



Conway Village Congregational Church

“The Brown Church”

# The Good News

March 2025

Volume 14 Issue 3



**Conway Village Congregational Church 132 Main Street, P.O. Box 333 Conway NH 03818**  
**Phone 603-447-3851 Email: [Info@thebrownchurch.org](mailto:Info@thebrownchurch.org) Website: [www.thebrownchurch.org](http://www.thebrownchurch.org)**  
**Pastor: Rev. John Hughes**

Service of Hippolytus  
Ash Wednesday  
March 5, 2025

This Lenten season will begin on Ash Wednesday, March 5 at 6:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. We will be celebrating the Service of Hippolytus, also known as the Celebration of the Three Communion. It was a Liturgy written by Hippolytus to offer people a way to actively participate in a holy ritual.

The Celebration begins with people writing out what they wish to give up for Lent (obstructions they wish remove from their lives), or, qualities they wish to call out in their lives to be closer to God. After writing on small pieces of paper, the paper is placed in a flame and once lit, dropped into a container containing the ashes from leftover palms from Palm Sunday 2024.

The celebrant then proceeds to:

- ◆ the first communion, matza, milk, and honey. This represents remembering the wandering in the wilderness, and the final arrival at the Land of Milk and Honey, the promises of a new covenant with God fulfilled.
- ◆ the second communion of Pita and water. This represents the meals Jesus shared while on earth with everyone he gathered together for blessings, healings, and prayer, the shared reality of the God-with-Us, Emmanuel.
- ◆ the third communion is bread and wine. This represents the Last Supper shared in the Upper Room in Jerusalem during the Passover, the elements of which Jesus reinterpreted for a new everlasting covenant with God.

Hippolytus wanted everyone to celebrate a ritual of remembering that the God of Covenant, the God of Incarnation, and the God of Salvation are all one. This service recognizes this theological truth as it allows each participant to prepare personally and confidentially for their journey through the Lenten season.

Lenten Dates:

- ◇ Ash Wednesday, March 5<sup>th</sup>
- ◇ Palm Sunday, April 13<sup>th</sup>
  - ◇ Maundy Thursday, April 17<sup>th</sup>
  - ◇ Good Friday, April 18<sup>th</sup>
- ◇ Easter Sunrise, April 20<sup>th</sup> at 5:45 a.m.
- ◇ Easter Worship, April 20<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m.

# Lent



love serve worship

# CHURCH TRUSTEES

The days are getting longer.....sunset is 5:30!

On February 8th, we had a church clean up day, specifically the Sanctuary. Thank you to everyone who came to help out. The chairs were moved out of the way, the old carpet was torn up, bibles and hymnals were boxed up, and miscellaneous items were boxed up or taken to the dump.



We review the cash management report weekly and we are keeping up with the bills. This winter, we are back to paying for heat and plowing, both sizable expenses. We appreciate all the pledge support that continues and seeing many of you on Sundays.

On February 24th, we met with Bergeron Technical Services (TA). They have been working on a design for heat and air conditioning for the Sanctuary. They plan to put this out to bid soon. The Sanctuary needs more work than what we had originally planned. We don't want to just get the floors, carpet and heat done and open; only to close again to make further repairs.

FEMA is covering 75% of the heating, AC and carpeting costs (reimbursement after the work is done). What FEMA is not covering, but needs to be done, is refinishing the floor, removing the grooms room and move the door to go into the Fellowship Hall. There are significant wall cracks in parts of the Sanctuary. While some can be patched, the wall behind where the organ was located should be replaced.

Bergeron will put together an estimated cost for all this work. We can then see where we are at with the Building Fund and the FEMA reimbursement. We had hoped the Sanctuary would open in the spring, but it is unlikely. We will keep you all up to date.

We recently received a letter from Brotherhood Insurance. They did an exterior inspection and have told us we need to have a plan in place to repair the rotted siding on the Bell Tower. We expect there is rot under the shingles. Bergeron Technical Associates will look into this project as well.



We had tentatively scheduled a Celebration Dinner for April 11th. We will discuss further at the next Council meeting. It was planned to be around the time the Sanctuary was to open.

Anne Getchell  
Trustee

Remember, Daylights Savings is March 9th  
First Day of Spring is March 20th

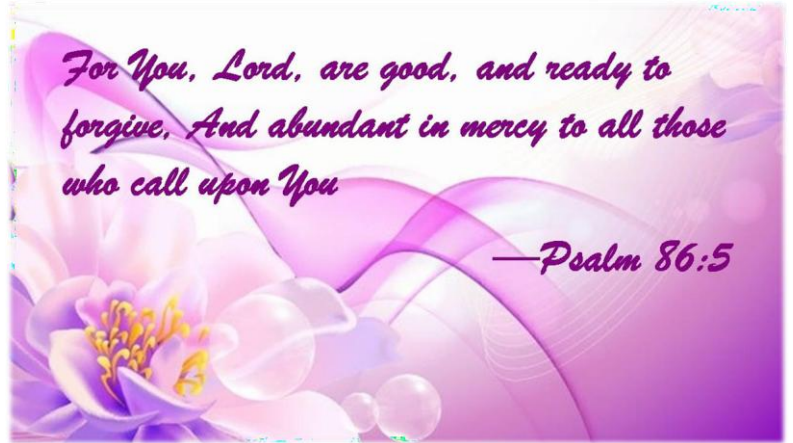


**Trustee Board**  
Anne Getchell, John Edgerton,  
Duddie Andrews, Nancy Irving,  
Nancy Divine &  
Tom Workman, ex officio member,  
Treasurer



# Deacons

Psalm 86:5 “For you, O Lord, are good and forgiving, abounding in steadfast love for all who call upon you.” This short passage has a lot to say, doesn’t it? Our Lord is good. Our Lord is forgiving. (no brainer there). It’s the next part, for me, that tells us pretty much all we need to know: He abounds in steadfast love for those who call upon him. When does this apply? Every once in a while? When we think of it? Well, no. It is every second of every day. Now THAT’S a lot to know.



And as we approach the season of Lent, this is the moment by moment thought I will call upon in my heart. Lent prepares us for Easter by providing a dedicated period of reflection, prayer, fasting, and acts of charity. I personally will use this time to turn inward and deepen my understanding of Jesus’ sacrifice. We all need reminders of what God has given us and how he is steadfast, even when we might not be. As the winter MARCHES on, I encourage you to find something to do daily that gives you light and joy. I have recently begun a few new crochet projects that literally have me hooked....haha. It’s in these little moments of time, that I personally find that God is with me.

And the church is “MARCHing” on as well. So many projects to complete and get us ready for worship in the Sanctuary. It’s coming, slowly, but surely. Stay tuned!

May your blessings outnumber the shamrocks that grow, and God be with you wherever you go. “Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.”

Ephesians 4:32

Blessings,

Your Deacons, Judy, Beth, Jill, Louise, Charles M. and Charles B.



## Outreach

**The Dinner Bell and Food Pantry are open!**

A huge *Thank You!* to everyone who volunteered their time to help get the pantry open again!

Thank you doesn't begin to express our gratitude. We are grateful for our returning volunteers and a huge welcome to our new volunteers!



<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 2025 <small>(2 weeks only)</small>	22	38	1,596	23	4	0	5
February 2025	15	26	1,092	16	4	1	5



Conway Village  
Congregational Church

### Food Pantry

By Appointment Only

Tuesdays 8:30 am - 11:30 am

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

603-447-3851

Call to make an appointment or for more information.



Food Pantry  
Donations Needed

#### Food Pantry Wish List

- |                    |                    |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| • Canned fruit     | • Rice-a-Roni      |
| • Pasta            | • Instant Potatoes |
| • Canned beans     | • Applesauce       |
| • Hamburger Helper | • Peanut Butter    |
| • Mayonnaise       | • Jelly or Jam     |
| • Pancake Mix      | • Tomato Sauce     |
| • Ramen Noodles    | • Soup             |
| • Canned Beef Stew | • Coffee           |
| • Ketchup          |                    |
| • Mustard          |                    |
| • Pancake Syrup    |                    |
| • Canned Tuna Fish |                    |

Donations may be made during worship service on Sundays or when the office is open.



Call the office 603-447-3851 if you would like to volunteer at our food pantry.

Thank you.

# PRAYER REQUEST

We are here to lift you up in prayer.

- † Cathy Currier
- † Alice Proctor
- † Colleen Albert
- † Elise Keeney & John Edgerton
- † Linda Frechette
- † Alice Spear

- † Nancy Keyes
- † Carol Baribeau
- † Sandy Stowell & Lisa Horne
- † Mark & Caroline Wel
- † Eileen Redmond
- † Debbie Kelly
- † Jean Hamilton & Family
- † Greg Turgeon
- † Tom Steele
- † Paula Burgess
- † Teresa Bernhardt
- † Pat (Gahagen) Goetzinger
- † Suzanne & Eddie

- † Misty
- † Charlotte
- † Margaret Marshall
- † John & Kathy P.
- † Cynthia Saxby
- † Joan Mathurin
- † Family of Prudy Shackford
- † Family of Mary Chesley
- † Sky Yeaton
- † Kathy Monahan
- † Lewis Busell & Family
- † George & Cynthia Pfender
- † Wendy Novotni



**Fresh Homestyle Meal**



**Join us for a free community dinner!  
Everyone Is Welcome!!**

**Mondays, 4-5 pm**

Call office for menu.  
603-447-3851

**HAPPY March BIRTHDAY**  
from all of us

🕯️ Susan Klomp	🕯️ Johnathan Saxby
🕯️ Jennifer Lavigne	🕯️ Karen MacDonald
🕯️ Donna West	🕯️ Gary MacDonald

**Thursdays, 1:00 PM**

BIBLE  
*Women's*  
STUDY

Women's Bible Study began the 4th season of The Chosen study in mid-October. Each Episode has a Bible Roundtable discussion led by a Protestant Bible professor, a Catholic priest and a Messianic Jewish Rabbi. This helps us understand Old Testament teachings, Jewish traditions and the life, the times and teachings of Christ thru the eyes of his disciples and followers.

Come and follow with us each week as we grow our faith and our relationship with Christ. It is never too late to begin the journey with us. We meet in the conference room downstairs on Thursdays at 1 PM. We'd love to have you join us!

Judy Workman  
Women's Bible Study Facilitator

**Men's Bible Study**

STRENGTHEN YOUR FAITH

**Fridays 8 am**

Men's Bible Study meets in the conference Room. Bible Study looks at the scripture to be used each Sunday Worship. All are welcome. John <'><<<



# SEASON OF LENT

We are open for  
Worship Services  
in Fellowship Hall!  
Service 10:00 AM  
Please join us for  
Coffee Fellowship  
following worship service!

## March Worship Schedule 2025

### **Sunday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> – *Transfiguration Sunday/Communion***

*Psalm 99*

2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2

Luke 9:28-36, (37-43)

Meditation: "Veiling the Heart"

### **Wednesday, March 5<sup>th</sup> – Ash Wednesday**

*Psalm 51:1-17*

Joel 2:1-2,12-17

Matthew 6:16-21

Meditation: "*Humanity's Search for Meaning*"

### **Sunday, March 9<sup>th</sup> – *Lent 1***

*Psalm 91:1-2,9-16*

Romans 10:8b-13

Luke 4:1-13

Sermon: "*Inescapable Temptations*"

### **Sunday, March 16<sup>th</sup> - *Lent 2***

*Psalm 27*

Philippians 3:17-4:1

Luke 9:28-36

Sermon: "*Full bellies, Shameful glories, Earthly things*"

### **Sunday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> – *Lent 3***

*Psalm 63:1-8*

Isaiah 55:1-9

Luke 13:1-8

Sermon: "*Seek Abundant Life*"

### **Sunday, March 30<sup>th</sup> – *Lent 4 (Rose Sunday)***

*Psalm 32*

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

Luke 15:11b-32

Sermon: "*What is a True Renewal?*"

Sunday Worship via Zoom









To access Zoom meeting by Phone

Phone Number: 1 646 558 8656 (for audio only)

Meeting ID: 876 2425 7300

# March 2025



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 10 AM Worship	3  4-5pm Dinner Bell	4 8:30-11:30 am Food Pantry is Open! 4:30pm Trustees	5  Service 6 pm 	6 1pm Women's Bible Study Conference Room	7 8am Men's Bible Study Conference Room  <u>Office Closed</u>	8
9 10 AM Worship FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT 	10  4-5pm Dinner Bell	11 8:30-11:30 am Food Pantry is Open!	12  4:30pm Council	13 1pm Women's Bible Study Conference Room	14 8am Men's Bible Study Conference Room  <u>Office Closed</u>	15
16 10 AM Worship SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT 	17  4-5pm Dinner Bell	18 8:30-11:30 am Food Pantry is Open!	19   <b>Articles Due</b>	20 1pm Women's Bible Study Conference Room  <u>Office Closed</u>	21 8am Men's Bible Study Conference Room  <u>Office Closed</u>	22
23 10 AM Worship THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT 	24  4-5pm Dinner Bell	25 8:30-11:30 am Food Pantry is Open!	26  5:30pm Diaconate	27 1pm Women's Bible Study Conference Room  <u>Office Closed</u>	28 8am Men's Bible Study Conference Room  <u>Office Closed</u>	29
30 10 AM Worship FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT 	31  4-5pm Dinner Bell			We are tentatively planning a "Celebration Dinner" subject to the Sanctuary opening. The tentative date is April 11, 2025. Watch newsletter and website for more information.		