



# CONWAY VILLAGE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

## THE GOOD NEWS

February 2024



Volume 13, Issue 2

### Annual Meeting & Flood Update

Thank you all for attending the Annual Meeting on January 28th. We appreciate all your questions and comments. In addition to the Annual Report review and discussion, we also presented an update to the flood and cleanup.

Carl presented the Annual Report. The vote was in favor of accepting it as written. There were three vacancies; the Church Clerk, one Web Team member, and one Music Committee member. Debra Arnold volunteered to be on the Music Committee. The other two were not filled. If anyone would like to fill one of these, please let the Moderator know. Until we have a Church Clerk, Melody will pick up some of the duties.

Last year the church voted to suspend the by-laws and replace the Cabinet with a Council. Those attending the Council each month feel it was successful and improved communications amongst the boards. It was agreed to continue with this form of governance for 2024 and the Council will work on revising the by-laws.

Pictures of the damage to the church were shown on the screen. A cost sheet was handed out to all. This included costs incurred to date and estimates. The total is \$211,300. Back in 2020, issues with the foundation were identified and these repairs also need to be done. The cost of this was \$230,000 which brings a new total to \$441,300. We continue to have inspections and assessments to determine work needed.

The church is working with the state of New Hampshire and two companies to clean up the oil spill. The next step is to remove 40 tons of contaminated soil from the crawl space. The church still has a very strong oil smell and it is hoped that it will improve with the removal of the soil. It is expected that the State's Clean Up Fund will cover all the clean up costs.

A form was handed out to all that listed 5 options for the future of the Brown Church. This list is to get people thinking, as we continue determining costs of repairs. We will have to look at what the town will require, knowing that the lower level sits in the floodplain. The options presented were:

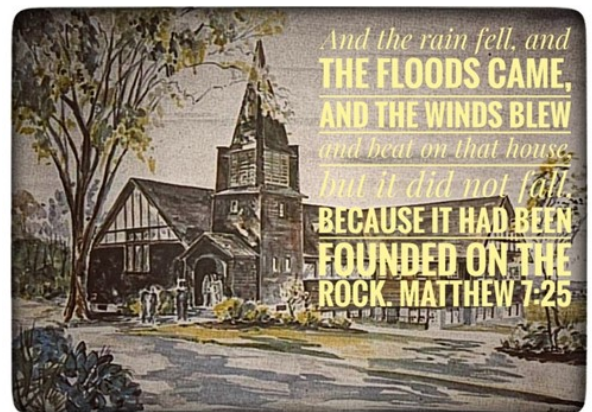
1. Continue to meet at the Majestic
2. Restore building to pre-flood conditions only (no work to sanctuary or foundation)
3. Merge with another church in the valley
4. Move to another existing building
5. Sell the church and lot and use the proceeds to buy or build another building.

We are asking all to think about these options and fill out the form, and return to the church by mail at PO BOX 333, Conway, NH 03818 or email to [info@thebrownchurch.org](mailto:info@thebrownchurch.org)

Worship services will continue at the Majestic every Sunday at 10:00am. We thank them for offering the space to us.

We would like to offer a walk-thru of the church, on February 17th at 10:00. Anyone is welcome.

Anne Getchell



Conway Village Congregational Church  
 132 Main Street  
 Conway, NH 03818  
 info@thebrownchurch.org

**Update Information for Annual Mtg.  
 1-28-24**

<u>1-2-24 Emergency Action/Flood Clean-up/Reestablish Services/Losses</u>	<u>Costs</u>
Plumbing – Without heat in the building, all water lines were drained to prevent freezing	\$ 700.00
Oil spill clean-up and recovery costs (covered by State fund for clean-up) except \$500 <i>*NOTE – Unknown expense costs to complete work</i>	\$ 500.00 \$ _____
Carpet removal, wet vacuum and drying equipment for floors and walls	\$ 13,030.01
Cleaning Chairs in Sanctuary	\$ 1,300.00
Removal of Refrigeration Units	\$ _____
Removal of Oil Tanks	\$ 7,500.00
Re-establish Water System in the Building (Flushing and reconnecting system) (Consider separating upper floor water connection from lower floor) <i>quote added 1-11-24</i>	\$ 500.00
Foundation repairs if required <i>*NOTE – estimate from 2020</i>	<b>\$230,000.00</b>
Sealing crawl space	\$ _____
Replace the exit door damaged by flood waters on lower level by walling the opening (Fire dept. approved)	<b>\$ 2,177.24</b>
Removal of boiler, furnace unit, blower unit (clean-up of unusable mechanical room) <i>added 1-8-24</i>	\$ 114,000.00
Replace 4 humidifiers in crawl space	\$ 8,400.00
Classroom floor tile removal due to saturated subfloor <i>*NOTE – estimate from 2020</i>	\$ 7,161.00
Food Pantry goods and church supplies (includes Mower and Conf. Rm. Bookcase)	\$ 2,450.00
Loss of food in Pantry	\$ 3,100.00
Carpeting Replacement	\$ 21,445.99
Heating/Fuel System Replacement (Replace oil with propane system)	\$ _____
Refrigeration Units	\$ 28,990.00
<b>Update</b> Total Costs and Estimates as of 1-11-24 (Additional Items Still Pending)	<b>\$200,766.00</b>
<i>Total cost without the Foundation Repairs cost (\$230,000)</i>	<b>\$211,254.24</b>
<i>*NOTE – Costs from Bergeron Report 2020</i>	
<b>Total with added 2020 estimates &amp; other church supplies/repairs as of 1-23-24</b>	<b>\$441,254.24</b>

## Options for the Future of the Brown Church

What if we:

What are the Consequences?

1) Continued to meet at the Majestic

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2) Restored the building to pre-flood conditions---repair/replace needed equipment and furnishings, ignore fixing the foundation and sanctuary

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3) Merge with another church in the valley

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4) Moved to another existing building

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5) Sold the church and the lot

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6) Used the proceeds from the sale of church and lot to buy property and build a new building

## OUTREACH CVCC Food Pantry



The Vaughan Center is graciously taking on our pantry clients. Paul & Sylvia Weld are working with Jennifer from Vaughan helping service our clients. Their hours are Tuesdays noon–1:30 and Thursdays 1–2:30. Please do NOT call them, as no appointment is necessary. We are starting to move our pantry inventory there as well. You may see Paul & Sylvia there!

Serving Albany, Chatham, Conway, Center  
Conway, East Conway & Eaton  
603-447-3851

**Outreach Committee**  
Anne Getchell, Charlyne Gray,  
Marilyn Hughes & Charles Monaghan

### A Few More Flood Pictures



Left: Henderson room step floating!



Looking down from  
handicap ramp



## January Worship Service

Date	In Church	On Zoom	Children	Special Day/Sermon Title
<b><i>Thank you Majestic Theatre</i></b>				
1/7				<b>Baptism of Christ "What Defines Us?"</b>
1/14				<b>"How Do We Picture God?"</b>
1/21	26	19		<b>"What is Our Vision?"</b>
1/28				<b>"What does God Want?"</b>

### To add someone to the Prayer List

Please call 603-447-3851 or email [info@thebrowchurch.org](mailto:info@thebrowchurch.org)  
Also, please provide the person's mailing address, so we may send cards. Thank you



# February

## BIRTHDAYS



**Paul Getchell**



**Marilyn Hughes**



**Dan Lavigne**



**Dale Hamilton**

## Prayer Requests



- † Cathy Currier
- † Colleen Albert
- † Elise Keeney Edgerton
- † Linda Frechette
- † Alice Spear
- † Jill & Curt Reynolds
- † Tom Steele
- † Carol Baribeau
- † Sandy Stowell, Lisa Horne
- † Mark Weld
- † Debbie Kelly
- † Greg Turgeon
- † Russ Hunter & Family
- † Paula Burgess
- † Alexandra Tiresta
- † The Philippine People & the Philippines
- † Bonnie Kimball
- † Pat (Gahagen) Goetzinger
- † Erin
- † Roy Andrews
- † Suzanne & Eddie
- † Misty
- † Corey & Family
- † Marcia Dolley and Family
- † The People & Nation of Israel
- † The People of Palestine
- † Charlotte
- † Bob Bernhardt

## From the Deacon's Bench

Hello from the Diaconate corner. Hope you have been staying cozy and warm during the last couple of our cold winter weeks. For our "Love the snowy cold" outdoors sports and recreation folks, it's nice to see that the snow has arrived to bring you winter fun and brighten our landscape.

As we are settling into worship at the Majestic Theatre, we are being called to open our hearts and expand our faith and trust in God. John 14:1-3. We are reminded throughout scripture that we are not alone in this. God has promised to always be with us, in our difficult days and in our days of joy. When we gather together to praise His Name and pray together, encouraging each other, He is with us. Heb.3:5,10:24-25, Psalm 40.

**Matthew 19:20 "For where two or three gather together in my name, I am there among them."**

**Isaiah 40:29 It is the Lord who goes before you. He will be with you; he will not leave you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed. [NKJV]**

Adjustments to ways we typically worshipped have been made to adapt to our new worship setting. The bulletin has been expanded to include scripture readings. Communion will be served at the altar table. Similar to the service we had pre-Covid, worshippers will come forward one row at a time to receive the elements, individually, before returning to their seats.

Lent is the forty days (excluding Sundays) before Easter. It is a season of spiritual growth and preparation for Easter. It begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Saturday. Ash Wednesday falls on February 14th this year. Rev. Hughes will be doing a pre-recorded Zoom Ash Wednesday service. Additional information will be forthcoming concerning time and other information about the service.

We are Happy to announce the addition of two Deacons to the Diaconate. We welcome back Jill Reynolds and a new Deacon, Charles Monaghan. We are fortunate to have them join us!

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**Help is needed!** There is an opportunity for you to serve the Brown Church in our worship services. We have an opening on the Tech Team to provide backup for Steve Graustein and Nancy Irving. If you have an interest in sharing your time and talent in this way with your church family for the Glory of God, please call the church office. Phone # 603-447-3851.

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Stay Warm & See You in Church!!

Judy Workman, Louise Saxby, Beth Campbell, Jill Reynolds and Charles Monaghan

### **Deaconess of the Month**

*Judy Workman*

### **Diaconate Next Meeting**

### **Diaconate**

*Co-Chairs - Louise Saxby &  
Judy Workman;*

*Secretary - Beth Campbell,*

*Treasurer - vacant*

*Jill Reynolds & Charles Monaghan*

## 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."*

## Conway Village Congregational Church

United Church of Christ  
**PO Box 333,  
132 Main Street  
Conway, NH 03818**

### Email

[info@thebrownchurch.org](mailto:info@thebrownchurch.org)

### Website

[www.thebrownchurch.org](http://www.thebrownchurch.org)

**Phone: 603-447-3851**

**Rev. John G. Hughes  
Minister**

**Moderator  
Carl Vitters**

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



### Women's Bible Study Location and Winter-Time Change

Women's Bible Study has **changed** its **meeting location to our home** in Evergreens on the Saco. We continue to meet on **Thursdays**, but due to winter weather, we **have changed** the **meeting time to 1:00 PM**. We continue The Chosen, Season 3. We hold make-up viewing sessions, in case you miss an episode. Everyone is Welcome! Any questions, call the church office to let me know.

Judy Workman

The **Men's bible study** meetings held at Charles Monaghan's or Tom Workman's homes. Call for specific day.

Zoom may be available in the future.

If you would like to join a group, please contact the Church office at 603-447-3851 or email [info@thebrownchurch.org](mailto:info@thebrownchurch.org)

### CVCC Office Hours

While we work on repairing the flood damage, the office will be operating remotely during normal hours. Feel free to contact us via phone or email.

Thank you.

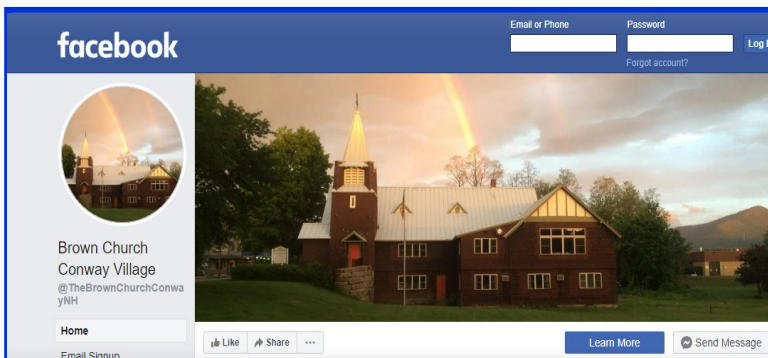
**Monday 8:00 am-4:00 pm**

**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 and 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





## TRUSTEE OF THE WEEK

2/4	Nancy Divine
2/11	Duddie Andrews
2/18	John Edgerton
2/25	Anne Getchell

**Trustee Board** ~ Anne Getchell, John Edgerton, Duddie Andrews, Nancy Irving, Nancy Divine, & Tom Workman, ex officio member, Treasurer

## TRUSTEE'S MEETING

Tuesday, February 6, 2024 4:30pm

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



## The Dinner Bell

Due to the recent flooding in the church, all Dinner Bell community meals have been postponed until further notice. Please accept our apologies!

Free Community Dinner



Newsletter  
Articles  
Due By »  
Thank you!



Sundays 10:00 AM  
Sunday Worship via Zoom  
To access Zoom meeting by Phone  
Phone Number: 1 646 558 8656  
(for audio only)  
Meeting ID: 876 2425 7300  
Password: 589150

**Join us in person!**



Please visit our website or email us at [info@thebrownchurch.org](mailto:info@thebrownchurch.org) to sign up for our email mailing list. Let us know which types of emails you are interested in, weekly worship, monthly newsletters, special events & volunteer opportunities, website:

**[thebrownchurch.org](http://thebrownchurch.org)**



**Come worship with us at the Majestic Theatre**

**on Sunday's at 10am**

**36 Main Street, Conway.**

Parking is in back of the theatre, on Main St.,  
& at Station Bistro & Saco Bay Physical Therapy  
across the street.

**We thank the Majestic staff and  
supporters for sharing their  
venue with us.**



## ***February Worship Schedule 2024***

**Sunday, February 4<sup>th</sup> – Communion**

*Psalm 147:1-11, 20c*

Scripture: Isaiah 40:21-31

Mark 1:29-39

Sermon: "***Everyone is Looking for You!***"

**Sunday, February 11, 2024 - Transfiguration**

*Psalm 50:1-6*

Scripture: 2 Corinthians 4:3-6

Mark 1:40-45

Sermon: "***What does It Mean to be Saved?***"

**Wednesday, February 14<sup>th</sup> – Ash Wednesday (prerecorded)**

*Psalm 51:1-17*

Scripture: Joel 2:12-17

Reflection: "***With Your Whole Heart***"

**Sunday, February 18, 2024 – 1<sup>st</sup> Lent**

*Psalm 25:1-10*

Scripture: 1 Peter 3:18-22

Mark 1:9-15

Sermon: "***The Gift of Clear Conscience***"

**Sunday, February 25, 2024 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Lent**

*Psalm 22:23-31*





Scripture: Romans 4:13-25

Mark 8:31-38

Sermon: "***Calling Forth What is Non-Existent***"

# February 2024



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 1pm Women's Bible Study	2 9am Men's Bible Study	3
4 10 AM Worship Majestic Theatre	5	6 4:30pm Trustees	7 Council 4:30pm Conway Fire Department Conference Room	8 1pm Women's Bible Study	9 9am Men's Bible Study  <u>Office Closed</u>	10
11 10 AM Worship Majestic Theatre	12	13	14 	15 1pm Women's Bible Study	16 9am Men's Bible Study  <u>Office Closed</u>	17 10am Church Walk Thru
18 10 AM Worship Majestic Theatre  FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT 	19	20  Articles Due Today!	21	22 1pm Women's Bible Study	23 9am Men's Bible Study  <u>Office Closed</u>	24
25 10 AM Worship Majestic Theatre  SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT 	26	27	28 4:30pm Diaconate March Mtg.	29 1pm Women's Bible Study		