



CONWAY VILLAGE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

THE GOOD NEWS

January 2023



Volume 12, Issue 1

OUTREACH

WOW!! The last few months have been a busy time for the Food Pantry!

Paul and I attended the New Hampshire Food Bank Volunteer Luncheon in Concord and picked up shipments of food offered to our Pantry from NH Food Bank and USDA. December turned out to be a very busy month with the normal deliveries on Mondays as well as Food Bank and USDA deliveries; all the generous donations we received and all of the food we gave out to those in need.

We gave out bags for Thanksgiving this year, including all of the fixings, a \$25.00 gift card from Shaws and a \$20.00 gift card from Hannaford in place of the turkeys. Thanks to all who helped on this project.

Conway Elementary students gave us a visit bringing with them an incredible amount of donations from their Annual Food Drive.



Conway Police Department did their Annual Food Drive at Hannaford's collecting an estimated 1,000 to 1,500 pounds of food. The Conway Police Department are in their 9th year of holding this wonderful event!



In addition, the NHFB contacted our Food Pantry to see if we wanted to get bags from Walmart from Channel 9's Spirit of Giving Food Drive. We picked up sixty bags, which were then brought to the church to be sorted and put on pantry shelves!



What a wonderful Community we are a part of, people helping others. The Outreach Committee wishes all the Happiest New Year in 2023.

God Bless, Take Care and Stay Safe.

Charlyne Gray, Charles Monaghan, Anne Getchell,
Dawn Vitters, Marilyn Hughes, and Sylvia Weld



The Conway Village Congregational Church

United Church of Christ

Reverend John G Hughes, II

PO Box 333
132 Main Street, Conway, New Hamp-
shire 03818
www.thebrownchurch.org

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

TO: All Members and Friends of the Conway Village Congregational Church

The Annual Meeting of the Membership of the Conway Village Congregational Church will be held on Sunday, January 29, 2023, at approximately 11:00 am in the Sanctuary of the Conway Village Congregational Church after worship. The meeting will be held in person and via Zoom platform. Voting will be done via roll call method. Please email cvccwebteam@gmail.com or call the office for the phone in information.

The purpose of this Annual Meeting will be:

1. To hear reports of the officers, board and standing committees for the preceding year.
2. To approve a Budget for 2023.
3. To elect officers, board and standing committee members for 2023.
4. To conduct any other business that may come to the floor of the meeting.

Dated at: Conway, New Hampshire, on the 22nd of November 2022

Dawn Vitters, Clerk

Join us!

Annual Members Meeting

Sunday, January 29th

Save
the
Date



Fellowship Hall
Following
Worship Service

Your voice counts!



Christmas Tree Lighting & Carol Sing



We would like to thank the many volunteers for their hours spent erecting the Christmas tree for our carol sing and the decorating of our sanctuary for Advent & Christmas season.

Trustees & Diaconate



Food Pantry Wish List



Ramen Noodles-Chicken and or Beef
 Rice-A-Roni-Chicken or Beef
 Ketchup – 20 oz.
 Mustard – 20 oz
 Mayo - small jar
 Stable Milk box – 20 oz.
 Juice - Orange or Apple – 64 oz.
 Small Soup - Chicken Noodle or Tomato
 Jelly - Grape or Strawberry – 16 oz.
 Small canned Chicken or Tuna – 5 oz.
 Baked Beans – 15 oz.
 Tomato Sauce – 15 oz.
 Beef Stew - Canned – 15 oz.
 Boxed Crackers – 1 lb.
 Boxed Spaghetti – 1 lb.
 Canned Veggies - Peas, Carrots – 15 oz.
 Instant Oatmeal – 1 lb.
 Paper Towels
 Toilet paper – individually wrapped
 Shampoo - White Rain or Suave – 24 oz.
 Dawn Dish detergent – small size
 Tide Laundry Detergent – small size
 Large Laundry Detergent
 Hand Soap - Dial 2 or 3 pk bars



Food Pantry Donations

Please call the office to schedule a drop off time.

Most of these items can be bought at Dollar Tree or any supermarket.

Thank you for your donations!



Conway Village Congregational Church

By Appointment Only

Tuesdays, 9-11:30 am

Serving Albany, Chatham, Conway, Center
Conway, East Conway & Eaton

603-447-3851

Call for appointment or for more information.

Outreach Committee

Anne Getchell, Sylvia Weld, Charlyne
 Gray, Dawn Vitters, Marilyn Hughes
 & Charles Monaghan

Food Pantry Statistics

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>Households</u>	<u>People Served</u>	<u>Meals Given</u>	<u>Over 60</u>	<u>Under 18</u>	<u>Walk Ins</u>	<u>New Households</u>
January - December 2022 <i>Does not include December 27</i>	394	842	35,364	379	143	79	42
<i>January - December 2021</i>	<i>381</i>	<i>812</i>	<i>34,104</i>	<i>365</i>	<i>140</i>	<i>78</i>	<i>40</i>

Trustees

Hoping everyone had a wonderful Christmas with family and friends. As 2022 comes to an end, and we look back, the Brown Church should be proud of all it has done this past year. Despite continued covid concerns and the economy, we were able to provide food to those in need by dedicated volunteers in the Food Pantry and Dinner Bell. The building continues to be used by a number of groups. Sunday service attendance has increased and a number of new people are attending both in the church and on zoom.

When working at the food pantry recently, a gentleman said, "this church is the one that does a lot for the community". He recently moved to the area from Maine and was new to the pantry. He was emotionally thankful for what the food pantry provided him with that day. Comments like these are heard often and are a reminder of who the Brown Church is to the valley.

As we begin 2023, the church still has its challenges, financially and with the building structure. The trustees always welcome thoughts and ideas from the congregation.

The Annual Meeting is on January 29th after church. We hope all members and friends will attend whether in person or on zoom.

In preparation for the meeting, the leaders of the church will have a planning session in early January. We are challenged with a deficit budget and building concerns and will begin working on a 2-5 year plan.

Wishing you a Happy New Year and blessed year ahead. May God's light guide your way in 2023.

Anne Getchell, Trustee

TRUSTEE'S MEETINGS

Tuesdays, 4:30 pm
January 10th & 24th

TRUSTEE OF THE WEEK

1/1	Nancy Divine
1/8	Tom Workman
1/15	Paul Weld
1/22	Duddie Andrews
1/29	John Edgerton

Save The Date



Diaconate

Happy New Year! Welcome to 2023!

Through the years as we approach a new year, many of us look back at the past year and decide to make an effort to improve ourselves as the new year begins. Approximately 38.5% of U.S. adults make New Year's resolutions. While looking up these statistics, I found an interesting fact. The first New Year's resolutions began 4,000 years ago in Babylonia. However, the New Year was not celebrated until mid-March to the first of April as a part of a 12-day Akitu Festival of their spring barley harvest.

Most recently, the top 3 resolutions tend to be health related; to exercise more, to eat healthier, and to lose weight, (48%, 44%, 41%). Spending more time with family/friends ranked 4th, (34%). This was followed by the desire to live more economically, 24%, spend less time on social media, 21%, reduce stress on the job, 21%, and quit smoking, 20%. There was no mention of increased church attendance or helping others or contributing to charities. I wondered what the Bible had to say about making an effort to start over. The following verses are just a few that give us an indication of God's thoughts about new beginnings:

"But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength,
they will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow
weary, they will walk and not be faint." Isaiah 40:31

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean on your
own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him and he
will make straight your paths." Proverbs 3:5-6

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer
and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.
And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will
guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:6-7

"I lift up my eyes to the mountains—where does my help come
from? My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and
earth. The Lord will watch over your coming and going both
now and forever." Psalm 121

Let us live by faith, trusting in God through uncertainty and difficult times. May God bless you with a new beginning in the new year of 2023!

In Christ,
Judy

Opportunity to serve: The Diaconate thanks all of those who are signing up to bring food items for the after-church Coffees. We currently have a host for the 1st and 2nd Sundays of the month. We are also looking for "Hosts" for the 3rd and 4th Sundays of the month. What does it mean to be a host? The host brings an item or two, makes the coffee, sets up the food and drinks and cleans up after. Many times, the people who signed up to bring food will assist with the cleanup. If you have any questions about being a Coffee host, please contact one of us and we will gladly walk you through it.

[Diaconate of the Month](#)

Judy Workman

[Diaconate Meeting](#)

*Wednesday, January 11, 2022
4 PM*

[Diaconate](#)

*Judy Workman and Dawn Vitters—Co-chairs,
Beth Campbell, Suzanne Rancourt
and Louise Saxby*

Join Us For Coffee Fellowship Following Sunday Morning Worship Services

We are slowly returning to pre-pandemic Sunday mornings. The chairs are fuller than they have been, with more people returning to in person worship and less people attending via Zoom. We are now able to sing familiar hymns from the hymnals accompanied by Stephanie on the keyboard. The music committee and tech team are working with Stephanie to find which "voices" on the keyboard sound best in church and on zoom. Please be patient as we work through this process. Post service coffee fellowship is back! It is great to be able to catch up with all that has happened in each others lives these past few years. Coffee fellowship consists of light snacks, such as pastries or cookies and coffee and juice. There is a sign up sheet available if you would like to provide the light snacks for any given Sunday.



Join us in person

Sunday Worship via Zoom
Website zoom.us/join
Meeting ID: 876 2425 7300
Passcode: 589150

We'll use this meeting until further notice.

Sundays 10:00 AM



Come Join Our BIBLE STUDY

~ Women's Bible Study ~

Thursdays 9:30am

Conference Room &/or Sanctuary

~ Men's Bible Study ~

Fridays 9:00am

Conference Room

Also available on Zoom.

If you would like to join a group, please contact the Church office at 603-447-3851



The Dinner Bell

**FREE COMMUNITY
DINNER**

**Fresh Homestyle Meal
Everyone Is Welcome!!
Mondays 4-5 pm**

Call the Church office on Mondays
for that days menu!

603-447-3851

Take Out Only!

These services continue to operate while taking recommended safety precautions and practicing social distancing.



**Conway Village
Congregational Church
Mission Statement**

"We are a community of faith in Jesus Christ, open to all, and by following His teachings we willingly serve God, our neighbors and each other through worship, fellowship and ministry."

Sunday Worship via Zoom
Website zoom.us/join
Meeting ID: 876 2425 7300
Passcode: 589150

To contact the web/tech
team email
[cvccwebteam@gmail.co](mailto:cvccwebteam@gmail.com)

Please visit our website or email us to sign up for our email mailing list. Let us know which types of emails you are interested in, weekly worship, monthly newsletter, special events and volunteer opportunities, website: **thebrownchurch.org**

**Conway Village
Congregational
Church**

United Church of Christ

**PO Box 333,
132 Main Street
Conway, NH 03818**

Email
info@thebrownchurch.org

Website
www.thebrownchurch.org

Phone: 603-447-3851

**Rev. John G. Hughes
Minister**

**Music Accompanist
Stephanie Miles Vacchino**

**Moderator
Carl Vitters**

**Admin. Asst./Bookkeeper
Melody Bergman**



**February
Newsletter
Articles
Due**



CVCC Office Hours

Monday	8:00 am-4:00 pm
Tuesday	8:00 am-4:00 pm
Wednesday	8:00 am-4:00 pm
Thursday	8:00 am-4:00 pm
CLOSED FRIDAYS	



Our Facebook page is <https://www.facebook.com/TheBrownChurchConwayNH/> You can find it by searching in Facebook for the "Brown Church Conway NH" If you use Facebook please "LIKE" our Facebook Page by clicking the "Like" button at the top of the page.

By liking our page people



will see our church know that we are well liked within the community. You will be notified on your Facebook notifications when we post something new.

You in turn, if you choose to, can share that post on your page, which is very helpful in promoting the church, particularly for promoting our events. Thank you & God Bless

You will soon see Quick Response (QR) codes on church print materials including our bulletins, pew cards, newsletters, and event flyers. QR codes are a type of barcode that is typically linked to a website or an application. A QR code provides easy access to our website when scanned with a mobile device (phone) camera. The two QR codes below are different they both have a small image of our church in the center. The QR code on the left when scanned takes the user to our donation page. The QR code on the right goes to the home page of our website. There are many potential designs and uses for QR codes but these are two that we will be using for now.



Donate to
Conway Village Congregational Church

\$0.00
USD

☐ Add \$0.00 to help cover the fees.

☐ Make this a monthly donation

[Donate with PayPal](#)

[Donate with Debit or Credit Card](#)

[Cancel and return to Conway Village Congregational Church](#)



The primary reason we have decided to begin using these QR codes is to provide an easy way for people to make donations and to learn more about our church. A lot of people no longer carry much cash with them. This has been evident in our plate donations when we have visitors who would have gladly made a donation, or perhaps given a larger donation but were not carrying cash.

In the future we will likely use QR codes for the Capital Campaign or other specifically targeted donations such as to the Food Pantry.



December Worship Service

Date	In Church	On Zoom	Special Day/Sermon Title
12/4	38	16	Communion Sunday "Dreamy Angels" 2nd Sunday of Advent
12/11	38	13	"Utterly Aghast!" 3rd Sunday of Advent
12/18	34	14	"Angels Sing in the Darkness" 4th Sunday of Advent
12/24			Christmas Eve Service "Presenting God in a Manger"



Happy January Birthdays!

1/5 Elwood McClarky Jr.	1/19 Beverly Taylor
1/7 Laura Kenny	1/21 Sylvia Weld
1/10 Alice Vierus	1/22 Sharrene Bernhardt
1/11 Bobby Graustein	1/27 Rev. John Hughes
1/16 Dwight Smith	1/28 Jill Reynolds
1/18 Nancy Keyes	1/29 Bethanne Graustein

PRAYER REQUEST

Our team would love to pray for you.

- † Alice Clapp
- † Cathy Currier
- † Colleen Albert
- † Elise Keeney Edgerton
- † Linda Frechette
- † Alice Spear
- † Jill & Curt Reynolds
- † Wayne & Mitzi Fitch
- † Nancy Spaulding
- † Lycia Morley
- † Father Paul Familia
- † Keith Hutchings, Jr.
- † Carol Baribeau
- † Brenda Hart
- † Tom Steele
- † Nicole Rabideau & Family
- † Sandy Stowell, Lisa Horne & Family
- † Russ Hunter & Family
- † Cory Smith
- † John Hedden
- † Mark Weld

To add someone to the Prayer List

Please call 603-447-3851

or email us at

info@thebrownchurch.org

Also please provide the persons mailing address so we may send cards. Thank you

JANUARY 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 10 AM Worship  6:30-7:30 pm AA Fire Pit	2 No Dinner Bell <u>Office Closed</u>	3 Food Pantry 9-11:30 am By Appt	4	5 9:30 Women's Bible Study 7 pm AA Big Book	6 9:00 Men's Bible Study <u>Office Closed</u>	7 9 am AA Good Morning Group
8 10 AM Worship 6:30-7:30 pm AA Fire Pit	9 Dinner Bell 4-5 pm Take out only	10 Food Pantry 9-11:30 am By Appt 4:30 Trustees Meeting	11 4 pm Diaconate	12 9:30 Women's Bible Study ANNUAL REPORTS DUE 7 pm AA Big Book	13 9:00 Men's Bible Study <u>Office Closed</u>	14 9 am AA Good Morning G
15 10 AM Worship 6:30-7:30 pm AA Fire Pit	16 Dinner Bell 4-5 pm Take out Only	17 Food Pantry 9-11:30 am By Appt	18	19 9:30 Women's Bible Study 7 pm AA Big Book	20 9:00 Men's Bible Study  <u>Office Closed</u>	21 9 AM AA Good Morning
22 10 AM Worship 6:30-7:30 pm AA Fire Pit	23 Dinner Bell 4-5 pm Take out Only	24 Food Pantry 9-11:30 am By Appt 4:30 Trustees Meeting	25	26 9:30 Women's Bible Study 7 pm AA Big Book	27 9:00 Men's Bible Study <u>Office Closed</u>	28 9 AM AA Good Morning Group
29 10 AM Worship  6:30-7:30 pm AA Fire Pit	30 Dinner Bell 4-5 pm Take out Only	31 Food Pantry 9-11:30 am By Appt				



Sunday, January 1st – Communion

Scripture: Matthew 2:13-23

Sermon: "**Get Up! Get Out!**"

Psalm 8

Sunday, January 8th

Scripture: Isaiah 42:1-9

Acts 10:34-43

Matthew 3:13-17

Sermon: "**Let It Be**"

Psalm 29

Sunday, January 15th

Scripture: Isaiah 49:1-7

John 1:29-42

Sermon: "**A Mouth Like a Sword**"

Psalm 40:1-11

Sunday, January 22nd

Scripture: Isaiah 9:1-4

Matthew 4:12-23

Sermon: "**For unto Us is Given a Son**"

Psalm 27:1, 4-9

Sunday, January 29th

Scripture: Micah 6:1-8

Matthew 5:1-12

Sermon: "**All Rise ... You May be Seated**"

Psalm 15