

Barrington Congregational Church,
United Church of Christ
Barrington, Rhode Island

2022 ANNUAL REPORT



All church members are encouraged to attend the

ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, June 12th, 2022

in the Sanctuary

immediately after the 10 a.m. worship service

Childcare will be provided

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WARRANT
for the 2022 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 in the Sanctuary **immediately after worship** on **SUNDAY, JUNE 12TH, 2022.**

The business to be transacted is as follows:

- ARTICLE I: To call the meeting to order.
- ARTICLE II: To make a By-Laws revision retitling the Christian Education and Youth Ministry team to the Faith Formation and Youth Ministry team.
- ARTICLE III: To share a presentation on the long-term financial sustainability of our Church.
- ARTICLE IV: To receive and vote on the slate of nominees for officers, ministry teams, and delegates.
- ARTICLE V: To consider any other business that may properly come before the meeting.
- ARTICLE VI: To adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted:

Greg Voigt, Clerk

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MINUTES of the 2021 ANNUAL MEETING
of the BARRINGTON CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC
held JUNE 13TH, 2021 via Zoom

A **quorum** was in attendance via ZOOM conference.

Meeting commenced at 11:10 AM with Tom Strolla presiding as Moderator.

Articles of the Meeting were announced as:

- 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 receive and vote on the slate of nominees for the vacancies on the Search Committee to fill the position of Associate Minister for Congregational Life.
- ARTICLE IV: To consider any other business that may properly come before the meeting.
- ARTICLE V: To adjourn the meeting.

Joanne D’Adamo presented the slate of officers and announced that there were a fair amount of vacancies that affected the Finance and Stewardship ministry teams. She indicated a solicitation for volunteers to fill those vacancies and to name an additional Member-at-Large

would be placed in the e-Bridge. Joe Judge motioned that the slate of officers and ministry team members be approved, Trinkie Brueckner seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously approved.

Tom Strolla presented three members to be added to the Associate Minister Search Committee. They were: Vanessa Kiley, Kim Colby and Gloria Hwang-Forzono. Helen Schall motioned that the new members be approved, Pat Stoddard seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously approved.

Other Business – No other business was discussed.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:16 AM.

Faithfully submitted,

Gregory A. Voigt, Church Clerk

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**MINUTES of the 2022 ANNUAL BUDGET MEETING
of the BARRINGTON CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC
held JANUARY 23RD, 2022 via Zoom**

A **quorum** was in attendance via ZOOM conference.

Meeting commenced at 11:30 AM with Tom Strolla presiding as Moderator.

Articles of the Meeting were announced as: 1) To call the meeting to order; 2) To review and vote on the proposed church budget for January 1-December 31, 2022; 3) To Consider any other business that may properly come before the meeting; 4) To Adjourn the meeting.

Chair of Finance Reviewed 2021 BCCUCC Financials, and Proposed 2022 BCCUCC Budget: Tom Colby indicated 2021 year-end balance sheet was not yet final owing to a \$23,000 gift received in 2021 that was to be booked for 2022. In terms of 2022 budgeting, he noted the following items:

- 1) 2022 pledges were down \$15,000 as 10 pledging units for 2021 had not renewed pledges for 2022;
- 2) two large gifts totaling \$73,000 booked for 2022 were very beneficial to the bottom line;
- 3) 2021 endowment investment performance was strong and an additional \$4000 from interest/dividends would be received by the church in 2022 making endowment income of \$86,500;
- 4) bottom line 2022 budgeting indicated an increase of income v. expenses of \$56,000 when comparing 2022 with 2021;
- 5) 2022 expenses are going up for healthcare for Associate Minister, custodial support and heating/fuel;
- 6) marketing and special ministry expense line items in the 2021 budget have been removed in the 2022 budget;

- 7) conference dues decreased by 1% 2022 v. 2021;
- 8) 2022 budget presented indicates a \$17,461 surplus (mostly accounted for by the gifts received and booked for 2022. If not for gifts, 2022 budget would show a \$45,000 deficit which is not sustainable, and the church council would be deliberating over ways to make operating the church in more feasible ways in the future).

Tom concluded by indicating he felt comfortable with the church's financial posture in 2022-2023.

A motion to approve the budget with adjustments was put forth by Sue Rotblat-Walker and seconded by Phyllis Buckley. Tom Strolla polled the members present for questions, and thanked Tom Colby for all his and the Finance Ministry Team's work on putting the budget together. With no questions, a vote was called to approve the church budget for church year 2022-2023 and the budget was unanimously approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 AM.

Faithfully submitted,

Gregory A. Voigt, Church Clerk

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Reports from our Ministers

SENIOR MINISTER

DALE AZEVEDO

This past year was again a trying year for our church. The COVID pandemic has continued to impact our ministries, interpersonal connections, and finances. Saying that, there have also been wonderful blessings throughout the same time.

Last summer we were thrilled to begin hosting in-person worship after nearly 16 months of virtual services. At the time our COVID precautions included seating being limited to every other pew, all persons wearing masks, and no singing allowed. In time, as the pandemic numbers continued to decline, we eased up on these regulations and began to enjoy communal singing once again. Unfortunately, with the rise of the Omicron variant in January, we were once again forced to pivot, reinstating many of our prior policies. However, as Easter approached, case numbers dropped dramatically, and we were able to hold Easter services with minimal COVID precautions. It was a beautiful day!

Another significant impact from the pandemic was me taking sabbatical time this year. I realized throughout the summer, and especially with start of fall, that I was fairly burned out from the non-stop adaptations to our ministry needed through the prior 18 months. My request for sabbatical was approved by the church leadership and it was agreed that I would take my sabbatical from late November through late February. The thought was, at the time, that COVID was winding down. Obviously, it did not. However, I was still able to take my sabbatical and found it a much-needed respite and time of renewal. I returned far more inspired and enthusiastic than I had anticipated. I want to lift up a special "thank you" to Racquel, the staff, the deacons,

and all our lay leadership for their tremendous support and work during my time away. You are all a blessing!

Speaking of Racquel, we have been blessed to welcome Racquel Ray onto our staff. Racquel began as our part-time acting associate minister following Linda Hartley's departure. When I announced my sabbatical, Racquel was asked to take on a full-time role and fill in as the solo pastoral presence during my time away. She served amazingly well and navigated both the COVID changes as well as the church's ministries with grace and faith. She has been a joy to work with. Additionally, we were able to celebrate her ordination here at BCCUCC on May 1st. What a joyous well-deserved day it was!

Continuing further along these lines, our search for a settled associate minister is progressing nicely. After taking a break through the initial year of the pandemic, the search committee resumed its work last fall. We have had a busy year of preparing the profile and working with our new Area Conference Minister. The profile should go live sometime between the writing of this report and its being published. Despite the pandemic's impact on our finances, the church remains committed to maintaining the full-time nature of this position for the foreseeable future.

Finally, I want to take a moment and look ahead at the year to come. It is clear now that COVID will remain a part of our lives going forward. However, with the development of a vaccine, it appears as though we have moved beyond the deadliest stages of the pandemic. We are learning to adapt and move forward. We have spent much of this past year re-engaging with many of our past ministries and we anticipate doing even more over the next year. We hope that periodic suspensions of our ministries will cease to be necessary going forward. We can always hope!

In the meantime, we put our trust in God and continue to do our best during these trying times. Although attendance is down due to the uncertainty of the past two years, our nucleus is strong, and we have capable leaders continuing to step up. We are blessed in so many ways that we anticipate continuing to share that blessing with our community and beyond!

ASSOCIATE MINISTER (ACTING)

RACQUEL RAY

The past year certainly has been one of joys and surprises. When I joined BCCUCC in September of 2020 it was part-time for "about 3 months" as we searched for our settled Associate Pastor. Within a few weeks of starting, we learned that our Senior Minister would be taking Sabbatical from Thanksgiving until President's Day. I shifted from part-time to full-time and from Chaplain to Pastor to cover Dale's absence. And that gave me about five weeks to learn 'everything' about BCCUCC to lead us through the winter. It was challenging and we did it. I was ordained along the way on May 1, 2022!

I believe that the role of Associate Minister is not merely as a transitional step toward Senior Minister. It is a vital ministry in developing the breadth and depth of our community efforts. I support the Senior Minister's vision and serve as a partner in prayer, worship, and pastoral care. I support the congregation by serving as a partner in team ministries, family supports, education, formation, and outreach.

One of the requests of the congregation was to restore Youth Ministry to the church. We did it. We began in Fall of 2021 meeting weekly with a short covid pause. BCCUCC Junior Youth Group has a consistent membership of 5 middle school students. The group has formed a strong bond as the ‘founding members’ (as they call themselves) of the restored group. As this group grows, they will be able to engage in the opportunities for O.W.L and Confirmation also.

Deacons were an integral part of our success with Dale’s Sabbatical. Each Deacon Amy, Steve, Jane, Carol, Pat, Jeff, Lory, and Nancy shared the role of worship leader. Each week a ‘Special Deacon’ volunteered to assist with worship. As we celebrated Thanksgiving, Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, and a Baptism together we also remained fluid and flexible with changing covid protocols. Each week, our deacons made the work and worship possible. Including one very precious New Year’s Baptism.

Church Staff were essential in our work throughout Dale’s Sabbatical as well. Christine, Pat, Andrea, Marina, John, and Jay all coached me on BCCUCC etiquette and tradition. Things like the greenery at Advent and the Creche set-up, things like blogs and bulletins, and things like eBridge and budgets at BCCUCC were all new to me in this context. And congregational experts such a Paul Dennis and Dick McWhirter taught me about this campus.

In addition to Deacons and Staff, our Tech Team folks were amazing in helping to curate our services. They were willing, weekly, to shift platforms as needed while we pivoted with each covid transition.

With all of that support from Staff, Tech, and Deacons, I could focus on the work of the Ministry. I was able to accompany Al Butler’s family through the grieving process and Al’s burial. That same week, I did the same for David Gregory and his four fabulous daughters and their families. I was also available for local funeral homes and bereavement support for those in hospice care and families who lost loved ones.

I partnered with the Faith Formation and Youth Ministry (FFaYM) Team as we reestablished Youth Ministry and navigated Church School and Family Activities around covid. Andrea taught me about All Ages Worship services. The details of the FFaYM activities are listed in their report. Members of the team co-led youth groups with me. The highlight of my work with FFaYM this past year was the Christmas Story Stroll.

The Christmas Story Stroll was a huge success on Christmas Eve 2021. It was a group effort from the entire congregation with each church ministry team signing up to sponsor a ‘station’ of the story. As covid concerns over hosting a large crowd indoors brought us to innovative ministry solutions, our FFaYM team helped me design the stations of the Christmas Story Stroll. The stroll drew an outdoor crowd of over 150 people as they celebrated the traditional Christmas Pageant in a new way. Guests were welcomed with Christmas music and warm cider (Helfrichs, Antonese), the Annunciation (Kathy S. and Jibby), Mary & Joseph (Tim, Amy, and Sophie), the Shepherds and Angels (Drury, Helfrichs, Formans, Carol S., Violet M.), and the Nativity Scene (Forzanos, Formans, Fernandez, Bradys) and ‘Silent Night’ and the HUGE lit star (Colbys). Short visitors were given Christmas gift bags from Andrea. In addition, the scenery, lighting, music, and decorations were quickly set-up in the snow by many volunteers! And God blessed us with a beautiful evening of light snow and much joy!

Lent in the Labyrinth was also a sacred journey. With weekly Wednesday hour of prayer time in the labyrinth we journeyed through Lent in ANY weather. Beginning with a snowy night, we

watched the crocus bloom, the leaves bud, and the earth warm. Dale and I prayerfully created the Lenten programming with the ribbons and cross representing the weekly prayers of the congregation. And I was in awe of God's presence with us as the ribbons on the cross generated their own static electricity as they blew in the wind on Good Friday and Easter Day.

I partnered with the Mission and Justice Team and invited guest speakers to share the pulpit for MLK Sunday (Rev. Dr. Cynthia Smothers), from Swim Empowerment (Ray Rickman), and for Green Sunday (Rev. Emma Brewer-Wallin). The outreach ministries of the M&J Team were very successful as a result of our work. Throughout Lent I led the Environmental Justice Bible Study as we prepared for Green Sunday and the visit from Rev. Brewer-Wallin, the Environmental and Economic Justice Minister for the SNEUCC.

I worked with the Lay Visitation team. This team meets monthly to review parish concerns, check-in with homebound members, and support those in bereavement. The highlights of their work are in the Lay Visitation Team report. I am grateful that this team is available and willing to enhance our community ministry efforts! The list of concerns is updated regularly and is provided to the Deacons for flower deliveries at Christmas and Easter.

The Associate Minister has the flexibility to devote time to community outreach and fostering partnerships. I partnered with Mike Messore, Barrington Public School Superintendent and Dave Tinagero, St. Andrew's Headmaster, offering support if the schools face an emergency and with ongoing covid stress and anxiety. We partnered with other clergy as Dale and I led Sunrise Easter Service with Pastor Andrew Simon from St. James Lutheran Church. We also joined the community for PRIDE Day celebrations at Town Hall. As a Veteran and Chaplain, I partnered with Town Hall, City Council Members, volunteers, and invited Chaplain Rotunda East from the Veterans Administration Hospital in Providence for the 2022 Memorial Day Observances in Barrington. I have been invited to be a visiting chaplain to the VA hospital and to the RI State Trooper women.

Over the coming year, I hope to be considered for the settled Associate Minister position. And if I am called, my vision is to grow the church through engaging worship that is open, affirming, accessible, accommodating, and welcoming. I plan to continue growth in Youth Ministry opportunities and partnerships in the FFaYM team. I would also like to build on continuing outreach ministries with Barrington Interfaith Partners, Mission and Justice, Green Team, Deacons, Loaves & Fishes, and partner organizations.

Special Reports

ASSOCIATE MINISTER SEARCH COMMITTEE

CHRIS BRADY

The Search Committee for an Associate Minister for Congregational Life was reconvened and reconstituted in Summer 2021 after being suspended due to ongoing pandemic induced uncertainty. Some of the original members of the committee were unable to return so Gloria Hwang-Forzano, Vanesa Kiley and Kim Colby joined holdovers from 2020 Kim Fodor Fernandez, Jane Tonn, Chris Brady (chair) and Rev. Dale Azevedo. We worked as a team and with Rev. Patty Kogut at the Conference to update, clarify and fine tune the church profile. We will be releasing the profile and start accepting applicant profiles in June 2022.

Reports from our Church Officers

MODERATOR

TOM STROLLA

As we returned to in-person worship on June 27th, 2021 (and continued with online services), it has been another incredibly busy, challenging, and yet still rewarding year in the life of our church. As you read the annual reports of our ministry teams, you can clearly see the dedication and deep faith each team has it goes about its work.

The ministry of Rev. Dr. Dale Azevedo has continued to bless us. As the Rev. Dr. Linda Hartley left us in September 2021, we were again blessed by the arrival of Pastor Racquel Ray. As Dale took a much needed and deserved sabbatical in November, Racquel did not miss a beat and continued to lead us on our faith journey. She has also revitalized the youth groups. We are fortunate to have them, and we thank them for their unending faith, humor, and for challenging our faith and help us grow spiritually.

We did have highlights this year, but one of the most satisfying was the way in which so many people stepped up while Dale was away. I was not surprised to see this as this is what BCCUCC has always done. Another highlight was the Ecclesiastical Council and ordination of the now Reverend Racquel Ray. Following Dale along his cross-country journey with Jonathan (his jeep) was also a highlight. And, of course, Dale's return was a joy for all of us.

I would also like to thank the members of Church Council for their incredible dedication this past year. Your work is appreciated, as is all the work of the various ministry teams including the Associate Minister Search Committee. I would also like to thank the office staff for all the work they do throughout the year.

On a personal note, I have enjoyed being your moderator this past year and look forward to doing it again this upcoming year. While it has its challenges and difficulties, I find it to be a truly rewarding experience and I am thankful for the opportunity to serve. I continue to feel blessed to be a part of this great church and church family. We have accomplished much in this year, and we have more of God's work to do. I can't wait to see what is ahead of us. Peace.

AUDITOR

JOHN LOERKE

I performed review procedures on the Church's financial records for the twelve months ended December 31, 2021. No material issues in our internal controls or report balances were noted. Internal control procedures required minor modifications to cope with COVID.

TREASURER

LEO DRURY & BARBARA WUTH

Operations

Better than anticipated revenue and less than expected staff expenses, in part due to reduced health insurance costs, produced income of \$17,116 (adjusted to remove PPP Loan forgiveness) compared to the budgeted deficit of \$17,374.

The key continuing revenue category, Pledge income, was 3.5% above budget. Rental income returned to normal and got a further boost from rent of the Nathaniel Road parsonage.

Capital Improvements

Sources of capital improvement funding:

Contribution from Operations	\$21,151
Carriage Sheds Project Donations	32,445
Riverwalk Landscaping Donations	21,000
Interest Income	<u>3</u>
Total	\$74,599

Major capital improvement items:

Carriage Sheds Project	8,206
Riverwalk Landscaping	21,200
Fireside Parsonage Exterior Painting	11,635
Nathaniel Parsonage Boiler Replacement	<u>5,650</u>
Total	\$46,691

Memorial donations funded extensive landscaping improvements costing \$21,000 at the church end of the Riverwalk. There was a great response from the congregation for the Carriage Sheds Improvement project raising over \$32,000, of which most costs will be incurred in 2022. Transfers from Operations funded maintenance to our parsonages.

Endowment

The Endowment Fund experienced a third straight year of exceptional performance, increasing 14.7% before contributions and disbursements to nearly \$2.5 million while additions totaled \$25,072.

Summary of Financial Activity and Financial Position for 2021

Statement of Activities for the Year Ended December 31, 2021

	Operations	Capital Improvements	Endowment ^{Note A}	Total
Revenues				
Pledges, Gifts and Offerings	\$414,490	\$75,949 ^{Note B}	\$25,072	\$515,511 ^{Note F}
Investment Income or Loss	82,612 ^{Note C}	0	342,497	425,109
Rentals	21,686	0	0	21,686
Other	74,811 ^{Note D}	0	0	74,811
Total Revenues	\$593,599	\$75,949	\$367,569	\$1,037,117
Expenses				
Staff	\$305,947	0	0	\$305,947
Office	15,595	0	0	15,595
Church Life/Christian Education	35,578 ^{Note E}	0	0	35,578
Buildings & Grounds	98,864	0	0	98,864
Capital Improvement	20,000	48,041	0	68,041 ^{Note F}
Missions, Disbursements & Fees	36,798	0	91,162 ^{Note C}	127,960
Total Expenses	\$512,782	\$48,041	\$91,162	\$651,985
Change in Net Assets	80,817	27,908	276,407	385,132
Net Assets 12/31/20	85,660	23,902	2,187,081	2,296,643
Net Assets 12/31/21	\$166,477	\$51,810 ^{Note G}	\$2,463,488	\$2,681,775

Statement of Financial Position for the Year Ended December 31, 2021

Assets				
Cash and Investments	\$311,104	\$67,758	\$2,463,488	\$2,842,349
Receivables and Other Assets	26,832	0	0	26,832
Total Assets	\$337,935	\$67,758	\$2,463,488	\$2,869,181
Deferred Income & Liabilities				
Funds for Designated Purposes	170,773	27,025 ^{Note H}	0	197,798
Other	685	(11,077) ^{Note I}	0	(10,392)
Total Liabilities	171,458	15,948	0	187,406
Net Assets	\$166,477	\$51,810	\$2,463,488	\$2,681,775

Notes to the Financial Statements

- A The Endowment account balance is held in various funds 17% of which are subject to terms significantly restricting the Church's use of the principal balance.
- B Includes receipts from Operations of \$21,151.
- C Includes disbursements from Endowment Funds to Operations Investment Income of \$82,500.
- D Includes PPP Loan forgiveness of \$63,800 and Chancel of \$4,200.
- E Includes Hybrid Worship Project of \$23,174.
- F Total does not eliminate transfer from Operations to Capital Improvement of \$20,000.
- G Includes amount designated for the Shed Renovation project of \$24,239.
- H Amount is Flood and Property Damage reserve.
- I Amount is Due from Operations.

Summer, fall, winter, spring, the Covid 19 Pandemic has remained with us since early 2020. Our beloved church building and educational building initially remained completely closed for more than 12 months. A new group called the Moving Forward Team met to regularly assess our community's risk of virus spread, and informed leadership and the congregation of recommended safety protocols. Worship services as well all meetings, even our Annual Meeting, were held using the technology platform of Zoom. The Worship Technology Team livestreamed the Sunday services so they could be viewed online from the church's website or through the popular social media platform of Facebook. BCCUCC used its own Facebook page and You Tube channel to both livestream and then archive the services for later viewing.

Our first in-person breakthroughs came in late spring of 2021 when small coffee hours began to be held outdoors at various member's homes, the Book Group resumed meetings at a café, and the softball team resumed practices and games. A new 'multi-platform' 'hybrid' worship service began on June 27th, 2021 when Sunday services returned to the sanctuary but continued to be livestreamed - giving the congregation the option to attend in-person or virtually. For those attending in person, strict protocols were put in place: face masks regardless of vaccination status, a sign-in table, seating only in every other pew, no Bibles or hymnals in pews and bulletins distributed by ushers, no passing of offering or communion plates, and no congregational singing.

Towards the end of summer 2021, the virus spread seemed to be abating somewhat and hymnals were returned to pews, and the choir though masked, returned. The education building reopened in September, but visitors had to be masked, windows and classroom doors were to be left open and 20 hours was required between groups using a particular space. Nursery care and church school returned, a kids clothes swap and the Bereavement Group resumed in-person meetings – although initially they were held outdoors. As a new variant of Covid called Delta brought more concern, four large HEPA air purifiers were installed in the sanctuary and more safety precautions returned to worship. HEPA air purifiers were also added to the Education building. Consecration Sunday in early November saw a well-attended luncheon held outside under tents beside the parking lot. Precautions were again relaxed somewhat by March of 2022, and free at home Covid tests were made available to members (supplied by the Town of Barrington)

Despite all of this, BCCUCC's goals and missions carried on, with guest speakers, collections taken for the crises in Haiti and Ukraine, and webinars on topics such as the climate crisis well-publicized. When our senior minister Dale Azevedo was away for a three-month sabbatical, our new acting associate minister Racquel Ray quickly filled in without missing a beat. A new memorial water garden was built at the church end of the Riverwalk, and our treasured carriage sheds were restored.

Saving our carriage sheds has long been a hope for many of our members. We are so fortunate to actually have these last vestiges of early 19th century New England which were once common throughout our area. In our town, we know of only one other church, the St. John's Episcopal on County Road, which had these types of sheds. These relatively simple structures were originally constructed to protect both horses and carriages from wind, rain and snow. Ours actually were on three sides of our Meeting House: the north, east and south sides. In the early days of our Church, Sundays were often long days. In addition to providing a time of worship and prayer,

they were times when neighbors met and shared news. It was not uncommon for many years for members to share picnic lunches and suppers between afternoon and evening services. Given no indoor plumbing at the time, one of our sheds facing the Barrington River actually housed a latrine which still can be seen today. Many of our sheds were owned by individual members, and we actually have a diagram listing several of the names of owners in the 1800's. These were part of an owner's estate and could be left to their heirs; others belonged to the Church and were available to all.

Historically we are not aware of how our Church fared during the Great Influenza Epidemic of 1918-19. We have found nothing to date in our records indicating how much it affected our congregation. We do know however, that World War I was just ending at that time and the virus appeared to be spreading among military personnel who were in close quarters. Indeed the virus is often said to have spread from the several military installations in and around Boston and RI, and was often accompanied by cases of pneumonia. It soon became recognized as an emerging public health crisis with fears and confusion abounding. Little was available for treatment. At different points, schools, houses of worship, movie theaters and dance halls were closed then re-opened. While we do not know how many in our congregation were directly impacted, it is likely to have taken a significant toll as many lives were lost during this time.

Reports from our Ministry Teams

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS MINISTRY TEAM

PAUL DENNIS

This past year the Building and Grounds Team has managed a number of new projects.

HEPA filter units were provided for the sanctuary, church office, and Education Building classrooms including the TOTS Preschool rooms.

The work to restore the Carriage Sheds was finally accomplished. Improvements included new roof shingles and painting inside and out. New siding was applied to restore the structure along the river front. The ground surface inside the sheds was re-graded and finished with new gravel.

The seawall stones were re-pointed and the entire structure was reinforced with concrete and a new concrete cap now tops the wall.

The exterior of the parsonage at Fireside Drive was painted and had wood trim repaired.

Our custodial staff, John Cordeiro and Jay Buckley, have worked hard to keep our facilities in good shape. Thanks in part to a generous donation we are moving ahead with electrical and plumbing improvements including changing over to LED lighting where possible and more efficient plumbing fixtures.

CHANCEL MINISTRY TEAM

BETH BUCKLEY

The Chancel Team is responsible for the weekly altar flower arrangements, care and maintenance of the sanctuary, altar cloths, communion linens, and polishing of the brass altar rails. Chancel Team is under the umbrella of the Deacons.

During the summer of 2021 we returned to worshiping in the sanctuary. This was nice for many reasons, but very nice for appreciating the fresh flowers on the altar given in memory of loved ones. This recognition is noted in the bulletins and mentioned at prayer time. After the service, flowers are given to someone experiencing a loss or recent illness, or given to those who donated them.

Two holidays are celebrated with extra flowers: Christmas, and Easter. On the Sunday before Thanksgiving we fill the altar with fresh vegetables and fruit grown in Rhode Island. We purchase these from Quality Fruitland. They are then donated to Tap-in. Altar flowers are from The Greenery in Warren.

Funding for the Chancel Team's ministry is from the donations for the Sunday flowers, \$30 per vase. For the larger arrangements on Easter and Christmas, members offer contributions to the Chancel Fund and specify loved ones for whom they make a donation. Any extra monies in the Chancel Fund are used for anything that might enhance the worship service, e.g. sound system, altar tables, etc. A project has been undertaken to refinish the chairs that are on the altar. Over the past year, Liz Rosenholm hosted our team for an organizational meeting in September. We planned our assignments for the year and discussed ways to improve our efforts to serve. We stay in touch through emails, phone calls and direct discussion on Sunday mornings.

DEACONS

AMY BARKAT

What a difference a year makes. In the church year from June 2021 to June 2022 the Deacons of BCCUCC navigated back to a (some) sense of normalcy as vaccines became available and as the church opened back up! The Deacons maintained their commitment to helping serve the needs of our pastors, the needs of our congregation and the needs of our community.

This year we sustained our roster of 8 Deacons and had two great gatherings at Lory McCoy's beautiful property. These important events were marked with team camaraderie, spiritual reflection, and passionate conversation. These moments help build the connections within the Deacons and Pastors and were so welcome after pandemic time apart.

The Deacons lead our Laity service every November and this year was our return to in person Laity Sunday. Lory and I led the development of the service this year and we received *lots* of positive feedback. The goal was to try to help the congregation come together after the anxiety, uncertainties, and distance we have shared during the pandemic experience for the past 20+ months. We encouraged the congregation to reach out to each other and step up to help our community. We had two speakers from the congregation: Kathy Sullivan and Betsy Brenner. And their testimonies on why this concept of coming together is still powerful and keeps us going was very well received.

We continued our tradition of delivering flowers to the grieving or shut-ins at Christmas and Easter. We continued with Valentines for college kids and shut-ins. And we also continued to lead Communion – but with a twist. Due to the pandemic, we launched the use of the pre-packaged bread and juice. This pandemic safe mode of Communion is not everyone’s favorite but we all agreed that continuing with the practice of communion every month was very important to returning to normal. And that applied to the Tenebrae service this year as well. Tenebrae is such a meaningful experience during Lent and while sometimes it holds light attendance – those present always comment on just how powerful it is. For next year, Deacons are thinking about new ways to promote/share what the service is all about in an effort to get others willing to try this incredibly moving moment during Holy Week.

But I would say that the biggest role that the deacons played this church calendar year was between November 22nd, 2021 and February 22nd, 2022. This was the time that Dale, our Senior Pastor, took a much needed and deserved Sabbatical. The initial alignment on timing and support for the Sabbatical was a little bit bumpy, to be sure. It was a fast turnaround and it asked a lot of our deacons and our interim pastor Racquel. But after that initial bump it actually proved to be one of the most meaningful ways that we supported the congregation - in assisting to lead worship week after week. There was a Deacon there every Sunday supporting Racquel and the church. It was actually really reaffirming for us to step into that role and I was incredibly proud of myself and my fellow Deacons that we were able to step up.

Finally, I write this annual report having shared the news that this will be the last year I will be a Deacon. Perhaps years down the road I will return but for now I step down and I look forward to seeing what our Deacons will do next year to continue the support and growth of our pastors and our church community.

ENDOWMENT MINISTRY TEAM

KATE COLBY

2021 saw relatively steady, solid gains for endowment investments. BCCUCC ended the year with a total of \$2,463,488 under management; up from \$2,187,081. Of the 2021 total, \$153,143 are designated for specific use. Rhode Island Foundation had remarkable returns of 20.5% while Ocean State Incubator Fund and United Church Funds had more modest but still solid returns of 11.8% and 9.7% respectively. Since United Church Funds’ returns seem slightly out of line compared with our other 2 managers, the Endowment team will evaluate our fund selections with this manager and determine if we need to adjust allocations.

2021, endowment funds supported operations with distributions of \$82,500. Good returns on investments allowed the endowment funds to support increased budgeted distributions of \$86,500 for the year 2022. 2022, however, is shaping up to be a much more volatile year and investments have declined. All three of our managers have negative returns as of the end of April 2022. Even with this downturn, due to the gains we have seen over the past 2 years, and to some sizable donations totaling almost \$90,000, we expect to at least maintain the current level of distributions for the year 2023.

The endowment team had a quiet year this year. We did communicate in September through the eBridge to give an update on the funds and to remind our members and friends of the importance and meaningful impact of the BCCUCC endowment. As COVID continues to abate and the BCCUCC congregation becomes more comfortable coming back to church services, we will revisit outreach options. Our goal is to remind members of the meaningful work our church is doing, and that gifts and/or bequests to our Endowment Funds is a viable option to help finance those important efforts.

The Endowment Team: *Kate Colby (Chair), Dick McWhirter and Seth Forman*

FINANCE MINISTRY TEAM

TOM COLBY

We started this year off with very strong income. By the end of April 2022, we had received over 55% of the pledges we expect and about half of our total expected income from all sources (gifts, endowment, rentals, special collections). Regarding the budget, note that the attached budget for 2022 reflects the adjustments made at the financial meeting in January. These changes included an increase in expected gifts, decrease in initial offerings, and a decrease in misc. income. This totaled a net income increase of \$3,300. On the expense side, there was also a net increase of \$3,300. This consisted of an increase in personnel, decrease in janitorial, and increase for special ministry initiatives. As a result of all these adjustments, there was no change to the bottom line. It is also worth noting that on the attached budget the values in the 2021 actual column are preliminary.

If we stay on track through the end of 2022, we should end up with about a \$17,000 surplus. This will add to our operating reserves making about \$180,000 in total. This reserve allows us to absorb any surprises like lost pledges, boiler replacement, roof repair, fluctuations in receipts over the year, etc. Prudent guidance for reasonable reserves for a non-profit is anywhere from 25%-50% of the annual budget. In our case, \$180,000 is 34% of our 2022 budget, a good level.

Looking to the future, we will have to make some hard decisions. The budget for 2022 was balanced largely as the result of getting two gifts that totaled over \$73,000. Without them we would have had a deficit of \$56,000. A loss like this would reduce our operating reserves to relatively low levels. Budgetary losses of this magnitude are not sustainable over the long term. Finance has started to look at this issue, but the effort to address sustainability will need to include participation from more of the church membership.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Colby Finance Chair, *Leo Drury* and *Barbara Wuth* Co-Treasurers.

2022 OPERATIONS BUDGET

Income	
Unrestricted Income	
Total Pledges	347,500
Total Offering and Gifts	83,400
Total Investments	86,500
Total Rentals	19,731
Other Income	
Miscellaneous Income	1,050
Total Other Income	<u>1,050</u>
Total Unrestricted Income	538,181
Restricted Income	
Total Missions Income	4,500
Total Non-Missions Income	5,250
Total Restricted Income	<u>9,750</u>
Total Income	<u>547,931</u>
Gross Profit	547,931
Expense	
Total Personnel	360,788
Operations	
Buildings and Grounds	
Capital	20,000
Total Church and Education Building	44,500
Total Parsonage – Fireside	8,600
Total Parsonage – Nathaniel	<u>7,150</u>
Total Insurance	<u>24,520</u>
Total Buildings and Grounds	104,770
Total Office	14,800
Church Life	
Hybrid Worship Project	
Special Ministry Initiative	2,000
Conference Delegates Travel Support	1,000
Marketing	
Total Christian Education	4,300
Chancel	4,500
Church Supplies	1,500
Deacons	100
Endowment	100
Membership	980
Music	1,750
Stewardship	<u>2,750</u>
Total Church Life	18,980
Missions – General Funds	
SNE Conference Dues	20,909
RI Association Dues	2,323
Loaves and Fishes Truck	1,500
Missions – non UCC	<u>1,900</u>
Total Missions – General Funds	26,632
Total Restricted Missions	4,500
Other Expenses	
Miscellaneous Expense	
Total Other Expenses	<u> </u>
Total Operations Expense	<u>169,682</u>
Total Expense	<u>530,470</u>
Net Income (Loss)	<u><u>17,461</u></u>

FAITH FORMATION & YOUTH MINISTRIES TEAM

ANDREA BULLARD & RACQUEL RAY

This dedicated team consists of Tim Milisauskas, Kathy Sullivan, Fred Rocco, Cathleen Joachim, and Maya Kelly in partnership with Andrea Bullard and Racquel Ray. Andrea earned Certification in Faith Formation leadership after successfully completing the two-year process in 1.5 years through the SNEUCC. Racquel partnered with the FFaYM Team as we reestablished Youth Ministry and navigated Church School and Family Activities around covid. Covid concerns drew the team to advocate for air filters in the classrooms, move the Christmas pageant outdoors, and offer as many safe gatherings in innovative ways as we could.

The team provided Pumpkin Palooza, Advent Arts, Lenten Lallapaloosa, and an Easter Egg Hunt. We also had All Ages services for Open Doors Sunday, Indigenous People's Day, Advent, MLK Sunday, Green Sunday, Jubilation Sunday, Easter, and Baccalaureate. One major highlight of FFaYM this past year was the Christmas Story Stroll. Members of the team helped Racquel and Andrea curate the community-wide event. The team members co-led youth groups with Racquel ensuring the Safe Space Policy was followed for the new group. We offered an ice cream truck at Open Doors Sunday and Jubilation Sunday. We sponsored the picnic for Jubilation Sunday as well.

The team's outreach efforts were visible in the Christmas Story Stroll, Loaves and Fishes support, and the Souperbowl of Caring. The Souperbowl of Caring raised hundreds of cans of soup for TAP-IN. Kids and parents helped pack groceries for Loaves and Fishes.

The Christmas Story Stroll was a huge success on Christmas Eve 2021. It was a group effort from the entire congregation with each church ministry team signing up to sponsor a 'station' of the story. As covid concerns over hosting a large crowd indoors brought us to innovative ministry solutions, the FFaYM team helped Racquel design the stations of the Christmas Story Stroll. The team also provided gift bags and reindeer food to guests. The stroll drew an outdoor crowd of over 150 people as they celebrated the traditional Christmas Pageant in a new way.

LAY VISITATION MINISTRY TEAM

RACQUEL RAY

The Lay Visitation Team meets monthly on the third or sometimes fourth Monday (depending on holidays). The team currently consists of George and Rose Marie Bolton, Helen Schall, and Laura Ward. Dale and Racquel also support the team and update the parish concerns list. We gather to pray for, share, and support the concerns of the church community. We check in with homebound members sometimes in person and often by phone. We frequently take members to lunch or to doctors' appointments and bring them to church. As the Associate Minister, I am deeply grateful for the ministry of this group as it provides additional layers of community support for those who cannot easily attend church in person. This team ensures that every member knows that they are deeply cared for by this church and are not forgotten even when they are not physically present.

During the past year, Joan Miller transitioned away from the group to concentrate on traveling, family, and her wellness. Laura Ward is beginning her participation with the group. Cheryl Muth, though not attending the regular meetings of the group, is still concerned for the congregation and is sending those beautiful cards to our church members. The list of concerns is updated regularly and is provided to the Deacons for flower deliveries at Christmas and Easter.

MEMBERSHIP MINISTRY TEAM

JOANNE D'ADAMO

"...for I was a stranger and you welcomed me" Matthew 25:35

The primary purpose of the Membership Team is to assist with new members to the church, and to recruit and prepare a slate of nominations for officers and ministry teams to the Church Council.

This Spring we were finally able to welcome new members in person! There was only one New Member Sunday this past year, and we were able to return to our welcoming traditions. We met the new members with a boutonniere and welcome greeting, they signed the official membership book, and photos were taken to commemorate the happy occasion. Best of all, we were able to host a Coffee hour with a Congratulations cake and lots of friendly congregation members to say hello and extend a warm welcome.

The Membership Team also assists with coordinating greeters for Sunday morning worship. We were happy to resume this welcoming tradition in the early Spring.

The Membership Team also coordinates a Senior Luncheon and a Ladies Lunch (Fall and Spring). Alas, this past year, while we gratefully saw the return to in-person worship, for much of the year, some COVID restrictions remained in place. It was not yet a safe time to host these popular social events. We look forward to the coming year to again celebrate these special gatherings of community.

The Spring is the time the Membership Team engages in its most important task - fulfilling nominations for the church officers and church ministry teams. The Team contacts people currently in positions on teams to determine the vacancies, and then engages in recruiting to fill the open positions. Typically, much of this work is done in face-to-face conversations, and most often taking place after worship at Coffee hour. Usually, for a few Sundays, a table is set up to provide information about various officer or ministry team roles. Another impact of COVID restrictions has been a slow return to Coffee Hour. While this nomination work can be conducted with email and phone calls, it's not as engaging as with in-person conversations. Also, the opportunity is missed to be able to talk with new people to interest them to consider becoming involved. We extend our grateful appreciation to those who have willingly agreed to serve on a committee for the next year or 2 year term! Much has changed in the last 2 years, but the church endures, and the important work continues!

There are openings remaining on the following Teams – Stewardship, Membership, Faith Formation & Youth Ministry, and Buildings & Grounds.

Joanne D'Adamo (Chair), Libardo De Le Torre, Wendy Forman, Greg Voigt

The purpose of the Mission and Justice Team, as stated in the Church Bylaws, is to promote an awareness and response to local, national, and world problems. We seek to promote a more peaceful and just society by developing programs and activities focused on such issues as environmental justice and sustainability, food insecurity, income inequality, and the intersection of social and racial justice. To reach these goals we partner with other groups and follow guidance from the United Church of Christ resources to create educational and advocacy experiences, as well as opportunities for reaching out to others. In all of these instances, we hope that members of our church and wider community feel that they were invited to be participants in the mission and justice issues of the church.

Activities from May 2021 – May 2022 include:

May 2021

- Participated in a Black Lives Matter vigil organized by Barrington Interfaith Partners.
- The UCC Strengthen the Church offering was collected in May.

June 2021

- Displayed a Pride sign in front of the church in recognition of Pride month.
- On June 4th, lit the front of BCCUCC in orange light for the 7th National Gun Violence Day. Also encouraged members and friends of BCCUCC to participate in Wear Orange Weekend on June 5th and 6th.
- Published the following in the eBridge:
 - An update on the Community Choice Aggregation from EcoRI
 - Juneteenth articles with links for RI and UCC celebrations
 - Information on Raising RI action in the legislature
 - Information on the Poor Peoples Campaign

July 2021

- Published information in the eBridge on the “For the People Act” and the “Break Free from Plastic Pollution Act of 2021.” Provided information on an Interfaith Power and Light film and a Creation Justice Webinar.

August 2021

- Provided information in the eBridge on a Climate Change Webinar and also on a book study at the library presented by the Barrington Equity Collective.

September 2021

- Provided opportunities to make peace flags.
- Encouraged donations to the Haiti Earthquake Relief Fund and to the UCC-sponsored Severe Storms Fund.

October 2021

- The Neighbors in Need offering was taken on October 3rd, which was World Communion Sunday.
- Representatives from M&J met with Buildings & Grounds to discuss the logistics of planting a pollinator garden.

- Mission and Justice requested monetary donations to TAPIN, in lieu of the customary collection of canned goods (e.g. cranberry sauce, gravy, etc.) This change was due to the pandemic.
- Published information in the eBridge on the following:
 - United Way of Rhode Island and the Tomaquag Museum invited the community to participate in an online Community First Conversation about Indigenous Peoples' Day.
 - Assistance needed for Afghan refugees. Dorcas International is a local non-profit who was working with resettlement of Afghan refugees.
 - The Barrington Farm School announced that its Community Compost Program was launching a new drop-off site.

November 2021

- Mission and Justice supported two holiday donation drives. One was the Giving Tree, which assists domestic violence victims by supplying gift cards for food, gas, toys, etc. The funds raised were disseminated to clients by the Women's Resource Center. The second donation drive was the Mitten Tree. Members of the BCCUCC Knitting for Others Group, as well as members of the congregation, contributed hats, gloves, mittens, scarves, etc. In previous years Amos House and Loaves and Fishes have been the beneficiaries of the Mitten Tree. This year the donated items were given to Federal Hill House. In addition to these activities, Mission and Justice collected red scarves to promote HIV/AIDS awareness.
- Published information in the eBridge on the following:
 - Native American Heritage Month Exhibition: Away from Home: Native American Boarding School Stories. The RI Tomaquag Museum was hosting this exhibition from 11/10/21 to 1/7/22.
 - Members of the Barrington Community organized a donation drive for drop-off at the Refugee Dream Center in Providence. Intended beneficiaries were Afghan refugees.

December 2021

- The Mission and Justice Team focused on the delivery of the donations for the Giving Tree and the Mitten Tree. No meeting was held in December.
- The UCC Christmas Fund offering was taken on December 19th.

January 2022

- Mission and Justice began planning for our February guest speaker. Ray Rickman, Co-founder and Executive Director of Stages of Freedom, was scheduled to be at BCCUCC on February 13th. His organization raises awareness and advocates for people of color in Rhode Island and beyond. One of Stages of Freedom's programs is Swim Empowerment. This is a partnership with local YMCAs to provide scholarships and swimming lessons for children of color, who statistically drown at five times the rate of white youth.
- Mission and Justice also discussed raising money for Holy Joe's Café, which provides military chaplains with coffee to share with soldiers. Initially the decision was made to wait for Remembrance Day to request donations; however, this decision was changed in March due to the invasion of Ukraine.

- January was also Human Trafficking Awareness Month, which was highlighted in the eBridge.

February 2022

- Ray Rickman was the guest speaker at BCCUCC on February 13th. His remarks were well received by the congregation, which subsequently contributed \$3,440 to Stages of Freedom. Mission and Justice discussed possible follow-up actions at our February meeting, such as sponsoring additional scholarships for the Swim Empowerment Program. BCCUCC also received an invitation from Ray Rickman to visit the African American Museum in Providence. Discussions are underway on a date for this event.
- Barrington Interfaith Partners (BIP), which includes four Mission and Justice members on its team, sponsored an educational forum on Solitary Confinement/Restrictive Housing on February 14th. BIP is advocating for legislation in the Rhode General Assembly that would limit the use and duration of restrictive housing measures at the state prison.
- Mission and Justice promoted attendance at an 8-week Environmental Justice Bible Study developed by Emma Brewer-Wallin, who is the SNEUCC Minister for Environmental and Economic Justice. The Bible Study was led by Reverend Racquel Ray of BCCUCC.
- The Barrington Farm School invited the public to a virtual tour of the creation of their Pollinator Garden on March 6th.

March 2022

- The UCC issued an emergency appeal for Ukraine.
- Mission and Justice ordered a banner with the Ukraine flag to display in front of BCCUCC. Lory McCoy and Helen Schall added the words “Pray for Ukraine” to the banner.
- Mission and Justice made the congregation aware of an important giving opportunity for military chaplains, who support active-duty military personnel. Holy Joe’s Café is a UCC-supported organization, which provides coffee to military chaplains to make it easier to connect with active-duty personnel. The need for such connections has escalated dramatically due to the invasion of Ukraine by Russia.
- The One Great Hour of Sharing offering was collected on March 27th.
- Mission and Justice discussed plans for our guest speaker, Emma Brewer-Wallin, who will visit BCCUCC on April 24th.
- March was Women’s History Month. The Rhode Island League of Women Voters and the Barrington Library sponsored a film entitled “Equal Means Equal.”
- Mission and Justice discussed a possible interfaith social and racial justice initiative led by Barrington Interfaith Partners. The initiative focuses on the payment of royalties for singing spirituals in houses of worship.

April 2022

- Emma Brewer-Wallin was the guest speaker at BCCUCC’s Green Sunday on April 24th. After the service, members of Mission and Justice hosted a sign-up table for the BCCUCC Green Team. Several individuals volunteered to attend the initial meeting of the Green Team.
- Ramadan sign was displayed in front of BCCUCC.

May 2022

- The newly formed Green Team showed a movie sponsored by Interfaith Power and Light. The movie focused on a federal lawsuit, which was filed on behalf of several minors who claimed that their constitutional rights were violated due to the current state of the environment and the current and future impacts of climate change.
- The initial meeting of the Green Team was held on May 5. Several ideas for future action were promulgated. The Green Team will operate as a separate entity from Mission and Justice, but the two groups will work in concert when appropriate.
- East Bay Citizens for Peace sponsored a talk on May 9th at the East Providence Library. The title of the talk was “Fake News or Truth: Do 750 Military Bases Abroad Make the U.S. Safer?” The speaker was George Kassis.

Financial donations were made to the following from church members and friends:

- Giving Tree - \$1,415
- Stages of Freedom - \$3,440

Financial donations were made to the following from the M&J budget:

- Haiti Earthquake Relief - \$200
- UCC 2021 Severe Storms - \$200
- TAPIN - \$150
- Barrington Farm School - \$150
- Rhode Island State Council of Churches - \$150
- Higher Ground - \$150
- Dorcas International - \$300
- Honorarium for Ray Rickman - \$250
- Banner for Ukrainian flag - \$150

Thank you to the M&J team members for all their hard work and thank you to the congregation for their support.

MUSIC MINISTRY TEAM

PATRICIA STODDARD

In another year of dealing with the ongoing pandemic, the music program underwent many changes depending on the situation with Covid cases. The church began in person hybrid worship services on June 27, 2021, without singing of any kind and utilizing the many video recordings of hymns and anthems from the Quarantine Choir. We returned to singing in the Sanctuary, while masking, on Sept. 12, 2021, Open Doors Sunday. The choir was very happy to be able to sing anthems again as part of the worship service. There was another period of no singing in January and February of 2022. Singing resumed in March and we gradually progressed to masks optional in the sanctuary.

Although the choir has fewer singers than prior to the pandemic, they are a dedicated group and have shared some meaningful anthems throughout the year. We are fortunate to have such good singers that share their gifts with us. Marina Zabinski continues to amaze us with her excellent skills at the piano. We've enjoyed several instrumental participants as well. We continue to be flexible as the times dictate and have been so grateful to have live music back in our worship services. We appreciate the positive feedback that we've received from the congregation this year and look forward to continuing our ministry

STAFF PARISH RELATIONS TEAM

KIM ZELEZNIK

The Staff Parish Relations Team (SPRT) consists of five members. Current members of the team are our Senior Minister, Dale Azevedo, John Muth, Laura Ward, Heather Williamson, and Kim Zeleznik (chair).

SPRT offers an opportunity and place for our ministers, staff, and members of the congregation to share their thoughts, ideas, or any concerns they may have. We are a sounding board for staff-parish relationships and are available at any time a need arises. We also receive and review goals from the ministers each fall and discuss how they are being met as the year progresses. During our regularly scheduled meetings, we listen to the joys and concerns of the ministers and offer support and guidance when necessary. Typically in May, our team organizes smaller teams to oversee staff reviews, in accordance with the by-laws. We try to meet one last time in June to discuss these reviews and plan for the upcoming year.

During the 2021-2022 calendar year, our team held its first meeting on 11/20/21 over Zoom. At this time, we discussed Dale's upcoming sabbatical and offered a plan of support for Racquel. Our team met again on 5/16/22 over Zoom to assign members to each of the staff reviews. These reviews will be completed and filed by the end of June. For a second consecutive year, Laura agreed to act as the liaison for SPRT and attend the Church Council Meetings held each month.

STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY TEAM

Over the past several years, the Stewardship Ministry Team has continued to modify the previously utilized New Consecration Sunday Stewardship Program. Unfortunately, there were no "official" members of the Stewardship Team this past year, which did impact our approach. Rev. Dale was able to recruit Kate Colby and Adam Grenier to assist with some of the planning, especially for Consecration Sunday. Their assistance was much appreciated! The group felt strongly about having an in-person luncheon on Consecration Sunday so one was planned. Tent rentals were made possible by a generous donation. We were blessed with a beautiful day for early November, and we enjoyed outdoor fellowship together and delicious box lunches.



This year the campaign's theme was "Open the Doors to Gratitude and Generosity".

99 Giving Cards were received prior to the budget meeting, totaling \$333,652. This is an approximate 12% decrease over the 2021 total.

Analysis of the financial commitments includes:

New commitments – 8 = 8% of the total

Commitments with increase over 2021 – 40 = 39% of the total

Commitments with same amount as 2021 – 44 = 43% of the total

Commitments with decrease from 2020 – 10 = 19% of the total

Lost commitments due to attrition & other factors - 14

Three additional pledges (totaling \$6,700) were received after the budget meeting.

We appreciate the continuing commitment of the congregation to the important ministries of our church as we look forward, with hope and faith, to a better future.

USHERING MINISTRY

BETHIA ROSNER

We currently have a total of 14 ushers but more are needed and would be most welcome.

The year is divided into three for scheduling:

Schedule A covers September through January

Schedule B covers February through June

Summer Schedule covers July and August

Schedules A and B require that 4 ushers be scheduled each Sunday with one designated as captain. For the Summer Schedule only 2 ushers are needed.

Before a service, the ushers arrive early and are responsible for putting the altar flower arrangements into the brass vases, opening the shutters, lighting the altar candles, and turning on the lights in the sanctuary. They also need to check the batteries in the hand-held mikes and hearing assists and change them as needed. They hand out bulletins and seat the congregation as they arrive. They also have available large print bulletins and hearing assists for anyone who requests them.

During the service, the ushers seat any latecomers, take the offering at the appropriate time, and record the attendance.

Following the service the usher captain is responsible for putting the offering in the church safe. The ushers are also responsible for turning off the lights, closing the shutters, tidying up the pews, and finally making sure that all of the doors out of the church building are latched properly and locked.

In the event of an emergency, the ushers ensure that emergency responders can access the church if necessary and/or the congregation can safely evacuate the building.

Anyone interested in becoming an usher is invited to contact Bethia Rosner or the church office.

2022 - 2023 SLATE OF NOMINEES FOR OFFICERS AND MINISTRY TEAMS

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.

Year# indicates which year the person will be serving: 1 = first year, 2 = second year etc. (For officer or ministry team positions - with the exception of deacons - there is a limit of 4 years serving in the same position).

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 Team 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.
- Those who serve on Deacons, Finance, Endowment, and Staff 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.



<i>Office</i>	<i>Term Expires</i>	<i>Year#</i>
MODERATOR		
Tom Strolla	2023	3
CLERK		
Susan Seader	2023	1
CO-TREASURERS		
Barbara Wuth	2023	6
Leo Drury	2024	3
HISTORIAN		
Dianne Wilkin	2024	3
AUDITOR		
John Loerke	2024	3

<i>Office</i>	<i>Term Expires</i>	<i>Year#</i>
CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS AT LARGE (2)		
Sam Sylvester	2024	2
Greg Voigt	2024	1
CHURCH DELEGATES:		
(5) to RI Association		
<i>Moderator, plus one member each from Deacons, Finance, Mission and Justice, and FFAYM – to be appointed by the chair of their team.</i>		
(2) to Southern New England Conference, UCC (SNEUCC)		
<i>Chosen from among our delegates to the RI Association.</i>		

MINISTRY TEAMS

Term Expires Year#

DEACONS (10 - 12)

The deacons serve 3 year terms and can serve for 2 terms (a max of 6 years)

	<i>Term Expires</i>	
Nancy Arena	2023	
Lory McCoy	2023	
Jeff Stumpff	2023	
*	2023	
Patricia Stoddard	2024	2 nd Term
Carol Strakosch	2024	2 nd Term
*	2024	
*	2024	
Steve Fodor	2025	2 nd Term
Jane Tonn	2025	2 nd Term
*	2025	
*	2025	

Term Expires Year#

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS MINISTRY TEAM (8)

Paul Dennis	2024	4
Francis Seader	2024	3
Steve Cipoletti	2024	3
*		
*		
*		
*		
*		

FAITH FORMATION & YOUTH MINISTRY TEAM (6 + one youth)

Kathy Sullivan	2024	7
Cathleen Joachim	2024	4
Fred Rocco	2024	2
Ralph Milliken	2023	1
*		
*		
* (youth)		

ENDOWMENT MINISTRY TEAM (4-6)

Kate Colby	2024	7
Dick McWhirter	2024	5
Seth Forman	2024	4
*		
*		
*		

FINANCE MINISTRY TEAM (4-6)

Tom Colby	2023	9
Sam Sylvester	2023	7
Vanessa Kiley	2024	1
*		
*		
*		

MEMBERSHIP MINISTRY TEAM (8)

Wendy Forman	2024	5
Sharon Sylvester	2024	1
Miriam Duvel	2023	1
Gina Helm	2023	1
*		
*		
*		
*		

MISSION and JUSTICE MINISTRY TEAM (4)

Nancy Arena	2024	5
Seth Forman	2024	4
Trinki Brueckner	2023	3
Lyn Cleary	2023	1
Judith Titzel	2023	1
Lory McCoy	2024	1
Marlene Manchester	2024	1

Term Expires Year#

DEACONS SUBGROUPS:

STAFF-PARISH RELATIONS TEAM

(4)

This team is selected by the moderator, ministers, and deacons.

John Muth**	2020	8
Kim Zeleznik	2020	7
Heather Williamson	2022	4
Laura Ward	2022	3

*** In the Fall of 2019, Church Council decided that because all of the then SPRT members were over their term limit, one member of the team would be replaced each year instead of making a wholesale gutting of the team. Due to the pandemic this has been delayed. As the longest serving member, John Muth will be replaced in the Fall but will serve on the team until then.*

STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY TEAM

(5)

- *
- *
- *
- *
- *

CHANCEL TEAM (4)

Bethia Rosner
Liz Rosenholm
Beth Buckley
*

MUSIC TEAM (2)

Pat Stoddard
Heather Williamson
Greg Voigt

USHER TEAM (2)

Bethia Rosner
*

LAY VISITATION TEAM

This is a non-elected group of people and is led by Rev. Racquel Ray

George Bolton
Rose Marie Bolton
Cheryl Muth
Helen Schall
Laura Ward

WORSHIP TECH TEAM

This is a non-elected group of volunteers

Erik Ela
Tom Colby
Jeff Stumpff
Laurie Dubel
Kim Colby

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FROM THE CHURCH RECORDS

June 9th, 2021 – June 6th, 2022

This report covers the 12+ month period from early June 2021 through early June 2022. The categories shown are also requested each December for the United Church of Christ Yearbook Report (see page 28).

NEW MEMBERS (3)

5/1/22

Abigail Canto
Barbara Lee
Frank Lee

CONFIRMATIONS (0)

MARRIAGES (1)

Alexander P. Robertson III and Michelle R. DeRoche

BAPTISMS (5)

Infants and Children

Jackson Ray Gomes
Luca Peter Romano
Madison Marie White
Ivy Jo Jablonski
January Marie Thornsby Plante

Adult (0)

DEATHS (12)

Members (9)

Mary Kutcher
Lois McCartney
John Faulhaber
David Gregory
Joachim Weissfeld

Eleanor Beaver
Albert Butler
Diane Todd
Peter Weldy

Others (3)

Grace McKinlay
Loran Fairfield
Harold Gallant

3

ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP AS OF JUN 8TH, 2021 was 275 (Number reported in 2021 Annual Report)

Between June 9, 2021 and June 6, 2022 the following changes occurred:

Additions to Active Membership (3)

0 - Confirmation
3 - New Members
..0 - Return to Active Membership

Losses to Active Membership (35)

9 - Death
0 - Transfer Out
26 - other reasons (moved away,
were inactive, etc)

ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP AS OF JUNE 6TH, 2022 $275 + 3 - 35 = 243$

(see next page for further explanation)

MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

reflecting changes in the membership that occurred between Jan 1st and Dec 31st, 2021

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 12/31/2021 was 263 (see following table for breakdown).

<i>From the Yearbook Report Form:</i>	
Statistics for January 1 – December 31, 2021	
Active Membership as of 12/31/2020	277
Additions during year:	
Confirmation	5
Confession of Faith	0
Letters of Transfer	1
Reaffirmation of Faith	0
Losses during year:	
Death	12
Transfer	1
Other removals	7
Active Membership as of 12/31/2021	263

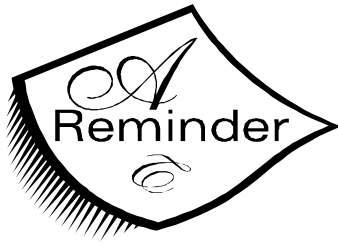
Note: The information listed on the previous pages reflect those changes that took place between June 9, 2021 and June 6, 2022, as opposed to the information directly above, which is for changes between January 1 and December 31, 2021.

3

Between January 1, 2022 and June 6, 2022 there were the following changes in ACTIVE membership:

- + 3 New Member
- + 0 New Members (by Confirmation)
- + 0 Return to Active Membership
- 2 Death of Active Members
- 21 Removals (moved away/no longer active etc)

ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP AS OF JUNE 6TH, 2022 is $263 + 3 - 2 - 21 = 243$



All are invited to attend the
Annual Meeting

of the Barrington Congregational Church, UCC on
SUNDAY, JUNE 12TH, 2022

in the Sanctuary immediately following worship.

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

Child care will be provided.

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. Dale H. Azevedo
Associate Minister (Acting): The Rev. Racquel Ray
Faith Formation Director: Andrea Terni Bullard
Organist/Choir Director: Marina Zabinski
Office Administrator: Christine Wallis
Financial Secretary: Patricia Stoddard
Custodians: Jay Buckley, John Cordeiro

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OUR MISSION STATEMENT

The Barrington Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, is a Christian community that worships God, embraces all people, ministers to one another, works for justice and peace, and renders loving service to God's world.

AFFIRMATION OF WELCOME

We believe that all people are blessed and loved equally by God. Following the teachings of Jesus we heartily welcome everyone into God's covenantal community. Whatever your race, ethnicity, age, socioeconomic or marital status, variety of thoughts and beliefs, physical or mental ability, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression - whoever you are and wherever you come from you are welcome into the full life and ministry of our church.

