

# 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
Concert Series	2
Holy Week	3
Calendar	4
Church Gathering & Scott Smith, Physicist	5
Birthdays	5
Coffee Hour / Scripture Readers and Ushers	6
Service Club	6
WIC	7
Contacts	9

Dear Friends,

Easter is here! What can we do to celebrate well? Will Easter live up to what it is supposed to be? I think one of the realities of life is that Easter time, like Christmas, may never live up to what we think it should be. After all, we celebrate one rising from the dead! Can we hope that if we sing Hallelujahs vigorously enough, we might raise someone or ourselves from the dead?

Perhaps we can put our hopes and sights on things more ordinary at first. Perhaps the whole "spring cleaning" thing...you know, sweeping out cobwebs and getting rid of clutter. I do find this quite taxing, but something that must be done! I think Jesus was against being pack rats...remember those words he spoke about following him...by taking no extra coats, no extra shoes, no extra money, for we'll be "given what we need?" Sounds good, but hard to achieve...we always think we "might need these things" one day, so we store them away, but then never open those boxes!

Maybe if we practice resurrection in small things (simply letting go of the old, embracing the new), we may find resurrection in larger things (illnesses, relationship changes, societal change, etc.). Letting go of the old, throwing out things I no longer need, is still quite a challenge for me, but now has more urgency as I get further along the road of married life! But Jesus assured us and lived the truth that dying to something is often the prerequisite for rising to new life.

We have experienced new life in Belleville with our concert series, and we will have a wonderful evening with Carrie Newcomer on Saturday, April 21. Interesting that the lead song on her new album is called Breathe In Breathe Out! As wisdom from the East, in the simple lesson of yogic breathing, it does echo Jesus' words about dying and rising. Breathe out the old, let it go, what is done is done. Belleville's new focus on concerts does mean that those involved have less time and energy for other parts of church life. Because we have finite time, something must always be given up when we add new things to our schedules.

So if we are to celebrate well at Easter, perhaps our first move (natural each Spring) may be physical housecleaning - the physical cobwebs, old clothes, old magazines, old toys, etc... in parallel with spiritual housecleaning...letting go of anger, grudges, keeping score, criticism...as well as good things such as service and mission that keep us over-committed. Let's quietly breathe them out, let them go, die to them. Can we trust Jesus enough to do this? Can we trust that resurrection does follow? Dying and Rising is Jesus' message and example. Let us be about this kind of resurrection living. New life to you this Easter!

Yours in His Service,  
Ross



## **Building Community through Music**

### **2012 Belleville Roots Music Concert Series**

#### **Upcoming Concerts**



**Saturday, April 21st, 8 pm**  
**Belleville Meeting House**

Check out her website at <http://www.carriewcomer.com/>

The Belleville Roots Music Concert Series presents Carrie Newcomer, acclaimed singer and songwriter, on Saturday, April 21st at 8:00 PM at Belleville Church Concert Hall, 300 High Street, Newburyport. The historic Meeting House where the von Trapp children recently performed will be the venue for this performance because of its amazing acoustics. Also, Carrie Newcomer has been known to draw a large crowd. Carrie Newcomer cuts across secular and spiritual boundaries and is one of the most notable singer-songwriters working with in the progressive spiritual continuum. Carrie has toured throughout the United States and Europe. She, also, facilitates workshops on the topics of songwriting, creative writing, spirituality, vocation and activism.

Carrie Newcomer is a rare breed of singer/songwriter: the kind who illuminates life with startling depth, humor and clarity. Her ability for sharp observation of the world lead the Dallas Morning news to rave, "She's the kind of artist whose music makes you stop, think, and then say, "that is so true'." She has been described as "a soaring songstress" by Billboard, a "prairie mystic" by the Boston Globe, and Rolling Stone has said that she "asks all the right questions". Carrie is one of the definitive voices of the Heartland and progressive spirituality.

#### **TICKETS**

Tickets to the concert are \$20 (\$25 day of show) and \$10 for children 12 and under. Group sales are available. Advance tickets are available at: Belleville Congregational Church Office, 300 High Street, Tues. Thurs, and Friday from 9 AM to 1 PM; Belleville Thrift Shop, Wed and Sat. from 9AM to noon; Dyno Records, 1 Middle Street, Newburyport; and on line at : [www.bellevillechurch.org/concerts.php](http://www.bellevillechurch.org/concerts.php) or [www.mktix.com/bc](http://www.mktix.com/bc).

#### **Contact**

For more information about the Roots Music Concert Series, please contact [bellevilleconcerts@gmail.com](mailto:bellevilleconcerts@gmail.com) or call the church office at 978/465-7734. To join our concert email list for regular updates on upcoming concerts, please send an email to [bellevilleconcerts@gmail.com](mailto:bellevilleconcerts@gmail.com)



### **Palm Sunday, April 1<sup>st</sup> at 10am**

Join us for our Intergenerational Palm Sunday service.

### **Maundy Thursday, April 5<sup>th</sup>**

Belleville's special worship service remembering Jesus' last supper with his disciples begins at 7pm on the Thursday before Easter. You are invited to share a potluck meal beforehand at 6pm and then stay for the Tenebrae service at 7pm. It is a service of scripture readings that tell the story of Jesus' crucifixion, and burial, accompanied by the gradual extinguishing of candles. We will leave the darkened stage room in silence.

Tenebrae is a very beautiful and moving service.

Bread and beverage will be provided by Fellowship & Outreach Board. If you would like to help set up earlier on that day, or if you can help clean up on Friday morning, there will be a sign-up sheet available in the Bannister Room.

If anyone needs a ride, please contact Gail Gandolfi at 978-462-2828 or Kelly Burke-Anderson at 617-605-7524.

### **Ecumenical Sunrise Service, Sunday, April 8<sup>th</sup> at 6am**

All are welcome to the sunrise service at Salisbury Reservation.

Location to be announced.

### **Easter morning worship, Sunday, April 8<sup>th</sup> at 10am**

Let us celebrate Resurrection Living!

We will hold our Easter worship in our Meeting House followed by an Easter egg hunt for small children and coffee hour in the Stage Room of our Chapel building.

# 2012 Calendar

## April 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1 Palm Sunday</b> 10am Worship	<b>2</b> 7pm CODA	<b>3</b> 4:30pm Brownie Troop	<b>4</b> 9am Thrift Shop 1pm Roots Mtg.	<b>5 Maundy Thursday</b> 1:30pm Yoga 6pm Potluck 7pm Tenebrae Service	<b>6 Good Friday</b>	<b>7</b> 9am 3MB Fencing 9am Thrift Shop
<b>8 Easter Sunday</b> 6am Sunrise Service 10am Worship	<b>9</b> 3:30pm Girl Scouts 7pm CODA	<b>10</b> 1:30pm Service Club 7pm Stewardship & Finance / Worship & Ed.	<b>11</b> 9am Thrift Shop 1pm Roots Mtg.	<b>12</b> 1:30pm Yoga 6:15 Bible Study 7:30 Choir	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 9am 3MB Fencing 9am Thrift Shop
<b>15</b> 10am Worship	<b>16</b> 4pm Women's Fellowship 7pm CODA	<b>17</b> 4:30pm Brownie Troop 7pm Executive Board	<b>18</b> 9am Thrift Shop 1pm Roots Mtg.	<b>19</b> 1:30pm Yoga 6:15 Bible Study 7:30 Choir	<b>20</b> News & Views deadline	<b>21</b> 9am 3MB Fencing 9am Thrift Shop  <b>8pm Concert</b> Carrie Newcomer
<b>22</b> 10am Worship	<b>23</b> 3:30pm Girl Scouts 7pm CODA	<b>24</b> 6:30pm Visions & Vitality – potluck & brainstorming	<b>25</b> 9am Thrift Shop 1pm Roots Mtg.	<b>26</b> 1:30pm Yoga 5pm Swim team meets 6:15 Bible Study 7:30 Choir	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 9am 3MB Fencing 9am Thrift Shop 9am NBPT Choral Society – M.House 2-5pm Private Event
<b>29</b> 10a Worship	<b>30</b> 7pm CODA 7pm NBPT Choral Society – M.House	May 1 4:30pm Swim team meets	2 9am Thrift Shop 1pm Roots Mtg. 6pm NBPT Choral Society – M.House	3 1:30pm Yoga 6:15 Bible Study 7:30 Choir	4	5 9am 3MB Fencing 9am Thrift Shop 9:30am Wills, Bequests & Taxes 6pm NBPT Choral Society – M.House

## Important Church Gathering – April 17, 2012!

Please consider coming to a “Dessert and Coffee with a time of envisioning the future”. This is a follow up meeting to our budgeted meeting and fiscal needs. This will be an informal meeting from 7PM until 8/8:30PM and held before the start of the Executive Board Meeting. Please come and brainstorm some ideas and perhaps we can begin some ad hoc meetings to bring the ideas to fruition.

This is very important for the vitality and growth of our church. Remember it’s for the future of Christ’s Church, our children, grandchildren and community.

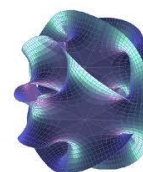


### April

5 Kelly Burke-Anderson  
 7 Faye Richards  
 7 Linda Himeon  
 12 Lynne Hangen  
 15 Sue Heersink  
 15 Petey Conway  
 18 Nancy Canali  
 21 Sue Cavalieri  
 23 Nancy Tsakirgis  
 27 Nancy Lewis  
 30 Mel Woodman

### May

2 David Morrow  
 3 Elizabeth Valeriani  
 8 Robert Gandolfi  
 8 Matthew Chmielewski  
 12 Mary Wood  
 12 Tayla Ipbuken  
 13 Daryl Laing  
 26 Joyce Burrier



## Scott Smith, Physicist Wed. May 2, 2012 7:30pm

Local Physicist, Scott Smith, makes advancements on his Theory of Spinning Strings, Wed. May 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:30pm at Belleville.

Achievement of Einstein’s Gravitational Law of Relativity by application of a Theory of Spinning Strings, operating in a velocity dependent magnetic field environment.

## SCRIPTURE READERS LIST 2012

### April

- 1 Carolyn Kyle
- 8 Nancy Smith
- 15 Marion Spark
- 22 Peggy Utterback
- 29 Lynn Varney

### May

- 6 Kelly Burke-Anderson
- 13 Karen Conway
- 20 Gail Gandolfi
- 27 Carolyn Kyle

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

- |              |                  |   |
|--------------|------------------|---|
| <b>April</b> | 1 <sup>st</sup>  | Sue Heersink, Marion Spark                        |
|              | 8 <sup>th</sup>  | Gail Gandolfi, Shirley Locke, Irene Bradford      |
|              | 15 <sup>th</sup> | No Coffee Hour – School Vacation Week             |
|              | 22 <sup>nd</sup> | Audrey Clarkson, Lynn Varney, Carolyn Kyle        |
|              | 29 <sup>th</sup> | Diane Crofts, MaryLou Tyler, Bill Silsby          |
| <b>May</b>   | 6 <sup>th</sup>  | Kathy Raywood, Jean Kirkpatrick, Helen Hatcher    |
|              | 13 <sup>th</sup> | Nancy Canali, Audrey Clarkson, Dorothy Williamson |
|              | 20 <sup>th</sup> | Janet Woodman, Rita Vreeland                      |
|              | 27 <sup>th</sup> | No Coffee Hour – Memorial Day 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.

## Ushers

- |              |                                     |            |                                   |
|--------------|-------------------------------------|------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>April</b> | 1 Rita Vreeland & Hans Erwich       | <b>May</b> | 6 Audrey Clarkson & Kathy Raywood |
|              | 8 Bob Locke & Jon Pearson           |            | 13 Bob & Shirley Locke            |
|              | 15 Jean Kirkpatrick & Gail Gandolfi |            | 20 Norma Dean & Anna Guyette      |
|              | 22 Carolyn Kyle & Peggy Utterback   |            | 27 Rita Vreeland & Hans Erwich    |
|              | 29 Kelly Burke-Anderson & Michelle  |            |                                   |

## Service Club

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, April 10<sup>th</sup> at 1:30pm in the Bannister Room. We will be having guest speaker, Ghlee Woodworth. She will be talking about the Newburyport Clipper Heritage Trail. If time allows, she will also tell us about some of the important women of Newburyport in the 1700's and 1800's.

All are welcome to come here this interesting speaker!



### **WIC (Women, Infants, Children)**

The Fellowship and Outreach Board agreed to add our name to the letter being sent to Congress by the National WIC Association asking Congress not to cut the funding for the WIC program. The WIC program assists women, infants and children (5 years and younger) with low income to attain healthy nutritional food.

WIC is a free nutrition program that provides healthy foods, nutrition education, breastfeeding support, and referrals to healthcare for families who qualify.

The goal is to keep pregnant and breastfeeding women and kids under 5 healthy.

The letter is as follows:

I am part of the Belleville Church UCC in Newburyport, MA on the Mission and Outreach Committee. I received an email forwarded through our pastor from the < [dtashjian@communityactioninc.org](mailto:dtashjian@communityactioninc.org) >and < [icyros@hughdoyle.org](mailto:icyros@hughdoyle.org) >. We support both these organizations and believe in helping them as much as we are able. Although we are a very small group struggling ourselves for survival, we are proud of our mission accomplishments and would be willing to add our name to your request to Congress for funding support for the WIC program. We feel it is a very worthwhile program.

Thank you.

Nancy Canali, representing  
Mission and Outreach Committee  
Belleville Congregational Church, UCC  
300 High Street  
Newburyport, MA 01950

The letter was emailed to Samantha Lee, National WIC Association, Washington, DC.

Submitted by Diane Crofts for Fellowship and Outreach.

# 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](mailto:bcchurch@worldpath.net)

Website: [www.bellevillechurch.org](http://www.bellevillechurch.org)

David Morrow, Organist/Choir Director

Bob Locke, Sexton

Non-Profit Organization

U.S. POSTAGE

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Newburyport, MA 01950

Permit No. 105

## 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](#)

## Sunday School Coordinator

Pam Ellis

## 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

### Flower Coordinator

Shirley Locke

### Hospitality Coordinator

Audrey Clarkson