



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,

Winter came early..... Advent starting November 30 feels early (we're still eating Turkey sandwiches!) and yes, Christmas Eve Candlelight service is starting "early" this year, at 5:30, with music beginning at 5:15! In a vote, the early birds won; the main benefit seems to be more time at home for special dinners or other celebrations. So spread the word to all ages; invite everyone you know who is curious or looking for a special start to Christmas. We are so lucky to have several guest musicians coming, a flutist, violinist, and vocal soloist, and the choir already has some beautiful Christmas songs ready. It is sure to be a wonderful celebration of Christ's coming into the world..... with the probable sermon topic of "What gifts is Jesus bringing this year?"

The four Sundays of Advent will emphasize the traditional themes of Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love. The Hope Sunday starts with more reflective themes, and the spirit of waiting. The Peace Sunday, Dec. 7, always acknowledges the violence of our world, while proclaiming with Isaiah that peace IS possible, that the wolf can lie down with the lamb, that people can "war no more" (The Choir Anthem is hopeful and triumphant all at the same time.) The third Sunday, Joy, Dec. 14, will be in the Meeting House, since it is the same weekend as the Choral Society Christmas Concert and there will be plenty of heat in the building! We'll take advantage of the heat and the opportunity to use the big organ again. And the Love Sunday, Dec. 21, will have a little pageant afterwards, where the children always remind us of the way of Christ that welcomes children first and foremost as signs of God's Reign.



What a festive season, always too much to do, too many events that call to us. Can we make room for a focus on Christ and his peaceful, loving ways? Can we make them our goal and focus?

Hoping for a joyous season of Christ's gifts to us all. Amidst all our programmatic concerns and plans, I would love to meet with anyone for a "cup of tea" to share Christmas stories and hopes. Let me know.

Yours in the wonders of the Christ child,
Ross Varney

2014 CALENDAR



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6 9-12 Thrift Shop
7 10am Worship	8 4:15pm Girl Scouts 7pm CODA	9 Service Club 1:30pm Worship & Education 7pm	10 9- 12 Thrift Shop Stewardship & Finance 7pm	11 6pm Bible Study 7pm Choir practice	12	13 9- 12 Thrift Shop 9am 3MB Fencing Newburyport Choral Society Concert 7pm
14 10am Worship Newburyport Choral Society Concert 1:30pm	15 Girl Scouts 4:15pm 7pm CODA	16	17 9- 12 Thrift Shop Girl Scouts 5:30pm	18 6pm Bible Study 7pm Choir practice	19	20 9- 12 Thrift Shop 9am 3MB Fencing
21 10am Worship	22 7pm CODA	23	24 9-12 Thrift Shop Christmas Eve Service 5:30pm	25 	26	27 9-12 Thrift Shop 9am 3MB Fencing
28 10am Worship	29 7pm CODA	30	31 			

SURVEY SAYS.....5:30 P.M. !

**ATTENTION: NOTE THE NEW, EARLIER TIME FOR OUR TRADITIONAL
CANDLELIGHT CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY SERVICE.**

It will be held in the Belleville Congregational Meeting House. Worship will begin at 5:30 P.M. Come join us for the celebration of Christ's birth with joyous music, carols and the gospel lessons of this wonderful story. The service will have an invitation to encircle the sanctuary and sharing of the Light (candlelight) and singing the special hymn of silent night, holy night (Stille Nacht, Heilige Nacht).



Join the fun and help decorate the Meeting House.

Please stay after coffee on Sunday December 7th and help get the Meeting House ready for Christmas. We will be hanging wreaths, greens and putting up a Christmas tree.



ADVENT is a season of waiting, expecting, and hoping. Beginning four Sundays prior to Christmas and ending on Christmas Eve, Advent helps us prepare for the coming, or “advent” of the Christ child at Christmas. (The word “advent” comes from the Latin word that means “coming.”)
For hundreds of years, Christians have used an Advent wreath to inspire their hopes for the coming of Christ. By lighting candles and reading Bible verses, we are reminded about the meaning of Christ’s birth and become more excited about his coming in the past, in the future, and in our own lives. Join us as we get ready for the joyous birth of Christ beginning November 30th with the lighting of the candle of Hope, December 7th the candle of Peace, December 14th the candle of Joy and December 21st the candle of Love.

First Sunday of Advent (*Hope* – based on Isaiah 11:1-10)

The Spirit of God rests fully on the coming Lord.

(ALL) The promised Christ is full of wisdom and understanding in the Spirit of God.

The promised Lord will rule with true justice and righteousness.

(ALL) All fear will change to comfort. All enemies will be transformed into friends.

As we trust in God, we find our peace.

(ALL) In the grace of God, we find our hope.

Let us – with hope – kindle the light of the Lord.

Second Sunday of Advent Advent (*Peace* – based on Isaiah 2:1-5)

Come and gather, O People of God!

(ALL) Let us gather at the House of the Lord!

We await the Word, who will lead all nations.

(ALL) We await the One who will guide us in Peace.

Let us – in peace – kindle the light of the Lord

Third Sunday of Advent (*Joy* – based on Isaiah 35:1-10)

The wilderness will dance and the dry places will sing praises to God.

(ALL) When we see the glory of the Lord revealed, we will be strengthened and saved!

God's peace opens our eyes. God's gift of hope opens our hearts.

(ALL) With joy, we will praise the promised Savior of the world!

Let us – with joy – kindle the light of the Lord.

Fourth Sunday of Advent (*Love* – based on Isaiah 7:10-16)

We seek a sign of the Lord our God.

(ALL) From the depths of the earth to the heights of the heavens, let God's sign be known to all.

A young woman shall give birth to peace, hope, and joy.

(ALL) A young woman will give Love a name: Emmanuel – God is with us.

Let us – in love – kindle the light of the Lord.

Christmas Eve / Christmas Day (based on Isaiah 9:2-7, NRSV)

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

(ALL) We who have lived in darkness have seen the Light of the Lord growing brighter, day by day.

This night, the True Light arrives.

(ALL) This night, the Light shines brightest.

The Light of Peace has come.

(ALL) The Light of Hope has come.

The Light of Joy has come.

(ALL) The Light of Love has come.

For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders, and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

(ALL) His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace. He will establish and uphold it with justice and righteousness from this time onward and forevermore.

Let us kindle the light of the Lord!



No Executive Board meeting in December. Next meeting is January 6, 2015



Service Club Annual Christmas Party

Tuesday, December 9th at 1:30pm

*Join us for refreshments, Yankee Swap and carol singing with
Ross at the piano.*

Reminder: Service club does not meet in January or February



December

*2 Stephen Middler
10 Jennifer Allard
10 Tyler Jay
20 Jean Kirkpatrick
21 Michael Allard
22 Scott Smith
24 Jenny DeLong
25 Norm Hansen*

January

*1 Robert Locke
5 Kip Tyler
10 Caden Allard
12 James Guyette
15 Jennifer Locke
23 Robert Crofts*

Belleville Church Thrift Shop



The thrift shop is open every Wednesday and Saturday 9am – noon.
Come by and see what's new!

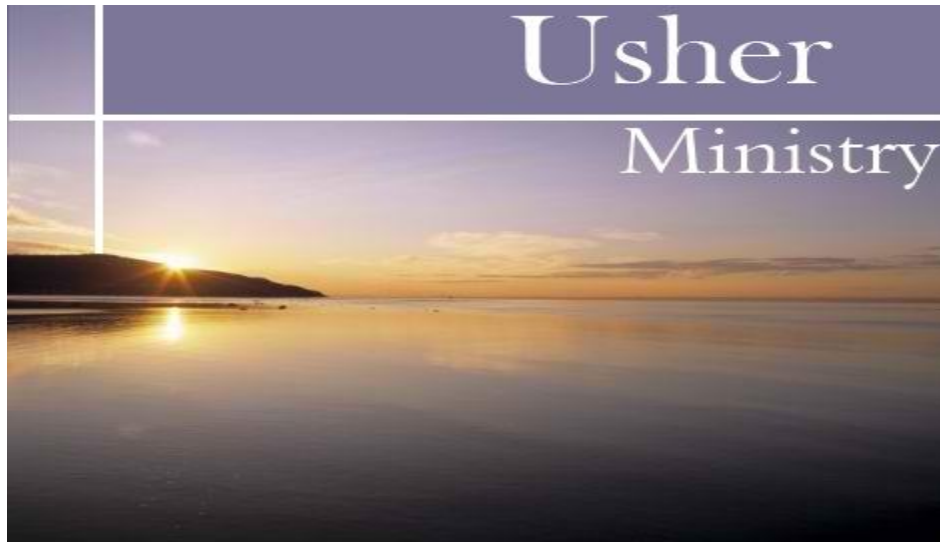
Come, lend your voice!!



Andrea DeGiovanni, organist & choir director

Choir rehearsal, Thursday evenings at 7pm in the Stage Room, all are welcome.

Youth choir rehearsal, 11:15 Sunday mornings after worship.

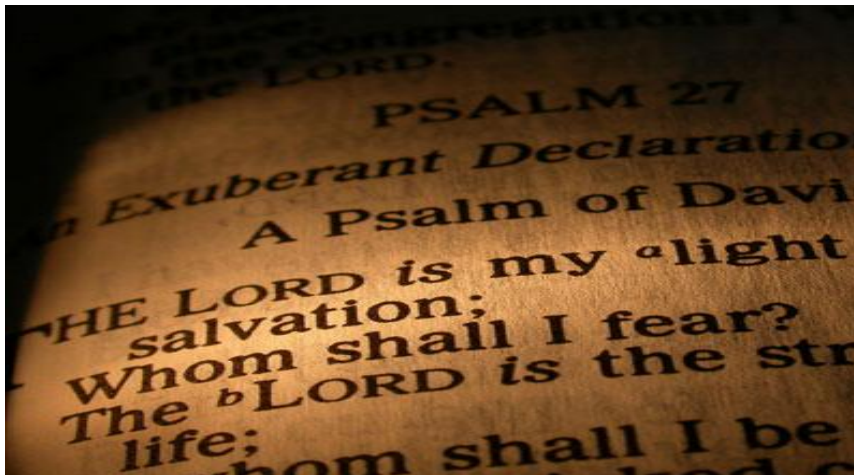


December

- 7 Peggy Utterback & Carolyn Kyle
- 14 Judi Smith & Anna Guyette
- 21 Michelle Anderson & Audrey Clarkson
- 24 Gail Gandolfi, Chapel Allard, & Norma Dean
- 28 Kathy Raywood & Annika Ellis

January

- 4 Ben Heersink & Jon Pearson
- 11 Hans Erwich &
- 18 Jean Kirkpatrick & Carolyn Kyle
- 25 Hunter Anderson & Michelle Anderson



Scripture readers

December

- 7 Peggy Utterback
- 14 Bill Silsby
- 21 Emery Rice
- 24 Christmas Eve
- 28 Lynn Varney

Coffee Hour



December

- 7 Sue Wolfendale, Norma Kean & Lynn Varney
- 14 Diane Crofts, Jean Hansen & Janet Woodman
- 21 Audrey Clarkson, Lori Wiswell & Debra Moore
- 28 No Coffee Hour

JANUARY

- 4 Sue Heersink, Dorothy Williamson & Carolyn Kyle
- 11 Nancy Canali, Gail Gandolfi & Jane Thomas
- 18 Shirley Locke, Karen Conway & Marcia Samuelson
- 25 Mary Lou Tyler, Diane Crofts & Jennifer Allard



Belleville Congregational Church

United Church of Christ

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bellevillechurch.org

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

Andrea DeGiovanni, Music 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: Jean Hansen
Clerk: William Silsby
Treasurer: Mary Lou Tyler
Memorial Fund Treasurer: Kelly
Burke-Anderson
Auditor: Kathy Raywood
Members-at-Large (Ex. Board)

Contact Persons

Board of Fellowship & Outreach:
Diane Crofts
Board of Worship & Education:
Kelly Burke-Anderson
Board of Stewardship & Finance:
Hans Erwich, Jim Samuelson
UCC Delegate: Emery Rice

Sunday School Coordinator

Pam Ellis

Flower Coordinator

Shirley Locke

Hospitality Coordinator

Audrey Clarkson