

Bristoletter

**Newsletter of United Church of Bristol
a member of the United Church of Christ**

TO:

**United Church of Bristol
7177 County Road Two
Bloomfield, NY 14469
churchofbristol@gmail.com**

God is still speaking

February - March 2013



Rev. Thomas (Tim) Hamlin, Pastor E-mail: redcedar58@gmail.com

Phone: 585-657-7030

Sunday worship – 10:00 am

Fellowship Hour – 11:00 am

Website – www.UnitedChurchofBristolUCC.org

To receive Bristoletter by e-mail, contact jschrader57@hotmail.com

Meetings/Events

Choir rehearses at 8:30 each Sunday - all voices are welcome!

- February 3** **Communion**
Annual Meeting immediately following worship
"Souper Bowl of Caring" Silent Auction and Potluck Lunch
- February 13** **Ash Wednesday Soup Supper at 6pm**
Ash Wednesday Service
- February 10** **Cabinet Meeting** after worship
- February 17** Installation of Officers and Committee Members during worship [new and 'old']
First Sunday School class in 2013!
- February 18 - February 24** Pastor Tim on vacation
- February 24** **Dan Russell – Worship Leader**
- February 28** **Spaghetti Supper Benefit Dinner**
- March 2** **Retreat @ Notre Dame with Reverend Keeney**
- March 7** **Lenten Soup Supper at 6pm**
- March 14** **Lenten Soup Supper at 6pm**
- March 15** Deadline for April/May issue of Bristoletter
- March 21** **Lenten Soup Supper at 6pm**
- March 28** **Lenten Soup Supper at 6pm**
Maundy Thursday Service
- March 29** **Good Friday**
- March 31** **Easter Sunrise Service at 7am in Evergreen Cemetery**
Easter Brunch at 8am in the Fellowship Hall
Easter Egg Hunt and Resurrection Rolls at 9am
-

Happy Birthday in February to:

Lyle J. – 2/7
Karla B. – 2/8
Dale C. – 2/12
Joyce G. – 2/10
Chris B. – 2/12
Colleen M. – 2/12
Pat S. – 2/14
Bob B. – 2/21
Walter B. – 2/22
James D. – 2/23
Seth B. – 2/24
Fran S. – 2/25
Edie T. – 2/25
Diane Marie B. – 2/26
Dianne Marie C. – 2/26

Happy Birthday in March to:

Dave H. – 3/5
James C. – 2/7
Bob D., Jr. – 3/10
Dianne M. – 3/14
Paula D. – 3/15
Rena F. – 3/16
Noah Van S. – 3/17
O'Mallie A. – 3/22
Jase C. – 3/22
Richard J. – 3/23

DATE	LITURGIST	GREET & FAREWELL	FELLOWSHIP HOUR
Feb. 3	Jan S.	Art C. & Deb F.	“Souper Bowl Sunday & Pot Luck!
Feb. 10	LaRue F.	Sheila H. & Elaine B.	Babcock Family
Feb. 17	CC B.	John & Rena F.	** Bill & Joan H. **
Feb. 24	Bob M.	Sally E. & Pat P.	Don & Pat S.
Mar. 3	Mary Ann S.	Helen F. & Margaret H.	John & Rena F.
Mar. 10	Bob D.	CC B. & Catherine J.	Van S. Family
Mar. 17	Ellie B.	Gloria M. & Jan S.	** Lance & Diane B. **
Mar. 24	Catherine J.	Richard & Norma L.	Faye B. & Mary Lynne P.
Mar. 31	Dianne M.	Lance & Diane B.	Sally E. & Pat P.
Apr. 7	Art B.	Van S. Family	Bob & Dianne M.

“Greeters”: Please try to remember to have one or both of you be a “fareweller” at the end of the service by the door to those people who may not be staying with us for the fellowship hour. Thank you for adding this new task and making everyone feel welcome all the time at UCB! Your other duties still are to be at the door by 9:20, remember to wear your name tag, have guests sign our guestbook, hand out the Sunday bulletins and any other hand-outs, count all the attendees and enter the total in the book, take up the collection when called by the Pastor. Headsets are on the table or in the drawer if needed by anyone.

Those who are assigned to “fellowship hour”, you will need to provide juice for children and non-coffee drinkers. Pick up the cake, if it is ****Cake Sunday****, Pat and Sally order it.

+Please find your own substitute if you are unable to fulfill your appointed task. THANKS!
+If you would like to be added to this list, please let Pat or Sally know.

Christian Education News

Sunday school classes will resume on February 17th! Childcare will now be available every Sunday during service; a dedicated person is being hired to fulfill that duty.

Annual Easter Egg Hunt and Resurrection Rolls on Easter Sunday at 9am; spread the word!!

Newsy Notes from "The Church on the Hill"

THOSE WHOM WE HOLD IN PRAYER

- ~ Family, friends and neighbors of our member **Sam McKee**, who recently died;
- ~ **Lucille McKee**, home again after hospitalization for pneumonia;
- ~ Family, friends and neighbors of our member **Betty Jean Drayn**, who recently died; a memorial will be held in the spring;
- ~ **Lucinda Morse Perrin**, as she continues her courageous battle with cancer;
- ~ **Paula Dorn**, who also faces the challenges of cancer treatment;
- ~ Neighbor and new attendee **Dianne Holtby**, navigating in a wheelchair as her broken ankle heals;
- ~ All who are trying to stay healthy and otherwise finding it hard to be out and about in winter;
- ~ All those among us who have accepted the responsibilities of serving as officers and committee members of our congregation;
- ~ All those who enjoy winter, that their recreation may be safe, and those who do not enjoy winter, that they may be sustained;

THANK YOU

- ~ to all who contributed to the beauty of our sanctuary for the Christmas season: many contributors of poinsettias, coordinated by **Diane Bassage**;
- ~ to **Tim Fox** and **Laura Burgart** for providing our Christmas tree;
- ~ to the **youth** for setting up the nativity scene and decorating the sanctuary;
- ~ to all who contributed the gift of Christmas music - our **organist, choir** and especially our **Christmas Eve musicians**, including **Jenna Babcock, Rena Faulkner, Mary Ann Strasser** and **Tim Hamlin**;
- ~ to all who contributed to another successful **Angel Tree** project, coordinated by **Linda Ensmann**;
- ~ to all those who shopped, assembled, and delivered holiday food baskets to our neighbors in a ministry of outreach;
- ~ to **Mary Ann Strasser** for again coordinating the 'Souper Bowl of Caring' silent auction on February 3rd;
- ~ to **Rev. Maureen Thitchener** for donating a copy of the Unitarian-Universalist hymnal, "Singing the Living Tradition" to our worship resource shelf;

ALTAR FLOWERS COORDINATORS

January & February	Fran Staub	229-7306
March & April	Gloria Miles	229-2322
June & July	Diane Bassage	657-6609

If you wish to honor someone on any given Sunday with an arrangement please inform the person that is chair during that month about a week ahead for planning purposes. Also, notify Pastor Tim so that the information will be in the bulletin. In March there will be notices in the bulletin about the Easter flowers and sign-up sheets in Fellowship Hall. My thanks to you all in advance for placing flower orders!

Diane Bassage

More about our "Souper Bowl of Caring"

On Sunday, February 3rd, 2013, we'll be having our third annual "Souper Bowl of Caring". Everyone is invited to bid on the various bowls, many donated by local artists. The bowls will be on display in the Social Hall beginning Sunday, January 20th at which point bidding can begin. The bidding will close at noon on Sunday, February 3rd, after which folks can enjoy a potluck luncheon. The proceeds from the auction of these bowls will be donated to local hunger relief organizations.

And the Spaghetti Supper Benefit Dinner

Come one, come all...and beat the winter blues! On **Thursday, February 28th**, we will be sharing a "**Beat the Blues**" spaghetti dinner from **4 p.m. until 7 p.m.** in the United Church of Bristol Social Hall. Spaghetti, choice breads, salad, and dessert will be provided. The cost of the meal is: \$6 for adults, \$3 for children. Live music will be provided for your dining pleasure! The proceeds from this dinner will be used for community outreach. See you on the Hill for another great meal!

"VEGUCATED"

Friends at Canandaigua Unitarian Universalist Church on Cooley Road invite us to join them in viewing an award-winning documentary about learning how to create "a kinder, cleaner, greener world, one bite at a time" Friday February 1 from 7:00- 9:00 pm; childcare and refreshments provided; no cost. More info at 398-7508.

Pastor's Letter

Sometimes I find that someone else has the words I lack. I share with you a reflection from the writer Alice Walker:

“We can do nothing substantial toward changing our course on the planet, a destructive one, without rousing ourselves, individual by individual, and bringing our small imperfect stones to the pile. I have learned other things: One is the futility of expecting anyone, including ourselves, to be perfect. People who go about seeking to change the world, to diminish suffering, to demonstrate any kind of enlightenment, are often as flawed as anyone else. Sometimes more so.

But it is the awareness of having faults, I think, and the knowledge that this links us to everyone on Earth, that opens us to courage and compassion. It occurs to me that often many of those I deeply love are flawed. They might actually have said or done some of the mean things I've felt, heard, read about or feared. But it is the struggle with the flaw, surprisingly endearing, and the going on anyhow, that I cherish about them.

Sometimes our stones are, to us, misshapen, odd. Their color seems off. Their singing, comical and strange. Presenting them, we perceive our own imperfect nakedness, but also, paradoxically, the wholeness, the rightness, of it. In the collective vulnerability of presence, we learn not to be afraid.”

As one of those odd-shaped stones, I give thanks for the gifts of honesty, humility, and hope that help our stones to cohere. With Christ as our cornerstone, may we find ourselves more and more bonded in love, service and faith.

Tim Hamlin

Please note: In the event of a snow (or other) emergency requiring cancellation of worship please call the church answering machine at 657-7030 to confirm that worship is cancelled. Every effort will be made to have a notice of cancellation recorded by 8am Sunday morning. In addition, e-mails will be sent out and notice given to WHAM. If all else fails, please call Tim Hamlin at 585-727-2938 before venturing out.

Favorite Selections

Samples from the 1913 Edition Published by the Young People's Christian Union
First Universalist Church of Bristol, NY
These offerings are taken from page 7

Mrs. C. E. Gooding

Be good, sweet maid, and let who will be clever
Do noble things, not dream them all day long,
And so make life, death, and that vast forever
One grand, sweet song.

Charles Kingsley

George Wheeler

All common things, each day's events
That with the hour begin and end;
Our pleasures, and our discontents,
Are rounds, by which we may ascend.

Longfellow

George N. Ogden

To err is human, to forgive divine

Alexander Pope

Rev. G.S. Spencer

A friend is one who loves the truth and you,
and will tell the truth in spite of you.

Anonymous

Pauline G. L. Jones

To purchase heaven, has gold the power?
Can gold remove the mortal hour?
In life, can love be bought with gold?
Are friendships pleasures to be sold?

Samuel Johnson

Harlan A. Fisher

I think it wisest in a man to do his work in the
world as quietly, and as well as he can
without much heeding the praise or dispraise.

Alfred, Lord Tennyson

These words are from long ago, but the messages they bring us are full of meaning for today. We are sure that you also have bits of truth, good advice, and kind words that help you through rough times and give joy in happy ones. They might be part of a song, a verse of scripture in your faith, the memory of something you read. Memories of parents, grandparents and friends can inspire us by the things they said and did.

If you have a quote, don't worry if you cannot remember who said it—we will do our best to find out or simply list it as "unknown."

Please help us create our 150th Anniversary booklet so the past and the present may move together to inspire the future of our community. **Both booklets will be combined into one, and be available for purchase later in the celebration year.**

United Church of Bristol

Celebrating 150 Years of Life, Worship and Service in the Community of Bristol

The "Words We Live By" Project

Please help us celebrate by sharing a new or old favorite saying, poem, scripture passage, song, lyric or memory of good advice that brightens your day or helps you bring peace and hope in difficult times. The previous page contains some ideas from the original book.

In 1913, the church's young people went about the community and asked for words like these. They collected 111 entries and made a booklet that still exists and is both interesting and fun. We hope to collect as many entries for a 2013 version! We will copy the original booklet and the new material we gather and make a combined booklet.

Once the booklet is ready, we will make copies available to the community for purchase to cover the cost of copying and covering the booklets. A copy will be on display at the church for you to review. Watch for news of when it will be ready!

Please fill in the form below and return it to the United Church of Bristol, 7177 County Rd. 2, Bloomfield, NY 14469, or email churchofbristol@gmail.com.

To complete the collection, we are asking for all entries to be submitted by 3/31/13, Easter Sunday. We invite friends, family and neighbors to join in!

If you have a favorite quote but don't remember who said it, we will look it up for you or simply list it as "unknown."

Your entry here: (Use an additional page, if necessary)

Your name as you would like it printed _____
Phone # (optional) _____