

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.

Ponderings	1
Updates	2
Sunday School	3
Concert Series	4
Calendar	5
Birthdays	6
Group Updates	6
Coffee Hour / Scripture Readers and Ushers	7
Contacts	8

Dear Friends,

We start a new "year" at Belleville with school starting and the fall season soon at hand, and as you probably know by now, I'm starting a new stage of life as well. Lynn Kinsella and I will celebrate our love and unite our lives on September 4th! We will be living in the parsonage (prayers needed for some re-organizing and sprucing up!)

What might I say in a few brief words to you all? Sorry, nothing very definitive about marriage and love, for as a friend of mine likes to say, "more songs and books have been written on love than any other topic!" Actually, I usually chuckle when I think about looking to the Bible for guidance on marriage: Very little is said about the disciples family lives, except for Paul, who advises followers to stay single like him. And Jesus stayed single.... at least in Bible accounts. So how about leaders in the Hebrew Testament? We hear things like David and his adultery with Bathsheba, his hundreds of concubines, Abraham lying about Sarah in fear for his own life, Rebecca deceiving Isaac in his old age, Jacob preferring one wife and her offspring over another..... and even Ruth (famous for her devoted "where you go I will go") married in part for economic survival.

No, the Bible does not give us much in the way of role models for marriage in the 21st century, but it does have some timeless words about relationships and love. Both Genesis and Ecclesiastes insist that "two are better than one" or that it was good for humans to have a helpmate or companion, and Paul's words about love in 1Cor 13 can apply to all relationships. I wrote a song some of you heard at a summer worship service whose third verse starts with Paul's words: "Love, it is patient, Love, it is kind. It sounds very simple, but is so rare to find. Gentle your touch, and peaceful your smile, I've not felt such love in a very long while!"

Whether in marriage or friendship, the patience and kindness of love seems to be a good ultimate goal! Yes, rare indeed, but worth cultivating! May we all do so in personal relationships, and also in our communal ties here at Belleville. May love indwell deeply, as we pray and welcome the Spirit of Christ in our midst!

See you soon,

Ross

Sunday School and Registration Sunday, September 11th

In many ways, September is a time of beginnings. Labor Day weekend marks the unofficial end of summer and the beginning of new activities in our family, school and community. In the church year, September is not a beginning but a mid-point—the middle of the Season After Pentecost, a season celebrating the growth of the church. The color of the season, green, symbolizes growth and new life.

Our Sunday school is again using The Whole People of God curriculum this year. **Unit I: Alive in God's Way**, will begin on September 11th. A take home leaflet will be available for parents and anyone interested in what is going on in Sunday school.

We look forward toward a year of growing and learning with our children.

September 18th 8:30-9:30am PANCAKES! PANCAKES! PANCAKES!



Belleville Church's Annual Pancake Breakfast !

Join us for a delicious pancake breakfast! The Sunday school teachers and the children of Belleville will be serving up pancakes for everyone! We will have coffee, juice, milk, sausage and light fluffy pancakes with butter and syrup! Breakfast will be served from 8:30a.m. until 9:30a.m. downstairs in the dining hall.

The Sunday School Teachers of Belleville

NOTICE: All Church Meeting

A special church meeting will be held on Sunday, September 25, 2011 following coffee hour. The primary purpose of this meeting will be to discuss a general policy concerning the sale of alcoholic beverages at Belleville sponsored events.

Sunday School:



Belleville Congregational Church welcomes all children to participate in our Sunday School program. Our curriculum is an online program that is lectionary based entitled, "Whole People of God". This curriculum is geared for children aged 3 and above and also includes Intergenerational Worship services which we incorporate into the service a few times a year. During these services the children stay and participate for the entire service. These are usually during special religious events such as Thanksgiving Sunday and Pentecost Sunday. We also provide Nursery Care for children aged 3 and under.

Our Sunday School program kicks off each year with a pancake breakfast and registration. This year, it will fall on Sunday, September 11th. Children begin each Sunday morning in worship and are then dismissed to Sunday school following the Children's Time (usually 15 minutes into the service). The younger children will enjoy a lesson followed by a craft and snack. The older children receive a lesson and learning of current events, especially those that involve the environment.



Every two years all of the kids participate in the Kids as Peacemakers mural and it's always a big hit. In November we begin the month by collecting food donations for the local food pantries. It culminates with a blessing of the food on Thanksgiving Sunday. In addition we make 'May Baskets' and deliver them to the shut ins and those in nursing homes for members of our church and others.

Each year we do a Christmas pageant that is held the Sunday before Christmas for the congregation during worship. This is one of our Intergenerational services. On Palm Sunday, we have a processional of the palms with a special song.

There are a lot of exciting opportunities happening here at Belleville Congregational Church. We hope you will join us on Sunday mornings for worship and Sunday School!



Belleville Roots Series Begins its Second Season in October

The Belleville Roots Music Committee has been busy every week during the summer developing a series of concerts beginning in October.

On Sunday, October 23rd at 4 PM, the von Trapp Children will be presenting a benefit concert . It will be a 45 minute a cappella concert followed by an informal question and answer period.

The Sound of Music captured the hearts of millions when the film debuted in 1965. Now, forty six years later, the von Trapp's family legacy is born anew. Meet Sofia, Melanie, Amanda and Justin von Trapp. They are the great grandchildren of Captain von Trapp, father of the famous singing family whose story captivated the world in the musical The Sound of Music. The siblings have continued the tradition of the family's exceptional musical gift and love of singing, sharing songs and heartwarming family stories of life before and after coming to America.

The von Trapps perform a variety of folk and classical songs from various European and American traditions as well as timeless pieces from the Sound of Music. They have performed with the Boston Pops, Atlanta and Toronto orchestras and in many places around the world.

Country Rain will be the opening act. Marshall Wilborn, who sings and plays the acoustic bass, Tom Adams, who sings and plays the guitar and Emma Adams, the daughter of Tom Adams, who sings and plays the fiddle comprise this trio who put a new spin on time-tested standards as well as featuring original songs and tunes at each performance.

Rooted in the traditions of country and bluegrass music, the three part harmony and engaging stage presence makes for a memorable experience.

Tickets will be \$20 in advance, \$25 day of the show and \$10 for ages 12 and under.

Proceeds will benefit the restoration and maintenance of the historic 1867 Belleville Meetinghouse and adjacent Fiske Chapel complex at 300 High Street, Newburyport.

2011 Calendar

September 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3 Thrift shop 9-noon
4 Worship 10a Return to Chapel	5 Labor Day	6	7 Thrift shop 9-noon	8 Choir 7:30p	9	10 Thrift shop 9-noon
11 Worship 10a Sunday School begins	12	13 Service Club 1:30 W/E 7p	14 Thrift shop 9-noon	15 Bible Discussion 6:15 p Choir 7:30p	16	17 Thrift shop 9-noon
18 Worship 10a Pancake Breakfast 8:30am	19	20 Ex.Board 7p	21 Thrift shop 9-noon	22 Bible Discussion 6:15 p Choir 7:30p	23	24 Thrift shop 9-noon
25 Worship 10a Church Mtg.	26	27	28 Thrift shop 9-noon	29 Bible Discussion 6:15 p Choir 7:30p	30	

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

Effective Tuesday, September 6th

Office hours will be
Tuesday, Thursday and Friday
9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Women's Discussion Group

"Women's Group will resume in October with a planning regrouping meeting end of September TBD to discuss best times and topics. If you are interested in attending, please contact Cathie Gould at 978-463-0507 or by email catherine_gould@hotmail.com."



September

2 Caitlin Clarke
4 Janet McDonnell
4 Will Beuparlant
5 Sue Burgess
6 Richard Bartlett
9 Helen Mantarian
9 Diana Grandoni
10 Michael Charmanski
10 Chris DeLong
11 Elizabeth Webber
15 Steven Middler
17 Jason Beuparlant
20 Lori Wiswell
20 Ben Heersink
22 David Twombly
25 Jim Utterback
26 Ross Varney
27 Dorothy Sprague
27 Carolyn Kyle
29 Richard Van Amburgh
30 Keri Pennell

October

1 Christopher Sprague
8 Virginia Lowell
8 Erv Bode
8 Christopher Clarke
9 Nicholas Howard
13 Denis Ipbuken
14 Sue Bennett
15 Kate Clunie
18 Nat Codin
16 George Hangen
19 Raymond Dugdale
21 Elizabeth Proctor
22 Keith Conway
23 Austin Lanham
24 Janet Woodman
25 Emily Wright
25 Aiden Proctor
25 Sophie Proctor
26 Stephen Woodman
26 Emily Fay
29 Irene Bradford

Antique Fair 2011

We had a successful luncheon at the Antique Fair and I want to thank everyone for their support. Many thanks to my entire kitchen help – Sue Wolfendale, Peggy Utterback, Audrey Clarkson, Jane Thomas, Nancy Brown, Diana Bondar, Irene Bradford and Sue Heersink. To all the bakers everything was delicious and we appreciate your donations. Many hands make light work.

Thanks again,

Janet

Service Club

September is the time again to gather for friendship, food, fun, and interesting programs - all while helping our church. The Tuesday, September 13th meeting will take place at 1:30 in the Bannister Room. We will have a guest speaker - Michael McKay, who is a pharmacist at Walgreens. He will be speaking to us about drug interactions with other drugs, foods, and even vitamins. All are welcome!

SCRIPTURE READERS

LIST 2011

Sept. 4 Kelly
11 Karen
18 Gail
25 Carolyn (call)

Oct. 2 Jim
9 Cathy
16 Bill
23 Bill
30 Nancy (call)

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

Sept 4th Holiday Weekend No Coffee Hour
11th Audrey Clarkson, Diana Bondar, Carolyn Kyle
18th Lori Wiswell, Dorothy Williamson, Marylou Tyler
25th Nancy Tsakirgis, Gail Gandolfi, Irene Bradford
Oct 2nd Mardee Beauparlant, Pam Ellis, Marge Killam
9th Shirley Locke, Karen Conway, Brenda Marshall
16th Sue Wolfendale, Kathy Raywood, Marion Spark
23rd Diane Crofts, Ben Heersink, Debra Moore
30th Janet Woodman, Rita Vreeland, Jean Kirkpatrick

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.

Ushers

Sept. 4 Rita Vreeland & Hans Erwich
11 Maria Niswonger & Norma Dean
18 Jean Kirkpatrick & Gail Gandolfi
25 Peggy Utterback & Ann Guyette

A Gift to Belleville

Belleville Congregational Church received a generous donation check from the Sandra J. Richard Living Trust. The donation of \$5,000 is in memory of Sandra Peterson Maguire Richard, Thelma Stevens Peterson, T. Muriel Stevens and Donald K. Stevens.

“Sandy” Peterson graduated from Newburyport High School with the class of 1963, and was a classmate of Audrey Clarkson and Nancy Canali. She was the daughter of the late Clifton and Thelma Stevens Peterson, whom she attended church with. Sandy was active in Belleville’s Sunday school and Pilgrim Fellowship and was married in the church to Paul Maguire. T. Muriel Stevens and Donald K. Stevens are ½ siblings of Sandy, children from her mother Thelma’s first marriage. She is predeceased by her brothers, Charles (“Shiner”) Stevens, Ralph Stevens, Doug Stevens and Donald Stevens; her sister, Muriel Stevens, and her sister-in-law, Mary Eva Stevens (Ralph’s wife).

Belleville is grateful for this generous gift from the Peterson/Stevens family.

Belleville Congregational Church

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**

Heather Ryan, 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

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Newburyport, MA 01950
Permit No. 105

Church Officers:

Moderator

William Silsby

Clerk

[Vacancy](#)

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

Bob Locke

UCC Delegate

Emery Rice

Sunday School Coordinator

Pam Ellis

Flower Coordinator

Shirley Locke

Hospitality Coordinator

Audrey Clarkson