



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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Happy New Year to all!

And you guessed it, Pastor Ross will waft theological, even Christological, on this greeting! As people of faith, we can take almost anything from daily life and find some relevance to spiritual life as we seek to follow Christ. But I promise to be brief!

HAPPY..... hmmm, the name of someone in our community, hmmm, the start of a great song with a Reggae beat (Don't Worry, Be Happy), OK, here's the Bible part: one modern translation of the Beatitudes in Jesus' Sermon on the Mount, Matthew Chapter 5. Well, as followers of Christ we could say with confidence that Jesus was not all about happiness as the world might define it. Here, the King James and RSV might have the better translation of Jesus: "Blessed" are the poor in spirit, peacemakers, etc. Also, followers of Jesus know that he spoke of "Joy" several times, that he came so that our joy might be full. Joy can embrace struggles and suffering, finding energy or enthusiasm and courage to try to make a difference! OK, enough said, for now!

NEW.... hmmm, as followers of Christ, we could meditate on this word day and night. It shows up in the Bible everywhere, not just newness as simple change, but as a change for the better, a change toward the common good, a change that comes from forgiveness, or truly letting go of the past. For followers of Christ, we seek things like New Life, New Creation, New Being! This hope is all throughout the Hebrew Scriptures as well, that God acts to redeem, to save, to deliver, to create, re-create, etc.

Every January, we celebrate Epiphany (January 6) as the 12th day of Christmas, but also as the Light of Christ truly being shown forth transformatively in the world. OK, enough said, for now!

YEAR hmmm, how do we mark time? The psalms say that a thousand years are like a day in God's view. One view of faith is that we do well to look beyond the simple marking of days, weeks, years, to an eternal sense of time, even what is beyond time. Metaphysical Science has pointed out that our view of time and space is very limited. Mystics have said all along that the world of dreams and visions is beyond time and space, yet can break into our reality if we have eyes to see and ears to hear. Theologians often mention the two Greek words for time, Chronos (ordinary time, chronological) and Kairos (God-moments, connection to the eternal). OK, brief means stop now, and you give it your spin.

Soooooo ... A Blessed, Joyous, New Life in Christ's Spirit to you, now, in 2014, and eternally!

Pastor Ross Varney

2014 CALENDAR



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 New Year's Day	2 7:30pm Choir practice	31	4 9am Thrift Shop 9am 3MB Fencing
5 10am Worship	6 7pm CODA	7	8 9 am Thrift Shop 6:30pm Worship & Education 7:30pm Stewardship & Finance	9 7:30pm Choir practice	10	11 9am Thrift Shop 9am 3MB Fencing 7pm Game Night
12 10am Worship	13 7pm CODA	14	15 9am Thrift Shop	16 7:30pm Choir practice	17	18 9am Thrift Shop 9am 3MB Fencing
19 10am Worship	20 7pm CODA	21 News & Views deadline	22	23 7:30pm Choir practice	24	25 9am Thrift Shop 9am 3 MB Fencing
26 10a m Worship	27 7pm CODA	28	29 6:30pm Men's Fellowship Supper	30	31	

SERVICE CLUB

No Service Club meeting in January or February. See you all in March.



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

The Extra Mile: Minister's Discretionary Fund

The Extra Mile offering collected on Sunday, January 19th, will be for the Minister's Discretionary Fund.

Ross is often approached by people with requests for help for gas money, food, heating or medical needs. Assistance is often given along with conversation and prayer.

Often the money given to the Minister's Discretionary Fund is used to purchase gift cards from Market Basket, CVS, K-Mart and gas cards. Then, as the need arises, Ross gives to the recipient the gift card that addresses, in some small way, this particular person's needs.

Game Night, Saturday, January 11th at 7PM

Come join us on January 11th for a night of fun and conversation! Bring your favorite game and a snack to share. Beverages will be provided.



January

- 1 *Robert Locke*
- 5 *Kip Tyler*
- 10 *Caden Allard*
- 12 *James Guyette*
- 15 *Jennifer Locke*
- 23 *Robert Crofts*
- 22 *Scott Smith*
- 24 *Jenny DeLong*
- 25 *Norm Hansen*

February

- 3 *Peggy Utterback*
- 4 *Robert Gould*
- 5 *Jane Thomas*
- 12 *E.J. Dean*
- 13 *Emery Rice*
- 15 *Dot Williamson*
- 15 *Marion Spar*
- 16 *Nancy Brown*
- 22 *George Beauparlant*
- 24 *Luke Gandolfi*
- 27 *Anna May Guyette*
- 28 *Jamie Gandolfi*



Scripture readers

January

- 5 Cathy Morrow
- 12 Annika Ellis & Andrea Samuelson
- 19 Barbara Habelt
- 26 Carolyn Kyle

February

- 2 Hunter Anderson
- 9 Bill Silsby
- 16 Chapel Allard & Anika Ellis
- 23 Lynn Varney

If you cannot read on the date that you have been assigned, just call the next person on the list or send out an email and trade.



January

- 5 Peggy Utterback & Mardee Beuparlant
- 12 Carolyn Kyle & Shirley Locke
- 19 Jean Kirkpatrick & Bob Locke
- 26 Hunter Anderson & Keri Pennell

February

- 2 Hans Erwich & Rita Vreeland
- 9 Peggy Utterback & Kathy Raywood
- 16 Jean Kirkpatrick & Carolyn Kyle
- 23 Anna Guyette & Bob Locke



January hosts

- 5 Sue Heersink, Dorothy Williamson & Carolyn Kyle**
- 12 Sue Wolfendale, Gail Gandolfi & Jane Thomas**
- 19 Shirley Locke, Karen Conway & Marcia Samuelson**
- 26 Mary Lou Tyler, Diane Crofts & Jennifer Allard**

February hosts

- 2 Sue Wolfendale, Anna Guyette & Jean Hansen**
- 9 Diane Crofts, Pam Ellis & Nancy Canali**
- 16 No Coffee Hour – School vacation**
- 23 Janet Woodman, Irene Bradford & 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 posted on the bulletin board. Please feel free to swap around with anyone if the assigned week is a conflict for you. Please let the office know if there is going to be a change.

The church will supply the napkins, cups, plates, coffee, cream, sugar and juice.

Anyone can bring something for coffee hour even if it is not your week. You do not have to be listed to donate. All donations gratefully accepted.



Belleville Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
300 High Street
Newburyport, MA 01950
978-465-7734
bcchurch@worldpath.net
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

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: Rita Vreeland
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