

Belleville Congregational Church

*An Open and Affirming Congregation
of the United Church of Christ*



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.

Led By: Reverend Ross Varney
Ushers: Kathy Raywood
Scripture Reader: Gail Gandolfi
Coffee Hour: Kathy Raywood
Musician: Joyce Rice

May

3

2026

- (*) where indicated, if able, please stand -

Belleville Congregational Church

May 3rd 2026

Let's quiet our hearts and minds during the prelude to welcome God's spirit.

Prelude Music *"Christus, der ist mein Leben" (Christ is my Life)* *Johann Pachelbel*

Greeting and Welcome *Rev. Ross Varney*

"Whoever you are, wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!"

Call to Worship

*** Opening Hymn** *"The King of Love My Shepherd Is"* (PH #79)

** Lord's Prayer...Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.'*

*** Gloria Patri** (PH #513)
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen

*** Passing of Peace**

As a sign of reconciliation with God, and with each other, please greet others, *nearby*, with a blessing such as *"Peace be with you."*

Sharing Joys & Concerns

Call to Prayer *"My Times Are in your Hand"* (see next page)

My Times Are in your Hand

Text: William F. Lloyd (1824)

Music: Joyce Rice

My times are in your hand, My God, I wish them there!

My life, my friends, my soul I leave en-tire-ly to your care.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'My Times Are in your Hand'. It consists of four staves of music in a 3/4 time signature with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first two staves contain the first line of the hymn: 'My times are in your hand, My God, I wish them there!'. The last two staves contain the second line: 'My life, my friends, my soul I leave en-tire-ly to your care.' The music is written in a simple, accessible style suitable for children's use.

Prayer & Silent Prayer

Time for Children...of all ages

Music Moment

“Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty”

arr. John A. Behnke

Scripture Reading

Gail Gandolfi

Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16

In you, O Lord, I seek refuge; do not let me ever be put to shame; in your righteousness deliver me. Incline your ear to me; rescue me speedily. Be a rock of refuge for me, a strong fortress to save me. You are indeed my rock and my fortress; for your name's sake lead me and guide me; take me out of the net that is hidden for me, for you are my refuge. Into your hand I commit my spirit; you have redeemed me, O Lord, faithful God.

My times are in your hand; deliver me from the hand of my enemies and persecutors. Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love.

Acts 7:55-60

But filled with the Holy Spirit, he gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. “Look,” he said, “I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!” But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him, and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” When he had said this, he died.

Hymn "Be Still, My Soul" (PH #77)

Sermon "Prayer: for Comfort, for Courage" Rev. Ross Varney

Offering Time

Offering Music "Dear Lord and Father of Mankind" arr. Jay Rouse

*** Doxology, Dedication of Offerings** *Praise God from Whom all blessings flow;*
Pilgrim Hymnal #515 *Praise God, all creatures here below;*
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen

Announcements

***Closing Hymn** "God of Grace, God of Glory" (PH #366)

Benediction

Postlude Music "Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with your Love" arr. Robert Powell

Feel free to leave when ready; please do so quietly. Join us for refreshments in the stage room



Prayers for Joys and Concerns

If you would like prayers for yourself or others, please place your request in the offering plate during worship service. You could also call/e-mail the office by Thursdays by 11:00 AM.

Joys and Concerns

Joys:

For Steve' s sister just married, Greek Orthodox

Concerns

For Shenae working at giving up smoking
For Phil's brother, his wife with early onset dementia
Christa & Steve's friend Bruce, bicycle accident
Emery Rice, long term illness
Diplomatic possibilities in Pakistan

THIS WEEK

CODA Meetings Mondays at 7:00 PM

Bible Exploration 12:30PM

May 3rd -Today – Prospective Members Meet about 11:30am Prospective Members gathering at Peggy Utterback's house,6 Toppans Lane

UPCOMING

Sunday May 17th - Ceremony to welcome new members

Sunday May 17th - U.C.C. Northeast Association meeting at Central Church
Newburyport 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Sunday, May 31st 4:00 PM - Sergei Novikov Piano Concert "Like No Other!"

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mother's Day, May 10th: Coffee hour will be hosted by the gentlemen of Belleville. Please bring a bowl of cut up fruit, a package of cookies, cheese and crackers, pastries and/or, homemade goods! Let Bill Silsby know what you will be bringing for this special event and leave it in the kitchen area (or in the fridge if applicable). As a reminder, the ladies are having the morning off!

SERVICE SCHEDULE

If you are unable to perform the assigned task, please trade with someone on the list.

MAY			
Date	Usher	Scripture Reader	Coffee Hour
May 3	Kathy Raywood	Gail Gandolfi	Kathy Raywood
May 10 <i>(Mother's Day)</i>	Bill Silsby	Keith Barbera	All Men on board – led by Bill Silsby
May 17	Peggy Utterback	Peggy Utterback	Rachel Shunamon
May 24	Sue Heersink	Barbara Colten	Audrey Clarkson
May 31	Liz Neale	Martha Kelleher	Peggy Utterback and Sue Wolfendale

JUNE			
Date	Usher	Scripture Reader	Coffee Hour
June 7	Mary Lou Tyler	Sandra Biondo	Lynn Varney
June 14 th	Mardee Beauparlant	Jim Samuelson	Mardee Beauparlant
June 21 st <i>(Father's Day)</i>	Dorothy Williamson	Mary Lou Tyler	All Women on board – led by Gail Gandolfi
June 28 th	Kathy Raywood	Gail Gandolfi	Kathy Raywood

MUSIC SCHEDULE

MAY

3rd – Joyce Rice
 10th – Phil Cosgrove
 17th – Joyce Rice
 24th – Dr. Kirsten Helgeland
 31st – Phil Cosgrove

JUNE

7th - Joyce Rice
 14th -Phil Cosgrove
 21st – Joyce Rice
 28th -Phil Cosgrove

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

MAY

8th - Robert Gandolfi
 8th - Chapel Allard
 12th - Jean Mantarian
 12th - Talya Ipbuken
 14th - Martha Kelleher
 16th - Jen Gandolfi
 26th - Tess Schmidt
 30th - Norma Dean
 31st - Amy Schmidt

JUNE

3rd - Bill Silsby
 4th -Taunya Till (Beauparlant)
 7th - Shirley Locke
 9th - Karen Conway
 13th - Ben Tyler
 17th - Marcia Shoemaker
 20th - Andrea Samuelson
 25th - Marcia Peirce

*If you would like to add your birthday, please e-mail
office@belleville-church.com*