

Congregational Church of Hooksett

January 2022 Newsletter



Contact Us

Congregational Church of
Hooksett

5 Veterans Drive

Hooksett, NH 03106

(603) 485 - 9009

office@hooksettucc.org

www.hooksettucc.org

Rev. Kerry Richardson,

Interim Pastor

pastor@hooksettucc.org

Jacki Mead, Admin. Asst.

office@hooksettucc.org

Mr. Jon Abrams,

Music Director

accompanist@hooksettucc.org

Kerry's Corner

Greetings,

So as we turn the page over to start a new month we also start a New Year. To say the last three years have been different would be an understatement. I for one am looking forward to the upcoming year, I envision opportunities that perhaps we haven't had either for some time or never thought possible. I am excited to work with you to increase your spiritual growth as well as your presence within the community. If I haven't said it yet, let me do it now, "If you like what is going on, tell everyone you come in contact with, "If you don't like what you hear or see, then tell me."

Remember there is no such thing as a bad idea, so please let me know what you would like to see happen for and with your Church.

We will talk about those New Year Resolutions later.....

Your Servant in Christ,
Pastor Kerry

Lectionary Readings for January

January 1

1st Sunday after Christmas Day

Isaiah 63:7-9
Psalm 148
Hebrews 2:10-18
Matthew 2:13-23

January 6

Epiphany of the Lord

Isaiah 60:1-6
Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14
Ephesians 3:1-12
Matthew 2:1-12

January 8

Baptism of the Lord

Isaiah 42:1-9
Psalm 29
Acts 10:34-43
Matthew 3:13-17

January 15

Second Sunday after Epiphany

Isaiah 49:1-7
Psalm 40:1-11
1 Corinthians 1:1-9
John 1:29-42

January 22

Third Sunday after Epiphany

Isaiah 9:1-4
Psalm 27:1, 4-9
1 Corinthians 1:10-18
Matthew 4:12-23

From The Hooksett Community Kitchen:

This Hooksett Community meal will be on Monday, January 16th from 5-6 pm. The menu will feature Shepherd's Pie, Coleslaw, Bread, Apple Crisp, and Beverages. We hope you can join us as we begin the new year.



Also, we would like to thank all of our volunteers for the past year. We are so fortunate to have the support of our church family and community volunteers - we couldn't do it without you!

From the Trustees:

As the new year begins the Trustees will propose the budget for the upcoming year at the Annual Meeting on January 8th immediately following service. As it stands right now pledged offering exceeds \$82,000 which is \$40,000 more than what was pledged last year. A few new items are included in the 2023 budget including a salaried position for our Administrative Assistant, a combined salary for the Music Director (formerly the Accompanist and Choir Director position) and a Capital Improvement fund added for upcoming projects like a garage roof and landscape improvements on the grounds, just to name couple. The thought behind the Capital Improvement Fund is to set aside money that can be designated to earmarked projects in the near future or a "rainy day" fund for long term or unexpected costs. Even with those additions we plan to withdraw a significant lower amount from our investments due to the pledges made, which also happened this year! Thanks to all who have pledged or will contribute to bring our budget numbers to fruition.

As of January 8th new members will be added to the board but we are still looking for more to fulfill our duties as Trustees. There was discussion at our last meeting that the expectation of a Trustee does not necessarily mean you need to fix a toilet or mow the lawn. Some of the "expected" duties of our board need to be rethought and can be accomplished in ways different from past practice. In saying this, we hope folks who may be contributing members in this role, but have resisted because of a concern they will not be able to contribute as they think they need to, might reconsider. If this information allays some of those fears and you have any interest please reach out to a Trustee or a member of the Nominating committee. Thanks for considering helping out our church.

January 29

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

Micah 6:1-8

Psalms 15

1 Corinthians 1:18-31

Matthew 5:1-12



Help us every time
you shop Amazon.

Attention Amazon Shoppers

Looking for a way to help the Church? Every time you make a purchase using Amazon, sign in under AmazonSmile and select the Hooksett Congregational Church as the charity you would like to support. Once you've selected the Church, you should not have to select it again. However, each time you make a purchase make sure you are using AmazonSmile. The same products and prices are available, but with the AmazonSmile, the Church receives a donation. In 2021 we received a little over \$100. Thanks for your support.

As always if you do have an idea or concern for the Trustees don't hesitate to reach out. We wish you and yours a blessed 2023 and can't wait to see what is next for our church through the work that we do as a community.

The Trustee Team

From the Missions Committee:

As the year ends, we would like to Thank all of you for your generous donations for the Angel Tree and all the support you've given during the year. We are planning some new Mission/Outreach projects in the new year so stay tuned!!

Thank you so much and Happy New Year!!!

Missions Committee

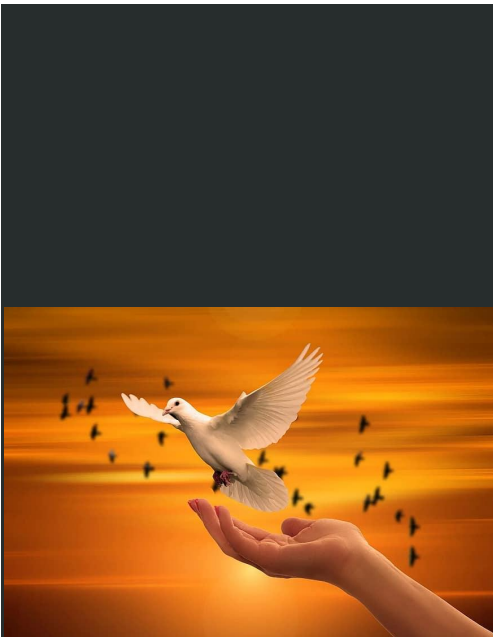
Bonnie Boucher, Kathleen Dube, Kristen Hamilton, Pam Hennessey, Vicky Karels and Kathleen Murphy

From The Music Committee:

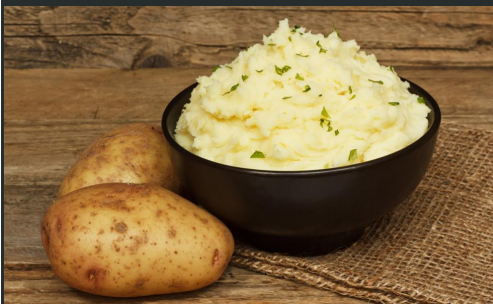
Happy New Year! Christmas music is special and we hope that the music of our Advent and Christmas services lifted your spirits and filled your souls! The music committee is looking forward to continuing to provide a spirit-filled and uplifting music program in the coming year. Under the direction of Jon Abrams, the choir will be sharing some great music and, as always, new voices are always welcomed! You can also make requests for favorite hymns and we will do our best to work them into a worship service. We hope that in 2023 you are blessed with "all things bright and beautiful" because "our Lord God made them all"!

Jon Abrams, Music Director
Robin Boyd, Kim Carbonneau, Judy Duval, Vicky Karels





January's Hooksett
Food Bank Collection is
Mashed Potatoes!



From the Prayer Team:

Heavenly Father, as we move into a new year, help us by the guidance of your Holy Spirit to face the challenges, embrace the joys, and move through the struggles of 2023 as your children—confident in your love for us regardless of the circumstances. Create in us clean hearts and renew the right spirits within us as we think about the year ahead and create our plans and make our resolutions. Holy spirit, we invite you into our new year. Help us to feel your presence. Help us to recognize and nurture the fruits of the spirit in ourselves and recognize and encourage them in all those that we meet. Amen.

Would you like us to pray for you? Please contact us at prayer@hooksettucc.org. It is completely confidential and we are honored to do it. Would you like to join us in prayer? The team will hold a prayer meeting on Zoom for all on January 25 at 7 pm during which we will share readings from the Bible and general prayers from the team. No specific names will be raised by the team, but you will be welcome to share in any way that you feel led. Please feel free to participate or just be present. No one will be put on the spot to share or pray out loud. We hope that you will consider joining us on the fourth Wednesday in January using the Zoom link below. Happy New Year!

Hooksett UCC is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: January Prayer Meeting

Time: Jan 25, 2023 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84256494155?pwd=RzJsVjRhQS8vZ1E5dXBxeTFZM0Frdz09>

Meeting ID: 842 5649 4155

Passcode: 928917

Other News:

Want to know what is going on throughout the NH Conference of the United Church of Christ? Click this link to sign up for their weekly digital newsletter:

<https://tinyurl.com/y9kct9zj>

