## November 2014 News and Views

## 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.

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Dear Friends,

I've heard of the term "war-weary," but these days I'm also getting "news-weary." Surely, the biggest headlines are always some sort of bad news. Some form of violence happening. Even in the political races, when it gets close the "attack ads" begin. And when some big developers don't get their way, reportedly they have even yelled at the mayor and pounded on her desk!

So where is the good news? As people with a conscience, and following the Prince of Peace, we have no choice but to spread light, and be peacemakers as best we can! Any effort can add to the seeds of peace. Then we trust the Creator to cause growth and multiplication of peace seeds. Jesus was all about forgiveness and reconciliation.

I must admit, I often throw up my hands in despair about the extremists who thinks it's OK to do mass killings. They even invoke the name of God as they do so. Jews and Christians have been guilty of doing the same. Recently, someone reminded me that Jesus talked about trees with bad fruit being chopped down, and used it as a proof-text for killing. Jesus also talked about chopping off a hand or plucking out an eye that caused sin.... but few serious interpreters of Jesus would ever take that saying literally. Rather his meaning is metaphoric, to remove the actions or causes of sin in one's life...... and his principal response to sin is "You are forgiven.... Go and sin no more."

As Christians, we trust we can always find Good News in Christ's life and teachings. So as we approach Advent, let's take every opportunity to PROMOTE Christ, his way, and his community as Good News for this hurting world.

Faithfully and yours in Christ,

Ross

## **2014 CALENDAR**



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1			1 9-12 Thrift Shop 7:30pm Pennies for Poverty Fund raiser
2 10am Worship	3 4:15pm Girl Scouts 7pm CODA	4 7pm Thoughtful Life Studies in the parlor	5 9- 12 Thrift Shop	6 1pm Gentle Chair Yoga 6pm Bible Study 7pm Choir practice	7	8 9:30am Thoughtful Life Studies Mediation 9- 12 Thrift Shop 9am 3MB Fencing
9 10am Worship	10 7pm CODA	11 8:15am Worship & Education 1:30pm Service Club 7pm Thoughtful Life Studies	12 9- 12 Thrift Shop 7pm Stewardship & Finance	13 1pm Gentle Chair Yoga 6pm Bible Study 7pm Choir practice	14 8pm Roots Concert & Dance with the New Orleans Suspects	15 9- 12 Thrift Shop 9am 3MB Fencing
16 10am Worship	17 4:15pm Girl Scouts 7pm CODA	18 7pm Thoughtful Life Studies 7pm Executive Board	19 9-12 Thrift Shop 5:30 Girl Scouts 6pm Men's Fellowship Dinner	20 1pm Gentle Chair Yoga 6pm Bible Study 7pm Choir practice	21	22 9-12 Thrift Shop 9am 3MB Fencing
23 10am Worship Thanksgiving in- gathering of food	24 7pm CODA	25 7pm Thoughtful Life Studies	26 9-12 Thrift Shop	27 Thanksgiving	28 4-9pm Art & Soul – Artisan Crafts	29 10-4 Art & Soul– Artisan Crafts

30 10am Worship

## Belleville Church Thriff Shop



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

## Come, lend your voice!!



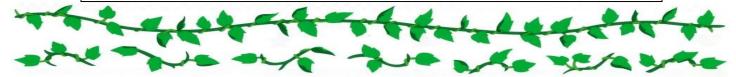
Andrea DeGiovanni, organist & choir director

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

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



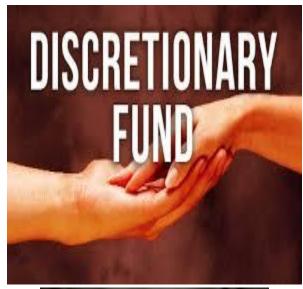
	November		December
6	Jamíe Beauparlant	2	Stephen Middler
8	Anníka Ellís	10	Jennífer Allard
10	Jon Williamson	10	Tyler Jay
10	Helen Hatcher	20	Jean Kírkpatríck
26	Sue Wolfendale	21	Míchael Allard
28	Jonathan Pearson	22	Scott Smíth
28	Christina Gandolfi	24	Jenny DeLong
		25	Norm Hansen



## **Service Club**

The November meeting of the Service Club will be held on Tuesday, November11<sup>th</sup> at 1:30pm in the Bannister Room with guest speaker Carol Kelley. Carol will be discussing her book *Accidental Immigrants and the Search for Home: Women, Cultural Identity and Community*, (Temple University Press, 2013). The book is a study of four women's immigration experiences and addresses the emotional issues of home, belonging, adjustment, and the experience of being foreign. From a Maori woman who moves to Norway to the daughter of an Iranian diplomat who now lives in France, *Accidental Immigrants* weaves the personal stories of immigration with discussions of anthropology and psychology. Although the book is carefully researched, it reads like a novel; the women could be your neighbors or friends or the stranger you're a little apprehensive about. *Accidental Immigrants* will resonate with anyone who has experienced a life changing situation that leads to personal transformation, whether involving a move from a different country or just to a new neighborhood.

Carol Kelley is a cultural anthropologist and former lawyer, and has primarily worked as a social policy researcher for universities and non-profit organizations. Her interest in the emotional journeys of immigrants emerged from her work as an ethnographer, her own personal experiences, and from observing the life of her sister, an immigrant to Norway. She currently makes her home in Newburyport, MA.





Minister's Discretionary Fund

The Extra Mile offering collected on Sunday, November 16<sup>th</sup> will be for the Minister's Discretionary Fund.

Ross is often approached by people with requests for help with food, gas money, or utility bill needs. Assistance is often given along with conversation, spiritual encouragement, and prayer "at the discretion of the minister".

Often the money given to the Minister's Discretionary Fund is used to purchase gift cards from Market Basket, CVS and Kmart. Then, as the need arises, Ross gives to the recipient the gift card that addresses, in some small way, this particular person's needs. None of the assistance is long term.



# THE PETTENGILL HOUSE, INC. WINTER COAT DRIVE FOR ADULTS AND CHILDREN IN NEED

in conjunction with Coastal Connections, Inc.

## **COLLECTION SITE:**

Coastal Connections, Inc. 35 Water Street Amesbury, MA

DROP OFF DATES AND TIME: November 5, 12, and 19 1 to 5pm

ACCEPTING NEW AND GENTLY USED COATS AND JACKETS

## FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Peg at: <a href="mailto:pettengillcoats@gmail.com">pettengillcoats@gmail.com</a>

Donna at: 978.388.1119





# Belleville Roots presents New Orleans Suspects Mardi Gras in November Concert and Dance on Friday, November 14th

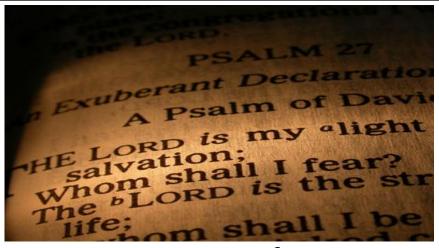


Belleville Roots Music presents the New Orleans Suspects in a concert/dance at the Belleville Stage, 300 High Street, Newburyport on Friday, November 14th at 8:00PM. Tickets are \$30 in advance/\$35 day of show/\$10 children 18 and under. For more information, please email: <a href="mailto:bellevilleconcerts@gmail.com">bellevilleconcerts@gmail.com</a> or visit: <a href="mailto:www.bellevillechurch.org/roots.php">www.bellevillechurch.org/roots.php</a>.

#### **TICKETS**

Tickets are available at Dyno Records, 1 Middle Street, Newburyport, MA,
Belleville Congregational Church office on Tuesday, Thursday, Friday mornings from 9:00AM to 1:00PM
Belleville Thrift Shop on Wednesday and Saturday mornings from 9:00AM to noon

http://www.MKTix.com/bc

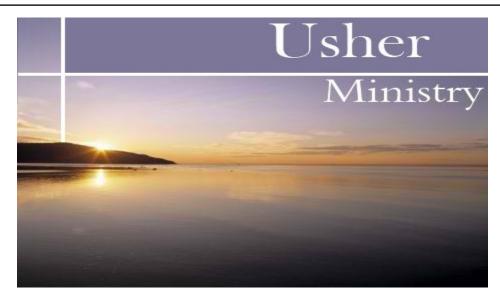


Scripture readers

## November

#### Gail Gandolfi 7 **Peggy Utterback** 2 9 Chapel Allard & Annika Ellis 14 **Bill Silsby** 16 **Sue Heersink** 21 **Emery Rice** 23 24 Carolyn Kyle **Christmas Eve 30 Barbara Colten** 28 Lynn Varney

If you are unavailable to read on the date that you have been assigned, just call the next person on the list or send out an email and trade dates.



## November

#### Norma & Tim Dean 2 7 9 Sue & Ben Heersink 14

### 16 Jean Kirkpatrick & Mardee Beauparlant 21 24

23 Jon Pearson & Hunter Anderson

30 Gail Gandolfi

## December

Peggy Utterback & Carolyn Kyle Judi Smith & Anna Guyette Michelle Anderson & Audrey Clarkson Gail Gandolfi, Chapel Allard, & Norma Dean

December

28 Kathy Raywood & Annika Ellis

# Coffee Hour



#### **November**

Nancy Canali, Kelly Burke-Anderson & Diana Bondar
 Bob Locke, Marcia Samuelson & Dorothy Williamson
 Audrey Clarkson, Jennifer Allard & Mary Lou Tyler
 Marion Spark, Kathy Raywood & Ben Heersink
 Peggy Utterback, Marge Killam & Mardee Beauparlant

### **December**

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



## Belleville Congregational Church United Church of Christ 300 High Street Newburyport, MA 01950 978-465-7734

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  $20^{\rm th}$  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**