

November 25, 2025

BROOKSIDE
Congregational Church



The Brookside Bridge

Keeping You Connected



Minister's Message

Advent begins with Hope. On Sunday, the Mayers Family will light the candle of Hope on the Advent Wreath. This wreath was donated by the Antonnuci Family in memory of Betsy. Each time we light one of the Advent candles, we remember people in our lives who brought hope, peace, joy, and love. As we begin the journey to the birth of Jesus in a stable, our scriptures remind us of the one who prepared the way. John the Baptist, born six months before Jesus to Elizabeth and Zachariah awakened the people of Jerusalem with his proclamation, "I have come to prepare the way of the Lord." In celebration of his ministry of baptizing people, we will baptize Theodore Julius Rapson.

Sincerely yours,
Rev. Laura

Advent Bible Study

Rev Laura will be leading her traditional Advent Bible Study on **Thursdays, December 4, 11, and 18 at 6:00 pm** on Zoom. If you would like to participate, please contact the [office](#).



Poinsettia Deadline has been extended until Monday, December 1.



Deadline to Order Poinsettias for Christmas is December 1
The Sanctuary will be decorated with poinsettias for Worship on:

December 14, 21, and 24. If you would like to donate a poinsettia, please submit the completed form to the church office by **Monday, December 1**. The cost is **\$15.00** each.

I/We _____

wish to donate

_____ poinsettia(s) in memory of _____

Enclosed is my check for \$ _____ (made payable to Brookside Congregational Church).

Plants may be picked up after the Christmas Eve service.

Easy Peasy Gingerbread Cookie Makers Needed

Support the Brookside Capital Campaign & the Christmas at the Manning House event by making gingerbread cookie dough in the Fellowship Hall kitchen on **Sunday, November 30th**, after worship. We'll be using a recipe from our kitchen master, Ellen Tourigny. We'll make the dough & then you take it home to roll out, cut, and bake at home at your convenience. Baked cookies need to be returned to the Brookside Manning House kitchen by **Saturday, December 13th, at 11:00 a.m.** Cookie decorating is not required, but feel free if you're feeling creative.



Dale Trombley

Women's Union December Meeting - Saturday, December 6, at 11:00 am

The Women's Union December meeting has been rescheduled to Saturday, December 6, at 11:00 am in the Manning House. The program remains the same: preparing cards for essential workers and bringing warm socks and new underwear for homeless youth, ages 12-25, at Waypoint.

A lunch of catered sandwiches, salad, dessert, and beverages will be available for a \$5.00 donation. Please get in touch with Sally Sederquist at 603-668-6917 by November 24 if you plan to attend. We hope to see you there!

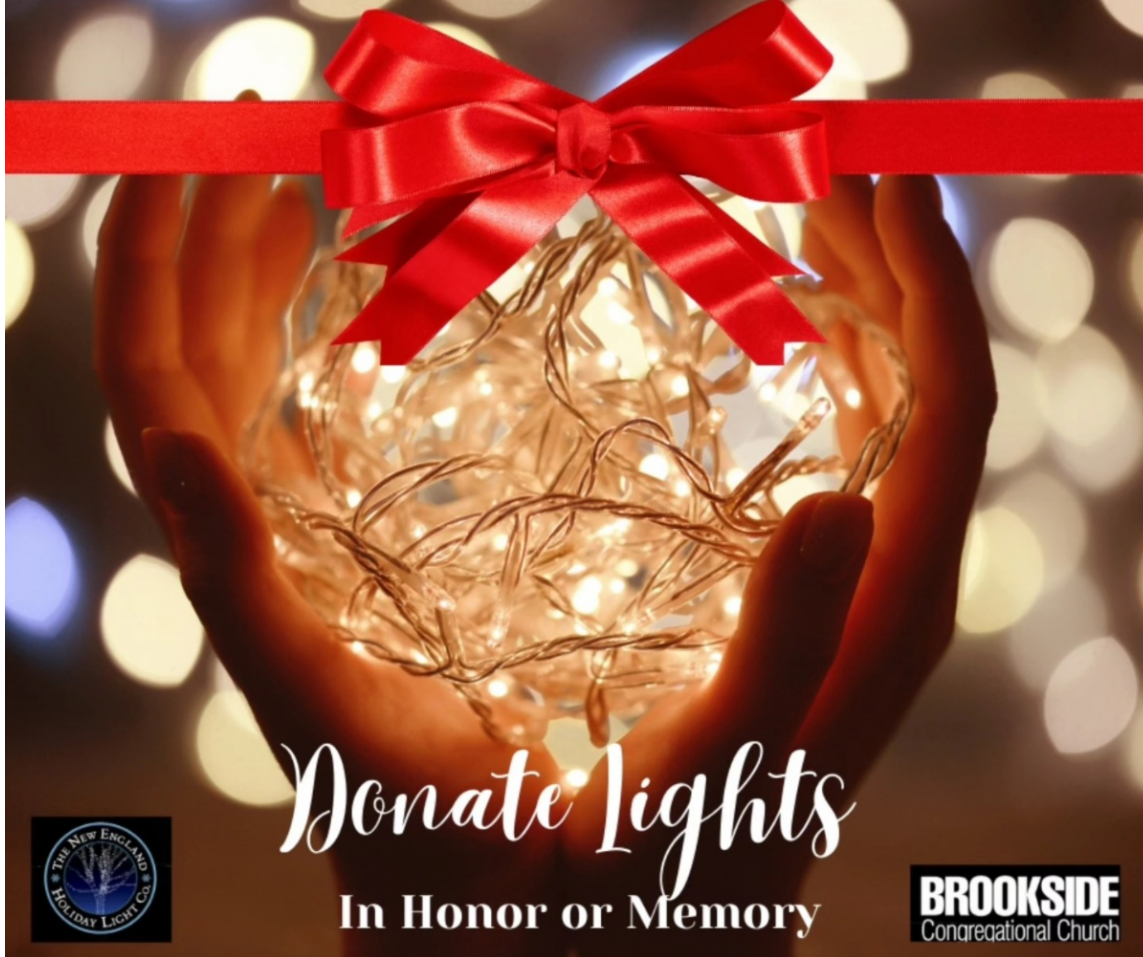
Joining Ceremony - Sunday, January 11

If you are interested in joining Brookside, we will be holding a joining ceremony on Sunday, January 11 during the worship service. Please let Rev. Laura or the [office](#) know if you would like to join.

January Book Group - "The Great Believers"

On **Thursday, January 29 at 6:00 pm**, the "Brookside Bookers" will be discussing the book "The Great Believers" by Rebecca Makkai. Join us for a fascinating discussion led by Rev. Laura. To register, please send your name and email to the office. The Zoom link will be sent to registered participants the week of the book group.





Donate lights in honor or memory at www.brooksideholidaylights.com.

If you prefer to pay with a check, you can download the form **by clicking here**. Print this form and mail it in to the church office along with your check made out to Brookside Church. Please be sure to include the name of your loved one(s).

Because Fellowship Hall is under construction, we will need to pivot and provide some other opportunities this year. We will be unable to host our Holiday Light Night and craft fair, but we have some great events planned.

Christmas at the Manning House – Dec. 13, 1-8 PM

We have something new and very special this year happening at Brookside. Our efforts continue to maintain and preserve the historic property that Mary Manning gifted the church so many years ago. As stewards of this tremendous gift, we are going to open the doors of the Manning House to the public this Christmas with the help of the Manchester Historic Association and Dew Collective as a fundraiser for the capital campaign and a community outreach event. The Manchester Historic Association will provide a living history interpreter playing Mary Manning in the first-person, welcoming guests to her holiday party set in 1925. Dew Collective will deck the halls of the Manning House to reflect what Christmas would have looked like during that time.

Ticketed guests will enter through the large wooden doors of the Manning House and be transported back to 1925. The smell of fresh pine and gingerbread will greet guests as Mary Manning welcomes them in to enjoy a holiday celebration in her landmark home. Calvin Cooledge is president. The Jazz Age and the Art Deco movement are in full swing and *The Great Gatsby* was just published. Find out what Christmas in Manchester was like a century ago.

45-minute tours on the hour will run from 1 to 8 p.m. on December 13. Festive refreshments will be served following. We will have some volunteer opportunities available. The event is handicap accessible from the ramp door near the Thrift Shop. The event is family-friendly. Tickets will be \$30 for adults and \$5 for children 12 and under (2 and younger are free).

Purchase your tickets here before they are sold out.

[Christmas at the Manning House | Brookside Congregational Church](#)

You're Invited

CHRISTMAS AT THE MANNING HOUSE

Saturday, December 13, 1 - 8 p.m.

2013 Elm St. North End Manchester

Enter through the large wooden doors of the Manning House and be transported back to 1925. The smell of fresh pine and gingerbread greets you as Mary Manning welcomes you in to enjoy a holiday celebration in her landmark home. Calvin Coolidge is president. The Jazz Age and the Art Deco movement are in full swing, and the Great Gatsby was just published. Find out what Christmas in Manchester was like a century ago.

Presented by:
Brookside Church

Living History Interpreters by:
Manchester Historic Association

Holiday Styling by:
Dew Collective

45 minute tours on the hour
Festive refreshments following



A Very Special and Important Brookside Holiday Season Outreach effort is about to begin -

Mission Outreach is coordinating a Brookside Congregational Church Holiday Food Drive, which will run from this Thanksgiving season through Epiphany Sunday, with all proceeds going to the NH Food Bank. Food insecurity is noted as a #1 critical concern nationwide and by our community partners. We believe, through our collective outreach, this Holiday Season Food Drive will enable us to best serve the increasing needs of individuals and families in our community.

Our Holiday Season Food Drive will begin Sunday November 16th and continue through Epiphany, January 11th. There will be many opportunities to participate! We are incorporating this focused effort into all of the programs and activities at Brookside, including our Sunday services, Thrift Shop, Blue Christmas Service and more!

All of us and our friends, young and older, near or far, can participate in these activities and this outreach effort throughout this Winter Holiday Season (November 16th– January 11th)

For those who live locally - Specially marked Holiday Season Food Drive boxes will be located in multiple locations within Brookside and during Brookside activities. Please consider bringing some non-perishable, non-glass containers of fruit, vegetables, soups, or protein (such as tuna, peanut butter) with you on every Brookside visit!

For those who may not be in the area – Monetary donations may be sent directly to

Brookside Congregational Church, 2013 Elm Street, Manchester, NH 03104 or by pressing the DONATE button on our website (www.brooksidecc.org). Please note "Holiday Season Food Drive" when donating.

Again, food insecurity is a critical issue in our wider community and beyond. As we celebrate this special Holiday season by contributing to the Brookside Holiday Food Drive, we can touch lives, and provide much needed food, to families in our community as they celebrate the season with their own special traditions. May hope, peace, joy and love be a part of this season and let us BE the Light of Christ for people in New Hampshire who are dealing with food insecurity.



After Worship Fellowship

Please join us after Sunday worship for Fellowship! Following indoor worship, we meet in the Narthex. It's a great way to get to learn more about the happenings at Brookside and build relationships with your fellow Brooksideers. All are welcome!



Send In Your Prayer Requests

Please remember to send in your prayers for our Sunday service. (joys and concerns) Email your request to admin@brooksidecc.org or call the office at 669-2807.

Gals On The Go

Join us for an informal fellowship for members and friends of Brookside on the **first Tuesday of the month at 11:45 am** at the Granite State Lunchbox, 1750 Elm St., rear entrance. Come enjoy lunch, fellowship, and discussion.



No Green Bananas

This group of retired Brookside men meets on the **2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month at 9 am** at the Granite State Lunchbox, 1750 Elm St., rear entrance, to enjoy breakfast and discussion.



Pastor's Discretionary Fund

Please consider a donation to the Pastor's Discretionary Fund so that Rev. Laura can assist our members and friends facing critical financial needs.

Supporting Brookside Congregational Church

Offerings and pledges can be mailed to the Church office at the address below. If you would like to give online, please click on the button below.

[Donate Here](#)

Do You Need Medical Equipment?

Did you know that Brookside has a Medical Equipment Closet? There are crutches, canes, shower chairs, and more, available for use by anyone who needs them. Borrow for short-term or long-term use, keep as long as you need to.



Contact the office (603-669-2807) for more information.

*****Currently we are not accepting donations.**

BROOKSIDE CALENDAR

Sunday, November 30
8:30 am Choir Rehearsal
10:00 am Worship, Sanctuary

Tuesday, December 2
9:00 am Staff Meeting, Rev.
Laura's Office
11:45 am Gals on the Go,
Granite State Lunchbox
6:00 pm Christian Formation,
via Zoom

Thursday, December 4
7:30 am Capital Campaign
Meeting, via Zoom

Visit our Website

Brookside Congregational Church | 603-669-2807 | 603-668-9041 Fax | www.brooksidecc.org

STAY CONNECTED



Brookside Congregational Church, UCC | 2013 Elm Street | Manchester, NH 03104 US

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