800's and early 1900's. All are welcome to what promises to be an interesting meeting.



HELP!! We are in need of volunteers for Wednesday and especially Saturday mornings. This is usually a month commitment. Even if you could fill in on an emergency basis, please speak to me. Without help, I don't know how much longer we can keep the shop open. I can only spread myself so far!!

Sue Wolfendale



**SCRIPTURE READERS
LIST 2012**

October

- 7 Peggy Utterback
- 14 Lynn Kinsella
- 21 Kelly Burke-Anderson
- 28 Karen Conway

November

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

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

October 2012

- 10/7 Shirley Locke, Karen Conway & Brenda Marshall
- 10/14 Sue Wolfendale, Kathy Raywood & Debra Moore
- 10/21 Janet Woodman, Rita Vreeland & Jean Kirkpatrick
- 10/28 Gail Gandolfi, Anna Guyette & Sue Heersink

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.



- Oct** 7 Intergenerational World Communion Sunday – Children will be ushering
- 14 Hunter Anderson & Jon Pearson
- 21 Ann Guyette & Jean Kirkpatrick
- 28 Kathy Raywood & Audry Clarkson

November to be announced

Belleville Congregational Church

Non-Profit Organization
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Newburyport, MA 01950
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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

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](#)

Sunday School Coordinator

Pam Ellis

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

Flower Coordinator

Shirley Locke

Hospitality Coordinator

Audrey Clarkson