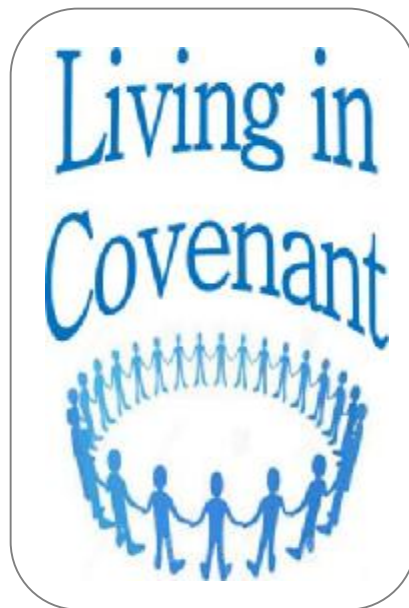


**Barrington Congregational Church, U.C.C.
Barrington, Rhode Island**

2014 ANNUAL REPORT



All church members are encouraged to attend the

ANNUAL MEETING

on **Sunday, June 1st, 2014**

in the Sanctuary immediately following worship

Child care will be provided

This Annual Report can also be found online at the church's website www.bccucc.org.

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WARRANT
for the ANNUAL MEETING
of the Barrington Congregational Church, UCC
Barrington, Rhode Island

The annual meeting of the Barrington Congregational Church, UCC, Barrington RI, is hereby called to take place on

SUNDAY, JUNE 1ST, 2014
in the Sanctuary **immediately after worship.**

The business to be transacted is as follows:

ARTICLE I: To call the meeting to order.

ARTICLE II: To receive and vote on the slate of nominees for officers, ministry teams and delegates.

ARTICLE III: To review and vote on the proposed church budget for July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015.

ARTICLE IV: To consider any other business that may properly come before the meeting.

ARTICLE V: To adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted:

Lorraine Keeney, Clerk

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MINUTES of the 2013 ANNUAL MEETING
of the BARRINGTON CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC
held JUNE 2ND, 2013

The clerk read the warrant for the annual meeting.

Article I: To Call the Meeting to Order

Susan Rotblat-Walker moved to call the meeting to order; Lee Miller seconded.

Article II: To receive and vote upon the Nominating Team's report.

John Loerke moved to accept the nominating team's report. Lee Miller seconded. Pat Codeiro noted the following: Finance team will include Abby and Larry Ashley; John Loerke and Fred McDonald will serve as co- Treasurers. Report accepted unanimously.

Article III: To receive and vote on the proposed church budget for July 1, 2013-June 30, 2014.

See proposed budget.

This budget was created with a dedication to a balanced budget.

Discussion of staff salaries.

Building and Grounds budget of \$17,500 is down from \$20,000 allowing for normal repairs but not major improvements. This fall, a group will be making an appeal for donations for major repairs for items like the boiler and converting from oil to gas.

OCWM is same as last year but down from previous years.-

Pledges continue to trickle in; still 22 units who contributed this year that have not made a commitment for next. Optimistic that we are not at the end of drive, Dick notes that \$ 14,000 deficit is now down to \$11,000 with pledges that have come in last few days.

Dick asks for the congregation's approval to continue pledge drive and that the congregation delegate the authority to the church council to make adjustments to eliminate gap.

With day's announcement of Elizabeth's resignation, there is a suggestion that budget might be amended. Dick recommends that we not adjust budget; that we keep this expense, including increase. But he adds, the council could take out as much increase as necessary to be in balance with the congregation's approval to delegate the authority.

Motion was made to accept budget by John Faulhaber; seconded by Larry Ashley

Friendly amendment – accept as presented contingent on us raising extra money. Staff will be encouraged to follow-up on the pledge drive. If the budget is not balanced, we might ask those who contributed to increase amounts, in addition to allowing church council to modify expenses.

John Faulhaber accepts friendly amendment; Larry Ashley accepts as well.

Discussion:

Question from the congregation whether there is enough money to hire associate as stands?

Ann Wood presents the suggestion that we consider renting house for a new minister and that we put the Nathaniel house on the market. She requests that the suggestion be put on the table when we review the position. Paul Dennis notes that the house may be an important element in attracting a new minister and that we should get input from the deacons and Jeff in making the decisions whether to sell.

Susan Rotblat- Walker comments on low amount budgeted for OCWM reminding congregation that" the church community does not stop at these walls. It is unfortunate that amount given for that purpose is low not only here, but also around country, necessitating cuts in programming. We need to prayerfully consider how to increase this contribution."

The congregation accepts the budget – unanimously

Pat Cordeiro thanks Finance for a good job and hard work.

Article IV: To consider any other business that may properly come before the meeting

- Meeting on June 17 –Room 6 from 7-8:30 with UCC RI
- Search committee formation will be delayed until Jeff, deacons and church council has time to consider implications of Elizabeth's resignation
- Capital Campaign – Once council has a plan, they will present to congregation

Article V: Motion to adjourn

– Lee Miller moves and Jim McCartney seconds. Meeting adjourned at 11:28 a.m.

Respectfully submitted:
Lorraine Keeney, Clerk

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**MINUTES of the SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
of the BARRINGTON CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC
held DECEMBER 15TH, 2013**

The meeting was called to order immediately following worship at 11:15 am. A quorum of over 45 members were present.

The slate of nominees for a search committee was read and those present stood up.

Lynne Lehman, Melissa Alschuler, Greg Knight, Cheryl Muth, Maggie Zarlengo,
Kristen Westmoreland, Kate and Tom Colby (serving as 1 unit), Jeff Larsen

Susan Rotblat-Walker moved we accept the team. Francis Seader seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned after a motion by Francis Seader and seconded by Susan Seader was passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Louise Slicker, clerk pro tem.

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**MINUTES of the SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
of the BARRINGTON CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC
held APRIL 27TH, 2014**

- I. The meeting was called to order immediately after the church service in the Sanctuary. The Warrant was read by the clerk.
- II. The By-Laws Committee members, Mary Louise Gamache, Barbara Muth, and Tom Strolla, were recognized by Pat Cordiero and applauded by the congregation.
Lee Miller moved and Susan Rotblat-Walker seconded acceptance of the new by-laws.
Discussion:
Steve Fodor asked for a summary of changes.

Tom responded:

Teams have been restructured; a couple of teams have been combined. For example, Chancel and music are under Deacons, combining aspects of worship in one place.

Terms for new members of teams are shortened to 1-2 years.

The word “missions” is back into the picture as “Missions and Justice”

III: Congregation voted to approve the motion and the 2014 by-laws were accepted.

IV: Marylouise Gamache proposed the meeting be adjourned; Lee Miller seconded.

Respectfully submitted,
Lorraine Keeney, Clerk

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SUMMARY OF THE CHANGES TO OUR BY LAWS

TOM STROLLA

Although there were some minor changes throughout the bylaws, the majority of changes were with ministry team organization.

The By-Laws team saw a real need to streamline the number of teams, the number of members on a team, and the time commitment to serve on a team. The church has struggled over the last several years to fill many open positions and we made these changes with the hope that less teams and a shorter time commitment would allow these teams to be full with engaged individuals.

So the changes were as follows:

The number of ministry teams has been reduced from 14 to 9. Personnel and Nominating were eliminated. Church Council will oversee personnel and Membership will now take over the role of Nominating. All the teams that involve being part of the worship; Music, Ushering, and Chancel will now be subgroups of the Deacons. They will submit a monthly report to the Deacons which will be reported by the Deacons to the Church Council.

Except for the Deacons, team members will serve one or two year staggered terms and cannot serve in the same capacity for more than four (4) consecutive years. Upon completion of four consecutive years, a person is for one year ineligible for election to the same ministry team. This will take effect as current team members terms expire under the old bylaws.

Another major change was who can serve on teams. Those who serve on Deacons, Finance, Endowment and Investment, and Pastor Parish Relations Team are to be active or associate members of this church. Those who serve on Buildings and Grounds, Christian Education and Youth Ministries, Mission, Membership and Stewardship ministry teams are to be active participants in the life of this church. Members from the ordained ministry shall be voting members of the ministry teams on which they sit.

SENIOR MINISTER

JEFF LARSEN

A visiting grandfather on Confirmation Sunday took me aside just after the doves were released and said, “There’s a lot going on at this church, yet somehow you manage to have a very personal touch about it all.” What a compliment to you all...keeping many exciting and meaningful balls in the air and still making life together have a personal touch. It is not easily done and I am very grateful for the many, many hands and hearts that went in to this past year’s church life to make it possible.

The search for a new Associate Minister is, hopefully, nearing the finally stages. Keeping the sails full and the bow headed in the right direction working solo has made my life very interesting. The same number of sermons needed to be preached and roughly the same number of weddings, funerals, and baptisms were performed but there was no partner to divvy up the load. I look forward to having that new colleague soon. I am very grateful for the extra work put in by the Deacons and their securing Rev. Sharon Key to lead the Confirmation Class and cover on some Sundays off.

It was a joy to celebrate my 40th anniversary of Ordination with the congregation this past December. You welcomed in a number of guests in your usual gracious manner.

We face the challenges of the modern world together: multi demands on people for precious time that makes church attendance very difficult; a secularization of society that pushes the work of churches further and further out onto the periphery towards irrelevance; at the same time that the needs created by increasing impoverishment spiritually, socially, economically, and morally make it all the more imperative that we make our voices heard and keep our hands reaching out.

There are a lot of things going on here at our church. Are they all pleasing to God? Do they make a difference in this world? Amidst all the busyness is there still the personal touch? I continue to feel humbled to be your minister, and Kathleen and I continue to feel greatly honored to live and work with you all in making this church as faithful as it can possibly be.

MODERATOR

PAT CORDEIRO

The year 2014 was a vibrant and inspiring year for the Barrington Congregational Church United Church of Christ with many new initiatives and possibilities. Our Associate Minister, Reverend Elizabeth Barnum, was called to her next ministry, and this change caused the congregation to reflect on her past work and the church’s future directions. Other changes occurred during the year that helped determine the direction of the congregation and its ministries. Reflected in each of the annual reports of the ministry teams is the record of service and dedication of all who contribute to the success and well-being of ministries for the whole congregation.

The fall of 2013 brought reconsideration of the mission, needs and directions of BCCUCC. As the church decided how to fill the role of Associate Minister in the wake of Elizabeth’s moving on, three “Listening Meetings” were held after worship to give voice to all members of the

congregation. These well-attended meetings resulted in a consensus that the church should search for an Associate Minister with primary responsibilities in Christian Education, pastoral support for the Senior Minister, and administration. Deciding to search for a part-time Associate was a compromise based on evidence from financial reports and job descriptions for this position. Whether the congregation maintains this decision or revisits the definition of this position could be reconsidered.

As directed by the Bylaws of BCCUCC, a five-year Bylaws revision committee was convened, chaired by Tom Strolla, previous Moderator and Search Chair for Senior Minister; and including Barbara Wuth, longtime church member and previous church officer as Clerk; and Marylouise Gamache, previous chair of the Nominating Ministry Team and active member in Christian Education and Youth Ministry. The previous iteration of the Bylaws was revised, approved by Church Council and the congregation, and now directs the church to maintain fewer ministry teams with fewer members and staggered terms of commitment. During my four years as Moderator, I came to acknowledge the heavy superstructure of organization that affected our ability as a church to function effectively and efficiently. Filling fourteen ministry teams with multiple volunteers each year, in addition to filling the five officer positions, three members-at-large and four Conference delegates, may have been easier in past times, but these days, this was a burden that the congregation simply could not accommodate. No members of the congregation should feel guilty because their commitments do not allow them to serve a mandated term on a team that calls them. With the new revisions, the Bylaws provide more flexibility for church members to serve church initiatives.

I thank the congregation for the opportunity to serve as Moderator of BCCUCC for the past four years. It has been an honor and a privilege to serve in this capacity. I hope that I have helped all voices to be heard and decisions to be made in a fair and honest manner. It is not always easy to facilitate difficult decisions but, with the help of all who serve this congregation, I think we have arrived at thoughtful consensus, always with the option of revisiting decisions, reconsidering positions in light of new information, and always listening to each other with fair and open minds. We are truly blessed in each other; this congregation enriches me and my life. Thanks to all of you and with fervent wishes for peace in our time in this beautiful world.

DEACONS

CHERYL MUTH

In the annual report for last year it was mentioned that the Deacons wanted to be more visible and engaging. This year we have certainly attained that goal. We have witnessed many changes and transitions starting with having only one minister going into the summer months. The Deacons supported Jeff by helping with worship from reading scripture to leading Children's time. Assisting with Baptisms, and Communion were all part of the Deacons responsibilities. In September we welcomed Stephanie Edwards as a new Deacon. In October we had our Deacons retreat at Camp Buxton, a Boy Scout Camp where we had a great time with team building activities then finished the retreat with a book discussion of "The Future of Faith". Throughout the year, we attended Confirmation classes with Rev. Sharon Key leading the class. Christmas and Easter plants were delivered continuing our tradition of visiting the sick, home bound, and recently bereaved.

The New Year started with Cheryl Muth serving on the Search Committee for a new Associate minister. Laity Sunday was planned to include a sacred dance, learned at a workshop held here at church.

As is our tradition, Valentines were hand made by the Deacons and the congregation and sent out. We participated in the Ash Wednesday and Maundy Thursday services, both were well attended. In March we attended and served refreshments at Ellen Brady's Ecclesiastical Council held here. We volunteered with the Mobile Loaves and Fishes truck. We made monetary contributions to the East Bay Crop Walk and Mobile Loaves and Fishes. Through the Deacons Fund, we continue to provide help to those in need in our church community as well as the local community.

With the new Bylaw changes there will be 10-12 Deacons serving. The Deacons will now oversee the Chancel, Music and Ushering teams.

We look forward to working with a new Associate minister and continue to find new ways of engaging the congregation in different forms of worship and strengthening our connection through serving in as many ways as we can. At the time of writing, we are in need of 4 men and 1 woman. If you are interested, please talk to a Deacon.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND YOUTH MINISTRIES TEAM

KRISTEN WESTMORELAND and ANDREA BULLARD

It was a busy year without an Associate Minister. In August, Elizabeth Barnum left for her new calling in Michigan. We will remember her fondly each time we walk the labyrinth or see the fruits of her labor in our Godly Play and OWL classrooms, curriculums Elizabeth introduced to BCCUCC.

To help fill some of the gaps left after Elizabeth's departure, several personnel changes were made. The Rev. Sharon Key was hired to lead confirmation and assist Jeff where needed. Alison Fodor was hired to lead the Senior Pilgrim Fellowship and the mission trip. Finally, Andrea Bullard's hours as CE Coordinator were increased.

For the sixth year we offered Godly Play for children in pre-kindergarten through 6th grade. It was challenging to fill the many teacher and door keeper positions having lost a few of our key storytellers (including Elizabeth). A very dedicated core of volunteers rose to meet this challenge; and included some of our middle school and high school students. In the spirit of Godly Play's youth-centered focus, we even had a fifth grade student tell a story to the 5th and 6th grade classroom! The 7th and 8th graders participated in a yearlong course on world religions, which included an up close look at the Torah at Temple Habonim, a discussion with an atheist, and a presentation on the history of the Warren Baptist Church.

Nursery care was provided throughout the year by two paid staff members and youth volunteers.

The curriculum year began on September 8th with Gathering Sunday followed by an all church luncheon of celebration. Teachers were trained in the curriculum and Safe Church Policy with both in-house and outside trainings, the latter facilitated by Godly Play personnel.

We trained two new facilitators in the Our Whole Lives curriculum. This faith-based, holistic sexuality education program was offered to students in grades 7-9 last year. This year the program was offered to 10th-12th grade students. On October 20th, parents of interested students were oriented to the program and on November 3rd we began the program with six committed students. Four classes were planned for Sundays from 10:30am-5pm. To help the participants with exam study the last session was subsequently divided into two shorter sessions held on two consecutive Sundays. Kristen Westmoreland was joined by the two new facilitators, Andrea Bullard and Ray Zarlengo (who each completed 25 hours of training). The sessions concluded with an art project resulting in rainbow garden stakes now on display in the gardens around the church buildings. These stakes are a visible symbol to show that all are welcome at BCCUCC. We look forward to offering the OWL program to middle school students next year.

To promote community gathering, we hosted a Labyrinth Workshop and potluck dinner with the assistance of Peggy Matteson and Leslie Simonson who are charged by the RI Conference with promoting health and wellness in UCC churches in RI. An additional potluck dinner held in November showcased various talents of our congregation.

Children's offerings were collected each week and sent to a sponsored child through the UCC Global Youth Ministries Sponsorship Program. We have kept in contact with Rinchin Lhamu, a seven year old girl in India, through a new program where our students learn about life at the orphanage and create cards, etc to send to her. We also set a lofty Lenten goal of collecting \$5000 to "fill an ark" through the Heifer program. We were thrilled to actually collect over \$6500 which will be doubled by a matching contribution!

CEYM hosted both Advent and Lenten craft fairs where children participated in an array of themed projects. The traditional Easter egg hunt was as popular as ever.

The Senior Pilgrim Fellowship was restarted this year under the leadership of Alison Fodor. Regular meetings were held and many of the participants went on the April Mission trip to Pittsburgh. Fundraisers included Superbowl Salsa in February, and a French Toast Breakfast in March.

Our Junior Pilgrim Fellowship (JPF), led this year by Laurie Dubel, Ginger Stabach, and Kim Zeleznik, met regularly for exciting events such as snow tubing at Yawgoo, pizza and game night, soup kitchen serving, and Christmas caroling at area nursing homes. A group from JPF also raised funds via an all night rock-a-thon and ventured to NYC for the overnight program at St. John the Divine Cathedral, a program the group hopes to repeat every three years.

The final church school activity for the year was Jubilation Sunday on May 18th. Using the theme of diversity, the Creation story was told in a participatory manner and the youth-focused service included the painting of a rainbow mural. The service was followed by a CEYM-hosted lunch.

MISSION AND JUSTICE MINISTRY TEAM

ANN DORAN

At the Special Congregational Meeting held on 4/27/2014 the name of the 'Justice and Witness Ministry Team' was changed to 'Mission and Justice Ministry Team'.

The following activities and events took place during the course of our calendar year:

- TAP-IN Food Drive - The annual Thanksgiving food collection resulted in 35 bags of mashed potatoes and brownie mix (Tap-In's request) being collected. All bags were delivered on November 10th. In addition, Judy Harff's Girl Scout Troop donated their own collection of food and volunteered to help stock the shelves.
- CHILDREN'S HEALTH - a special presentation on the plight of undernourished children around the world was given by Navyn Salem, founder of EDESIA. A beautiful slide presentation illustrated the dire need of starving children and the subsequent success her 'Plumpy'Nut' products have had in restoring their health. This eye-opening event was very much appreciated by all who attended.
- MITTEN TREE & GIVING TREE – Annual Christmas event yielded a collection of 62 hats, 27 scarves, 68 pairs of mittens and 3 pairs of socks, all of which were delivered to Amos House by Stephanie Edwards. The Giving Tree raised \$1000 for the Women's Resource Center of Bristol and Newport Counties.
- HEALTH FAIR - A very successful and well-received event highlighting our theme of "Health and Wellness" was held on February 2nd during coffee hour. Judy Harff was instrumental in organizing various advocates and purveyors of healthy nutrition, non-toxic products for the body and home, exercise, massage, and yoga. The congregation was treated to exceptionally healthy snacks!
- ANNUAL REGINA F. BERENBACK CONVERSATION - This yearly memorial event featured Kristen Gourlay, RI Public Radio's healthcare reporter. Approximately 40 people attended including Steve Berenback, his family and friends. Despite the publicity efforts and flyers posted around town, only church members were in attendance. However, it was well done, and Kristen was presented with a speaker's honorarium of \$350 from the church. In order to boost attendance, a change of venue and perhaps a collaborative effort with another church/temple is being explored for next year.
- FUNDRAISER - 2ND STORY THEATER - *Le Dindon*, a French farce/comedy was the chosen play. The event was a great success and enjoyed by everyone. We look forward to offering a 'repeat performance' with this event next year. 37 tickets were sold at \$25 each, of which \$9 per ticket was profit, yielding a total of \$333. Our chosen recipient of the funds was the Hope Center in Cranston.
- CROP WALK - An annual community event sponsored by the Church World Service to educate and raise funds on global hunger has participants from several churches in town. Although the event did not attract as many from BCCUCC as we'd like, Helen Schall

exceeded her fundraising goal with a total of \$560. More participation by families and forming teams of young people (PF) will be encouraged next year.

- HOLY JOE'S CAFE - This non-profit supported by UCC ministry provides coffee and spiritual care for U.S. troops in war zones. Our annual collection basket is on the coffee hour table every spring, and this year a total of \$207 was raised - \$100 coming from a single donor.
- EARTH DAY - Sharon Sylvester coordinated the effort to celebrate Earth Day with gorgeous floral sprays lining the aisles of the church this year. All flowers and branches came from members gardens, and it was a beautiful and uplifting display!

FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS - The committee's \$1000 budget was distributed to the following organizations in 2013:

- \$250 Pawtucket Soup Kitchen
- \$150 CROP Walk
- \$200 TAP-IN
- \$100 Bread for the World
- \$100 RI Interfaith Coalition to Reduce Poverty
- \$150 Mobile Loaves & Fishes
- \$ 50 Interfaith Power & Light

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS MINISTRY TEAM

PAUL DENNIS

The Buildings and Grounds Team accomplished several major tasks this past year. Last summer the carpeting in the sanctuary was replaced. All the shingle roofs on the Church and Education Building were completely replaced. A very important project was the conversion from oil to gas fired heating boilers. Both buildings are now using gas. In addition, the office and library now have new heating and cooling systems in part paid for by some very generous donations. The new equipment is highly efficient which will save us money and be more environmentally friendly.

Many smaller projects and regular maintenance help to keep our facilities in good condition. Thanks goes to our custodial staff and the help of the office staff as well as many volunteers to fulfill our mission.

MEMBERSHIP MINISTRY TEAM

JANE TONN

We continue to welcome visitors to worship with gifts and hospitality, organize greeters for each Sunday service, and provide information at coffee hour about the church's programs and activities. As with other ministry teams, our members serve at coffee hour, participate in the Soup Kitchen, and send a representative to Church Council meetings.

This year Membership Team members continued to wear neon green nametags to be easily identified to visitors and be available to answer questions. We also check to make sure that coffee mugs or CDs and Welcome Brochures are available for ushers to give out to visitors new to the church during worship. The Welcome Center, which serves as a place where folks can sign up to greet, order nametags, and obtain information about church events and activities continues to be set up during coffee in the Fellowship Hall at various times throughout the year.

The team is involved in hosting new members as they join the church family. In conjunction with the deacons and the ministers, members of the Membership Team meet for info sessions with folks interested in joining the church. We meet with new members before the service, assist with the signing of the church membership book, give corsages, take photographs to be displayed at the entrance to Fellowship Hall, and provide a cake at New Member Sunday coffee hour. Brief bios of new members are submitted for publication in *The Bridge*. In November 2013 we welcomed 2 new members into the congregation and again in April 2014 we welcomed another two members. In May 2013 our team welcomed 6 confirmands by hosting a continental breakfast for them and their families before worship.

Membership's major task of church year 2013-2014 was to arrange with LifeTouch, a church directory company, to create a new photo directory. Six days were scheduled for picture taking and 103 families had photos taken by LifeTouch photographers. An additional 16 families submitted their own family photos for inclusion in the book. LifeTouch offers an Internet hosting service for participating churches. We hope that a link from our recently updated web page with logon and password security will give electronic access to our new church directory by fall 2014.

MUSIC MINISTRY TEAM

CLYDE and MARY LOU SLICKER

Music plays important parts in our worship services by helping to set meaningful tones for our common experiences and by enriching the meanings of the messages, prayers, and worship atmospheres that are created. Jeff develops a theme and focus for each service and chooses specific hymns; while Marina (Senior Choir) and Kate Colby (Sing and Celebrate Choir) select appropriate music for our choirs. The services are enriched by instrumentalists and guest musicians such as Greg Voigt, Christine Wallis, Dennis Pratt, Laura Ward, folk singers, an outside bell group and hopefully in the near future, Heather Williamson with a chamber music group and Pat Stoddard with our own bell choir.

We have followed up on congregational suggestions that our choir music become more varied in musical styles and backgrounds; plus the senior choir occasionally moved its singing location from the rear of the sanctuary to the front. Variation continued by having the choir accompanied by the organ, the piano, or no instrument at all.

If you have any suggestions for other musical pieces or changes, speak to Jeff, Marina, Kate or Pat Stoddard.

USHERING MINISTRY

BETHIA ROSNER

The Ushering Ministry is composed of 20 volunteers with 5 substitutes at present. More would be most welcome. These people prepare the sanctuary before each service and clean up and restore order afterwards. They greet and seat the congregation on arrival, provide microphones for Announcements and for Joys and Concerns. The ushers also collect and present the offering at the altar.

CHANCEL MINISTRY TEAM

CAROL LOUTTIT and AUDREY ROGERS

The Chancel Team is responsible for maintaining the sanctuary by scheduling weekly flower arrangements for the altar, distributing those arrangements as they see fit to the housebound, recently bereaved, or celebrating a special occasion such as a baptism or wedding anniversary, arranging for cleaning and pressing of the communion linens and polishing the brass and silver trays and plates that are used for different occasions. Chancel is considered a sub-group of the Deacons and is expected to report to the Deacons.

Carol Louttit and Audrey Rogers are co-chairman of this team assisted by Cheryl Muth, Bethia Rosner, Betsy Restituyo and Janet Durfee-Hidalgo. Each Chancel team member is responsible for scheduling two months of donations for two weekly flower arrangements from donors who would like to honor a loved one or a special occasion. Wildflowers Florist in Barrington is no longer providing weekly flowers as the florist has closed. We are now getting the flowers from The Greenery in Warren. The Greenery has agreed to hold the price at \$30 per arrangement with no delivery charge. The Chancel member responsible for getting donations for weekly arrangements is also responsible for letting Christine know by the Wednesday of the preceding week what the donor wants printed in the Sunday Bulletin and to advise the donor that a check for \$30 needs to be sent to the church office.

In 2009 the Chancel Fund was established and is supported by donations at Christmas and Easter to purchase appropriate plants for the season. The Fund provides money to use to enhance the worship service and that can take many forms. For example, during the year the Fund contributed towards the upgrade of the recording system in the sanctuary and we expect to contribute along with Buildings and Grounds a brass rail for the altar. Plants are purchased for decorating the Sanctuary, which is done just before the holiday by members of the Chancel Team. Separate plants are purchased for the Deacons to deliver before the holiday to the housebound, sick or recently bereaved and are provided by the Chancel Fund. Small Christmas trees were delivered to the housebound by the Deacons. Those who donate to the Chancel Fund have their names printed on a special insert in the bulletin on those holidays and there is no set amount for a donation.

The Chancel Team co-hosted the coffee hour in December and is scheduled to participate in the Soup Kitchen in October.

LAY VISITATION MINISTRY TEAM

NANCY MARTIN

Our Lay Visitation Ministry Team extends the warmth of the congregation to those who are limited in full participation in the life of this church. Causes vary from illness, surgery, chronic conditions that restrict mobility, stress from the loss of a loved one, as well as employment demands on one's time. When someone who is committed to our mission of serving each other and is attuned to the work, pleasure and inspiration of this church family makes a connection to those who can't experience its scope directly, it makes a difference. The phone call or visit manifests our care for those dealing with difficult challenges, providing a safe place for them to express healing thoughts and emotions. Of course, we respect the confidentiality of our visitation.

Over the past year, our monthly average for our Homebound list was 1.2 people, Parish Concerns was 23.9 and Bereavement was 28.5 (we carry the names of those who lost a member of their immediate family for two years—grieving can be a lengthy process).

The team of ten members meets at 3:30 PM on the first Monday of the month from September through June in the church library. We welcome new members who feel called to share in supporting each other in this service. Please contact Nancy Martin (401-273-1078) with your questions and interest.

PASTOR PARISH RELATIONS TEAM

No report was submitted but the team has continued to meet on a regular basis with the minister.

STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY TEAM

STEVE FODOR & SUSAN ROTBLAT-WALKER

The Stewardship Team's theme for this year is "Living in Covenant." One definition of covenant found in the dictionary is "a promise or a pledge."

When we join BCCUCC we agree to be in "covenant" with everyone else at BCCUCC and the entire UCC membership on our common journey of faith. We promise to support their faith as our faith, their goals as our goals, and our efforts to their needs.

When we baptize kids at BCCUCC, we as a congregation, promise to love and support those kids as our own kids. It is one of the more beautiful things we do. We are a "covenant" community of believers.



This year again, we conducted a mailed pledge campaign this spring, including telephone and e-mail follow-up with those who did not respond. Results so far are on the next page:

| | |
|---|------------------------|
| | \$ |
| Fiscal 2014* pledges (176) | 380,750 |
| Fiscal 2015** campaign: | |
| Lost pledges (9) | 18,980 |
| New pledges (11) | 11,250 |
| Returning pledges (141) | 341,573 |
| Fiscal 2015** total pledges (152) as of 5/23/2014 | 352,823 (-7.3%) |

* Fiscal 2014 is for the period July 2013 - June 2014

** Fiscal 2015 is for the period July 2014 - June 2015

PS: We are looking for some help on the Stewardship team this next year.

TREASURER'S REPORT

JOHN LOERKE & FRED MACDONALD

In view of the adoption of the June 30 fiscal year, the Summary of Financial Activity and Financial Position for the 2014 Fiscal Year will be presented in the September, 2014 *Bridge*.

FINANCE MINISTRY TEAM

DICK MCWHIRTER

Finance focused on helping the church achieve the balanced budget approved by the congregation in June 2014. That goal should be met. Finance also worked with the Financial Secretary to resolve issues related to the change in our fiscal year. Finance worked with the Building & Grounds Team in funding major projects which included new roofs for the Education Building and the church, the conversion from oil to gas resulting in significant savings in cost and CO₂ emissions, and new heating and air conditioning systems for the office block and the library.

As this is written we are compiling the fiscal 2015 budget for presentation at the Annual Meeting June 1st. The goal is to again have a balanced budget.

PROPOSED BUDGET FOR JULY 2014 – JUNE 2015 (FISCAL 2015)

At the time of publication, the budget was not ready for inclusion - due to the slow response to the Stewardship Campaign by some of the congregation. The proposed budget will be e-mailed to the congregation prior to the Annual Meeting to be held after worship on June 1st, 2014. Some printed copies will also be available at the meeting.

ENDOWMENT MINISTRY TEAM**ADAM HECHT**

The Endowment team was very busy this year creating an investment policy statement that will give the church a guide for appropriate asset allocation, benchmark comparisons, statement of purpose and means of distribution. We are in our final stages and hope to have this completed for council approval later this year.

The Endowment funds performed very well in 2013 which was helped by an historic year for the S&P 500. The funds paid to the church 5% of the last three year average year end values and still had an increase from 2012.

| | | |
|--|-------------|-----------|
| Ocean State Fund | \$578,275 | Up 17.37% |
| *Year End Allocation: 65% stock / 30% bond / 2% cash | | |
| RI Foundation | \$281,240 | Up 17.70% |
| *Year End Allocation: 60% stock / 7% bond / 30% alternatives / 1% cash | | |
| RIC UCC | \$163,858 | Up 23.56% |
| *Year End Allocation: 81% stock / 14% bond / 5% cash | | |
| Total | \$1,023,373 | |

In addition the ministry is responsible for five designated funds totaling \$95,809 which are managed through RIC UCC. The estimated Income to be paid to the church in the fiscal year 2014 is \$45,200.

Our goal in the coming year is to make the church endowment more visible to the congregation. We plan to resurrect the 1717 Society and have an event this fall which will educate everyone on the importance of having an endowment and ways to give.

AUDITOR'S REPORT**SUSAN ROACH**

I have examined the financial reports for the period January -June 2012 and the year July 2012 - June 2013. While my examination was limited to testing the transactions and balances and would not necessarily disclose all errors, I found no evidence of significant errors or omissions. In my opinion, the financial reports mentioned above are fairly stated. The records were well organized and properly reflect the financial condition of Barrington Congregational Church, UCC.

I want to extend my thanks to Pat Stoddard for all her time and diligent effort.

2014 – 2015 SLATE OF NOMINEES FOR OFFICERS, MINISTRY TEAMS etc

The 2014 By-Laws for our church were approved on 4/27/14. They contain a number of changes that impact how long someone serves on a ministry team and also who is eligible to serve. In addition, some ministry teams were eliminated. The upcoming year of July 2014 – June 2015 is therefore being considered a transition year as the various changes start coming into effect. As a result, no term expiration dates are listed for the ministry teams (except for the deacons) and in some cases there are more members on a team than indicated under the new by-laws.

The slate of nominees to fill the various positions on the ministry teams and to serve as church officers is presented below. * indicates a vacancy yet to be filled.

Please note that under the 2014 By-Laws:

- Officers and delegates are elected annually and cannot serve more than 4 consecutive years in the same capacity.
- Members at Large and ministry teams members serve for a one or two year term (except for Deacons) and cannot serve in the same capacity for more than 4 consecutive years.
- The Deacons serve for a three year renewable term. Their terms are shown as this is the same as in the old by-laws.
- Those who serve on Deacons, Finance, Endowment, and Pastor Parish Relations Teams and all ministry team chairs are to be active or associate members of this church.
- Those who serve on Buildings and Grounds, Christian Education and Youth Ministries, Mission and Justice, Membership, and Stewardship ministry teams are to be active participants in the life of this church.
- The number that appears in parentheses after a ministry team’s name indicates the number of members in the group according to the 2014 By-Laws.

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| <i>Office</i> | <i>Term Expires</i> | <i>Office</i> | <i>Term Expires</i> |
|----------------------|---------------------------|---|---------------------|
| MODERATOR | | AUDITOR | |
| Steve Peck | 2015 | Anne Black | 2015 |
| CLERK | | CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS AT LARGE (2) | |
| * | 2015 | Susan Rotblat-Walker | |
| CO-TREASURERS | | Helen Schall | |
| John Loerke | 2015 3 rd Term | Abby Ashley | |
| Fred MacDonald | 2015 3 rd Term | DELEGATES TO RI CONFERENCE (3 + one youth) | |
| HISTORIAN | | Susan Rotblat-Walker | |
| John Faulhaber | 2015 5 th Term | Laura Ward | |
| | | * | |
| | | * | (youth) |

MINISTRY TEAMS (listed alphabetically)

**BUILDINGS & GROUNDS MINISTRY
TEAM (8)**

Paul Dennis
Steve Cipoletti
Simeon Hawes
Louise House
Jay Buckley
Lori Rosa
Dave Rogers
Sue Terhune

CHANCEL MINISTRY TEAM (4)

Carol Louttit
Audrey Rogers
Bethia Rosner
Cheryl Muth
Betsy Restituyo

**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION & YOUTH
MINISTRIES TEAM (6 + one youth)**

Laurie Dubel
Betsy Resituyo
Kim Zeleznik
Ginger Stabach
Cathleen Joachim
*
Amy Harff (youth)

DEACONS (10 - 12)

| | |
|----------------------|---------------------------|
| Cheryl Muth | 2015 2 nd Term |
| Francis Seader | 2015 2 nd Term |
| Susan Rotblat-Walker | 2015 |
| # | 2015 |
| Liz White | 2016 2 nd Term |
| Greg Voigt | 2016 2 nd Term |
| Stephanie Edwards | 2016 |
| # | 2016 |
| Pat Rude | 2017 2 nd Term |
| * Chris Brady | 2017 |
| * | 2017 |
| * | 2017 |

**ENDOWMENT & INVESTMENT
MINISTRY TEAM (4-6)**

Helen MacDonald
Tom Lennon
Paul Movsesian
Dick McWhirter
Bob Mason
Adam Hecht

FINANCE MINISTRY TEAM (4-6)

Rob Black
Tom Colby
Dick McWhirter
Lynne Lehman

LAY VISITATION MINISTRY TEAM

This is a non-elected group of people.

George Bolton
Rose Marie Bolton
Marcy Goss
Nancy Martin
Lois McCartney
Joan Miller
Janet Morrison
Paula Rooks
Helen Schall
Clyde Slicker
Marjorie Stumpff

MEMBERSHIP MINISTRY TEAM (8)

Beth Buckley
Joanne Ela
Moyne Cabbage
Paula Rooks
Jane Tonn
Kristin Anderson
*
*

**MISSION and JUSTICE MINISTRY
TEAM (4)**

Lory McCoy
Chris Brady
Sharon Sylvester
Joy Hearn
Judy Harff
Stephanie Edwards
Ann Doran

MUSIC MINISTRY TEAM (2)

Rich Simpson
Pat Stoddard
Heather Williamson

PASTOR-PARISH RELATIONS TEAM (5)

*This team is selected by the Moderator,
ministers, and Deacons*

Pat Rude
Marion Fodor
John Muth
Steve Peck
*

STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY TEAM (5)

Steve Fodor
Susan Rotblat-Walker
*
*
*

USHERING MINISTRY TEAM (2)

Bethia Rosner
*

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REPRESENTATION AT RI CONFERENCE and NATIONAL UCC

The following individuals from Barrington Congregational Church, UCC, are currently serving in the capacity indicated:

RI CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST (RICUCC)

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| Ellen Brady | Women of the RI Conference |
| Steve Fodor | Church and Ministry Committee |
| Nancy Martin | Women of the RI Conference |
| Lois McCartney | Women of the RI Conference |
| Lee Miller | Investment Committee |
| Susan Rotblat-Walker | VP of Stewardship Development, Women of the RI Conference |
| Helen Schall | Member at Large, Personnel Committee, Hispanic Support Committee, Women of the RI Conference (Chair) |
| Trish Sylvester | Haiti Division |



FROM THE CHURCH RECORDS

May 22, 2013 – May 20, 2014

This report covers the 12+ month period from mid-May 2013 through mid-May, 2014. The categories shown are also requested each December for the United Church of Christ Yearbook Report (see page ??).

NEW MEMBERS (4)

11/17/13

Adam Hecht
Megan Hecht

4/13/14

Anne Black
Rob Black

CONFIRMATIONS (6)

4/27/14

Johnathan Block
Noelle Cooke
Jack Miniati

Anna Robertson
Benjamin Sylvester
Abby Voigt

MARRIAGES (4)

Kelsey Ann Dennis and Michael Campbell Imhoff
Amanda Sue Constantine and Alejandro Creamer
Lee Randazzo and Lauren Pane
Kimberly Fodor and Luis Fernandez

BAPTISMS

Infants and Children (5)

Noelle Conway Weldy
Zayne Vargas
Elizabeth Margaret Glass
Sydney Grace Blundin
Reese Frances Humm

Adult (0)

DEATHS

Active Members (1)

Andrew Rosner

Inactive Members (4)

Elizabeth Kingsley
Duke Faubert
Berta Snady
Barbara Heyman

Others (4)

Marjorie Puschin
Hazel Briggs
Edgar Briggs
Dianne Eaton

ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP AS OF MAY 21ST, 2013: 389

Between May 22nd, 2013 and May 20th, 2014 the following changes occurred:

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Additions to Active Membership (12) | Losses to Active Membership (3) |
| 6 - Confirmation | 1 - Death |
| 4 - New Members | 2 - other reasons (moved away, were inactive, etc) |
| 2 - Moved back to Active | |

ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP AS OF MAY 20TH, 2014: 389 + 12 – 3 = 398

(see below for further explanation)

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MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

reflecting changes in membership that occurred between January 1st and December 31st, 2013

The membership statistics are collected at the end of each calendar year and reflect the changes that took place during that year. They are then submitted to the National Office of the United Church of Christ in the form of the Yearbook Report, and appear in the UCC Yearbook.

Active Membership as of 12/31/2013 was 389 (see following table for breakdown).

| | |
|---|-----|
| <i>From the Yearbook Report Form:</i> | |
| Statistics for January 1 – December 31, 2013 | |
| Active Membership as of 12/31/2012 | 381 |
| Additions during year: | |
| Confirmation | 9 |
| Confession of Faith | 0 |
| Letters of Transfer | 0 |
| Reaffirmation of Faith | 8 |
| Losses during year: | |
| Death | 2 |
| Transfer | 4 |
| Other removals | 3 |
| Active Membership as of 12/31/2013 | 389 |

Note: The information listed on the previous page and the top of this page reflect those changes that took place between May 22nd, 2013 and May 20th, 2014, as opposed to the information directly above, which is for changes between January 1st and December 31st, 2013.

Between January 1, 2014 and May 20, 2014 there were the following changes in ACTIVE membership:

- + 2 New Members
- + 6 New Members (by Confirmation)
- + 2 Reinstatement to Active Membership
- 1 Death of Active Member

ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP AS OF MAY 20TH, 2014 is $389 + 2 + 6 + 2 - 1 = 398$

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Barrington Congregational Church

United Church of Christ

461 County Road,

Barrington, RI 02806

Telephone: (401) 246-0111

e-mail address: office@bccucc.org

website: www.bccucc.org

Facebook page: www.facebook.com/bccucc

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Senior Minister: The Rev. Dr. Jeffrey W. Larsen

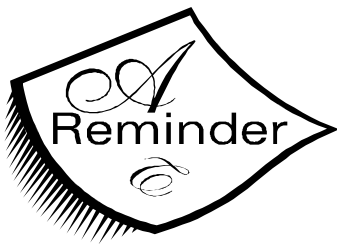
Organist/Choir Director: Marina Zabinski

Office Administrator: Christine Wallis

Financial Secretary: Patricia Stoddard

Christian Education Coordinator: Andrea Bullard

**Custodians: Jack Salvaggio, Jim Salvaggio,
Paul Dzedzic, John Cordeiro**



All are invited to attend the

Annual Meeting

of the Barrington Congregational Church, UCC on

SUNDAY, JUNE 1ST, 2014

immediately following worship in the Sanctuary.

As always, church members are encouraged to make every effort
to attend this very important church meeting.

Child care will be provided.

Coffee hour will take place in Fellowship Hall after the Annual Meeting.