



# The BROOKSIDE CHRONICLE

Brookside Congregational Church, United Church of Christ  
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Visit Our Web Site: [www.brooksidecc.org](http://www.brooksidecc.org)

January, 2016

*Room to Grow, Room to Serve, Room for You*  
*An Open and Affirming Congregation*

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**Welcome!**

*Welcome to Our  
Interim Pastor,  
Rev. Dr.*

*Marlayna Schmidt*

*...details on page 2*

**January 24: Brookside's  
Annual Meeting**

**11:30 in Fellowship Hall  
Please come to review,  
discuss, and vote.**

**Annual Reports are due  
by January 6, please.**

*Welcome*  
**2016!**

## **Meet Our Interim Pastor: Rev. Dr. Marlayna Schmidt**

Dear Members and Friends of Brookside Congregational Church—

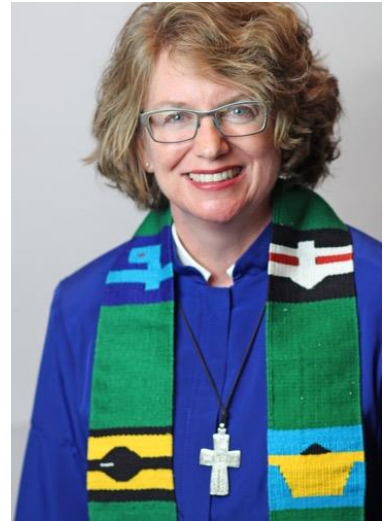
Greetings as the New Year approaches! (Or, depending on when you receive this, greetings after the New Year has already arrived ☺.) In the church, of course, we officially call this Season “Epiphany,” which is a fancy word reminding us that the light of God’s Love, seen in Jesus Christ, continues to break into our everyday lives with new insights, gifts and challenges.

As a church, you are entering into a new chapter in your faith journey, and I am honored to have been called to accompany you into this new phase. While your search committee searches for a new settled pastor, I will be walking with you offering pastoral care, guidance, and encouragement as you move into the future. From all I have heard about Brookside (and seen on your lovely website!), you have had a wonderful, vibrant ministry with Pastor Dawn, and I look forward to continuing that ministry with the congregation and your dedicated staff.

I am especially looking forward to working with you all to “flesh out” more fully some of the exciting initiatives that are listed in your strategic plan. (And, I must say, it is so refreshing to see a church thinking strategically about how to serve God in their community! Believe it or not, many churches do not yet realize that it is important to do this—so you’re ahead of the game ☺.)

May God grant us many epiphanies in our time together as we put ourselves in God’s hands and prayerfully figure out how God wants us to make “room to grow, room to serve, and room for you” in the City of Manchester and beyond!

Blessings,  
*Rev. Marlayna*



**JOIN US FOR A POT LUCK  
BREAKFAST AT 9 AM ON  
SUNDAY, JANUARY 3,  
IN FELLOWSHIP HALL  
TO MEET OUR INTERIM MINISTER,  
REV. DR. MARLAYNA SCHMIDT.  
FOOD DONATIONS WELCOMED!**

## Children to Learn About Baptism

Baptism marks the beginning of our faith journey. If we are infants when we are baptized our parents vow to bring us up in the faith. If we are older children or adults we promise to grow in our faith. At baptisms the congregation pledges to support and nurture all who are baptized. Baptism is one of two sacraments which we celebrate in the United Church of Christ. The Unit which the children start on the 10<sup>th</sup> of January will focus on Jesus' Baptism and what it means to be baptized. There will be two three-week segments in this Unit and will take us up through the first Sunday in Lent.



## Parents and Teachers: Fran Is Looking for Your Feedback

I've been looking at vacation weeks and the attendance. When I first started coordinating the Church School, vacation weeks had very low attendance and often a teacher would prepare a workshop and no children would come in that age group. We started to have multi-age workshops on vacation Sundays. In the last couple of years, our attendance has not dropped significantly on vacation Sundays. I believe I can now count on 15 or more children for those Sundays. I need to plan something besides a multi-age workshop for all ages. One plan could be to have a multi-age workshop for younger children and have the fourth grade children and older stay in worship. I would like your feedback on this plan. See me after worship or call (377-6907) or email me at [franfce@brooksidecc.org](mailto:franfce@brooksidecc.org).

## A Big Thank-you from Fran

Many thanks to the parents of pageant participants who helped get costumes on their children and special thanks to those who helped during the pageant getting the head gear on the children for the second act.



## Loaves and Fishes

On the first Sunday of each month Brookside gathers a *Loaves and Fishes* food offering to support the work of New Horizons for New Hampshire through their food distribution center and soup kitchen. Items can be dropped off in the designated boxes near the church office during the week, or inside the front door on any Sunday morning. Our next "official" date to receive this monthly offering is **January 3**.

## Letter from Indonesia

The following was recently received from our sponsored child, Jeferens Uumbu Tamu:

*Dear Brookside Congregational Church:*

*I am very happy to hear about Brookside through the letter. I am healthy because of the protection of the Lord Almighty. How are you, Brookside? I am in grade 3 of SMP (junior high school) now. My activities are going well now. I also have Holiday and I help my parents in the field.*

*God bless.*

*Love, Jeferens Uumbu Tamu*

## **Holy Communion**

The sacrament of Communion will be celebrated by intinction on **Sunday, January 3**, served by: *Gary Trahan* and *Denise Forest*. *Scott Milne* will assist.

Please note, we use gluten-free bread for Communion, so that those who have a gluten intolerance may participate fully in the sacrament.

## **Recently Baptized**

*Sergei Artur Carle* was baptized on December 13. His godparents are Brian and Loretta Brady.

*Archer Hunt Latham*, son of Hunt Latham and Jordan Pouliot, was baptized on December 27. Godparents are Jacob Pouliot and Caitlin Bannon.

## **A Message of Thanks from Pastor Dawn**

Thank you for a wonderful farewell reception [on December 6]! Thank you for a very generous monetary gift. Debi Rapson worked her usual magic and provided a moving picture display of our time together these past seven years along with music. I was also given the CD to enjoy again. Debi also created a marvelous picture book: Pastor Dawn's time at the Brook, 2008-2015. The pictures she takes are always beautiful, and then how she weaves them together is exceptional. This is something I will treasure always. I can still see Clark carrying the beautiful lap quilt the children made for me. Their song to me was music for my soul! I will have their beautiful faces to look at when I sit down on these long, cold winter nights to read. Sienna's acrostic poem on the name Pastor Dawn was so touching, and all the kind and affirming words shared by those who spoke were much appreciated. Isabelle Strandson moved me to tears. Thank you all for this meaningful conclusion to our ministry together. You have blessed me. With gratitude and love, Pastor Dawn

And, by way of P.S. Dear Facebook friends, please remember that I have transitioned off Facebook in respect for the ethical boundaries I must keep after closing out my pastorate among you.

Love, Pastor Dawn

## **Church Tour Offers Chance to Explore Nooks and Crannies**

January has a 5th Sunday, and that often means a tour of the church facility is given to those who are interested. Please meet Bill Hoysradt near the Coke machine in Fellowship Hall on **Sunday, January 31** around 11:15 am, and you may learn some interesting bits of Brookside's history that you never knew!

### **STATEMENT OF PURPOSE**

The objective of *The Brookside Chronicle* is to disperse church news; inspire people to a new awareness; and interpret the ministry of our church. We will be faithful to the truth, honest and caring, and strive for accuracy.

The *Chronicle* staff appreciates and welcomes input from all organizations, boards, ministry groups, members and friends of Brookside Congregational Church. We reserve the right to edit, cut or leave out articles according to available space, timeliness and priority.

## Successful Coat Drive Warms Hearts

The Brookside Thrift Shop, in collaboration with Elliot Hospital, recently provided free coats to over 200 people in need. Elliot Hospital employees donated gently used coats, and Brookside Thrift Shop volunteers distributed them to numerous veterans through Liberty House, refugees through Holy Cross Learning Center, students through West High School, and many others. Thank you to Elliot Hospital for organizing the coat drive, and thank you to the Thrift Shop volunteers who helped keep many in our community warm this winter.



## Room to Serve, Room for You – Here’s a Perfect Opportunity!

*“Everybody can be great...because anybody can serve. You don't have to have a college degree to serve. You don't have to make your subject and verb agree to serve. You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love.”* Martin Luther King Jr.

Transforming the Carriage House into the new expanded Thrift Shop is the focus of the Martin Luther King Day of Service on **Monday, January 18**. Many hands are needed from 9am to 3pm to prepare the space for this essential mission of Brookside. Carpenters to build a fitting room, painters to freshen the look of one large wall, muscle to move shelves and racks, and people to sort and tag merchandise are needed. You select the area you'd like to work, and you select your hours. Setting up the new children's department is a perfect volunteer opportunity for parent & child teams. Creating the new book nook is ideal for avid readers. Like to clean windows or iron clothing? There is an opportunity for everyone to serve. Contact *Dawn Brockett* or *Calley Milne* for more information or to sign up.

## “No Green Bananas” Men’s Group Meets Twice Monthly

This group of retired Brookside men meets on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month at 9 am at Blake’s Restaurant (Maple & Webster Streets) to enjoy breakfast and discussion. Join them on **Tuesdays, January 5 & 19** for good food and company. For more info, call *Herb Pence*, **624-1287**.



## Women’s Union Goes on Hiatus for Two Months

Just a reminder that we don’t meet in January or February... but plan to come to our next gathering on **Saturday, March 12**: a corned-beef and cabbage supper, teaming up with the Youth Groups to raise money for their activities. Stay tuned!



### To Your Health!

The Parish Nurse has hours here every week, on Thursdays from 10:00 to 11:30 am in Room D. Avail yourself of free nurse consultation, blood pressure checks, health information, referrals and more. Learn more about this program by logging on to [www.catholicmedicalcenter.org/community-health/parish-nurse.aspx](http://www.catholicmedicalcenter.org/community-health/parish-nurse.aspx).

Weather Policy: when Manchester Schools are closed due to inclement weather, the Parish Nurse Office will be closed – and the nurse will not be here.

## If You’re Hospitalized...

Remember to call the church office (**669-2807**) if you want the pastor to know that you’re in the hospital. Due to federal law, hospitals are not permitted to provide us with this information.

## Due Date for Annual Reports Covering 2015

Please submit all Annual Reports by **January 6** (if via email, please send as a Word document to [nicoleg@brooksidecc.org](mailto:nicoleg@brooksidecc.org)) – the sooner, the better. Financial reports should be submitted as soon as the data is available. *This timeframe is necessary to have the booklet ready by January 15.* The Annual Meeting is scheduled for **Sunday, January 24**, immediately following worship.

**15 \* 15 \* 15 \* 15 \* Chronicle Deadline \* 15 \* 15 \* 15 \* 15**

Please submit all items for the February *Chronicle* by **Friday, January 15**. You can deliver them in person, send them by mail, or e-mail them to: [nicoleg@brooksidecc.org](mailto:nicoleg@brooksidecc.org). Thank you.

## Seeking the Best: Words of Wisdom from a Wise Man

I believe that appreciation is a holy thing — that when we look for what's best in a person we happen to be with at the moment, we're doing what God does all the time. So in loving and appreciating our neighbor, we're participating in something sacred.

—Fred Rogers



## Lectionary Readings for January

Each issue of the *Chronicle* features monthly Bible readings, so that you can read and reflect on your own, at a time that suits you best. Following are the readings for January.



### January 3

Hebrew Scriptures

Isaiah 60:1-6

Psalm 147:12-20

Christian Testament

Ephesians 1:3-14

John 1:1-18



### January 24 – Annual Meeting Day

Hebrew Scriptures

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

Psalm 19

Christian Testament

1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

Luke 4:14-21



### January 10

Hebrew Scriptures

Isaiah 43:1-7

Psalm 29

Christian Testament

Acts 8:14-17

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22



### January 31

Hebrew Scriptures

Jeremiah 1:4-10

Psalm 71:1-6

Christian Testament

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

Luke 4:21-30



### January 17

Hebrew Scriptures

Isaiah 62:1-5

Psalm 36:5-10

Christian Testament

1 Corinthians 12:1-11

John 2:1-11



**DOORPERSON**

**January 3**  
Steve Morehouse

**January 10**  
Loretta Brady

**January 17**  
Tricia & Ned Lucas

**January 24**  
Herb Pence

**January 31**  
Dave Migliori

**NURSERY/CRIB ROOM**

**January 3**  
Suzanne Burke

**January 10**

**January 17**

**January 24**

**January 31**

**USHERS**

**January 3**  
Bob Dunn  
Sis Dunn  
David Gates  
Sally Sederquist

**January 10**  
Bill Hoysradt  
Gail Goodman  
Tricia Lucas  
Dave Migliori

**January 17**  
Don Waldrupe  
Virginia Mabie  
Denise Forest  
David Gates

**January 24**  
Bob Merrill  
Sarah Merrill  
Gary Trahan  
Doug Dixon

**January 31**  
Bob Howard  
Donna Howard  
Jeff Rapson  
Herb Pence

**ACOLYTES**

**January 3**  
Brody Woloski

**January 10**  
Abel Firman

**January 17**  
Zora Brady

**January 24**  
Gabiella Falco

**January 31**  
Julia Falco

**READERS**

**January 3**  
Scott Milne

**January 10**

**January 17**

**January 24**

**January 31**

**DEACONS OF THE WEEK**

**January 3**  
Gary Trahan  
Denise Forest

**January 10**  
Denise Forest  
Judy Foley

**January 17**  
George Abbott  
Kira Morehouse

**January 24**  
Mary Pratt  
Denise Forest

**January 31**  
Judy Foley  
George Abbott

**Fellowship Hour Schedule**

The schedule for the next three months is as follows:

- **Jan:** Mission Ministry
- **Feb:** Officers/At Large
- **Mar:** Stewardship Ministry



## A Look at Our Financial Status

Any questions regarding the detail of the treasurer's report below may be directed to Dale Trombley at 491-3491, or e-mail her at [dtrombley@tds.net](mailto:dtrombley@tds.net).

TREASURER'S REPORT			
For the period ending November 30, 2015			
<u>Actual vs. Budget</u>			
Month	Actual	Budget	Var.
Total Income	36,439	30,118	6,321
Total Expenses	24,000	25,632	(1,632)
Net Gain (Loss)	12,439	(4,486)	7,953
Year-to-date	Actual	Budget	Var.
Total Income	289,980	285,654	( 4,326)
Total Expenses	296,516	314,681	18,165
Net Gain (Loss)	6,536	(29,027)	22,491
Total YTD Pledges	Actual	Budget	Var.
	133,744	135,459	(1,715)

**Brookside Congregational Church  
United Church of Christ  
2013 Elm Street  
Manchester, NH 03104  
Telephone (603) 669-2807  
Fax (603) 668-9041  
Web Site: [www.brooksideecc.org](http://www.brooksideecc.org)**

Sunday Worship & Church School: 10 am  
Church Office Hours: Monday – Thursday,  
9:00 am to 3:00 pm  
Fridays, 9:00 am to NOON

**Rev. Dr. Marlayna Schmidt, Interim Pastor**  
**Office Hours TBD**  
**Office tel. 669-2807 x 101**  
**email: TBD**

Please remember that the pastor is frequently called away, or may have other commitments during the day. It is best to call first if you need to speak with her.



### Faithful Stewards Corner

Many thanks to:

- All who participated and contributed to make for a special day at Brookside on Saturday, December 19. The choirs and all who helped to make wonderful music; those involved with the living nativity, setting up the stable, procuring animals; providers of refreshments between the concert and nativity events – and anyone else who braved the cold to be a part of this meaningful experience! We are grateful.

If any ministry member has someone to mention for the “Faithful Stewards Corner,” send their names to the editor by the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month for the Chronicle.