

April 2, 2020

Latest information from Barrington Congregational Church, UCC

Keeping you up-to date

If you missed any previous emails, they are being posted to our website <u>at this link</u> for easy access. Some of the things that are **NEW in this email:**

- Password now needed for Thursdays Happy Hour via Zoom
- Emergency Congregational Meeting via Zoom
- Request for photos
- Easter Sunday, April 12th Worship Service info (live-steamed)
- Bulletin for Easter live-stream worship service
- Hymn Sheet for Easter live-stream worship service
- Easter 2020 Chancel Flower dedications
- Announcements sheet for April 12th onward
- Worship Technology Team

Calendar

Church Office is CLOSED until further notice

All in-person worship, meetings and activities at church are suspended or postponed until further notice. However, some things are happening virtually.

Thurs, Apr 9 Maundy Thursday

8 am Holy Week Daily Devotions with Dale (live-streamed) 4:30 - 6 pm Happy Hour via Zoom

Fri, Apr 10 Good Friday

8 am Holy Week Daily Devotions with Dale (live-streamed) 4 pm Emergency Congregational Meeting via Zoom Dale on call for pastoral emergencies

Sat, Apr 11

9:30 am 'Llama Pajama Time with Andrea' (live-streamed)

Sun, Apr 12 Easter Sunday

10 am Live-streamed Easter Worship Service ONLY at www.facebook.com/bccucc or on our website at this link (No in-person worship)

Tues, Apr 14

11 am Staff meeting via Zoom7 pm Church Council meeting via Zoom

Thurs, Apr 16

4:30 - 6 pm Happy Hour via Zoom

Fri, Apr 17 Good Friday

Linda on call for pastoral emergencies

Sat, Apr 18

9:30 am 'Llama Pajama Time with Andrea' (live-streamed)

Sun, Apr 19

10 am Live-streamed Worship Service ONLY at www.facebook.com/bccucc or on our website at this link (No in-person worship)

11 am - 1 pm Confirmation Class via Zoom

For the complete church calendar visit http://bccucc.view-events.com

Please note that looking ahead, cancellations and suspensions of meetings may not yet be noted in the on-line calendar as we don't know what the future holds.

Send calendar information to office@bccucc.org

Photos needed for Sunday's service

Dale needs your images of Easter by Friday at Noon!

The following request was included in an email from Dale sent on 4/6/20:

"Linda and I are always looking for ways to make our virtual worship more meaningful. To this end, I thought it would be fun to include YOUR Easter images in this week's Sunday service. So, as you go through your week keep your eyes open for things that bring you joy, hope, love,



happiness, or that celebrate life. Take a quick picture of whatever it is, and send it on to me dale@bccucc.org. We need reasons to smile and hope. What better way to celebrate Easter? If I get enough shots, I'll include them in the service in special ways. Maybe your resurrection picture will inspire someone else's faith!"

Please submit all photos a.s.a.p. Deadline is Noon tomorrow, Good Friday, April 10th.

Emergency Church Meeting

Reminder about this important meeting....

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

Pursuant with **Article VI. B. 1. b** of the church's by-laws an emergency meeting of the Barrington Congregational Church, UCC, Barrington RI, is hereby called to take place on

FRIDAY, APRIL 10th, 2020 at 4:00 PM via Zoom.

The business to be transacted is as follows:

ARTICLE I: To call the meeting to order.

ARTICLE II: To vote whether to approve the actions of the Church Council regarding applying for a loan under the CARES Act to maintain our staff during this time of

worldwide pandemic.

ARTICLE III: To adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted:

Kathy Sullivan, Moderator (on behalf of the Church Council)

An email about this emergency meeting was sent to our 'active' mailing list of members and friends last Friday. Learn more here. They are reminded that this important meeting will take place tomorrow, Friday, April 10th at 4 pm via Zoom. The information needed to access this zoom meeting was in last Friday's email and will be included in a reminder email to be sent tomorrow morning. We hope that members will join the meeting as we need a quorum of 45 church members and only members get to vote. (A member is someone who has officially 'joined' the church). Thank you.



Good Friday and Easter

Good Friday Daily Devotion with Dale

Dale has been leading livestreamed early morning devotions this Holy Week. The last one will be on **Good Friday**, **April 10th** a t **8 am** and will be livestreamed on our Facebook page www.facebook.com/bccucc and website



www.bccucc.org/live-stream-page/. These brief devotionals last 15-20 minutes and remain available on both platforms for those who are unable to join us live - or who missed any earlier ones - including this Maundy Thursday morning's. They consist of relaxing music, prayer, scripture, and a brief meditation. Join us tomorrow, Good Friday, if you are able.



Join us (virtually) for Easter worship on Sunday!

We are going on week 5 of our virtual worship services. We have come a long way during these weeks. We all hoped we'd be back in the sanctuary by Easter, but that hoped for return is still a ways off. However, we have exciting things prepared for you this Sunday. The big highlight of the week is the return of our choir! Many of our choir members have been working remotely to bring you a couple of beautiful Easter anthems. We will also have a few video surprises for you all along with a wonderful

contemporary Easter message from Dale. Come check it out!

Worship begins at 10:00 AM and can be found both on our Facebook page www.facebook.com/bccucc and website www.bccucc.org/live-stream-page/

We hope you can join us live, but if not, you can watch a recording later at the same links.

Resources for this week's worship service are at the following links:

Bulletin for Easter Sunday 4/12/20

Hymn sheet for Easter Sunday 4/12/20

Easter 2020 Chancel Fund Flower dedications

Announcements for 4/12/20 (please note that these don't cover anything prior to Sunday)

Worship Technology Team

Qualified volunteers needed

Dale is looking for volunteers to help with the technology needed to put together and live-stream the Sunday worship services each week. He's found that he's not effectively able to manage the technology needs and worship at the same time. Since it looks like we won't be returning to in-person worship anytime in the immediate future, we need to create a more effective and sustainable worship team. So, we are looking for help. We need the following positions filled by qualified volunteers:



- Livestream Producers We need two or three people who are capable of managing our livestream productions on Sunday mornings. These people need to be comfortable with computers, have some understanding of Zoom or hosting video conferencing meetings, have some minor experience working with websites, and be capable of troubleshooting problems on the fly (or at least be quick learners on all these items). This role would require a few hours of prep time throughout the week and two hours on Sunday morning (before and during worship). Ideally, we would have more than one person so they could rotate weekly, allowing everyone some weeks to enjoy worship.
- Video/Graphic Creators We need one or two people capable of creating videos or slideshows for our worship services. Those interested need to have basic understanding of video editing, or PowerPoint slideshow production and have access to their own computer. This may or may not be needed every week. We will discover this as this process evolves. These individuals should be responsible and able to work effectively with deadlines. The number of hours each week would depend on how involved the projects undertaken become and how much time our creators have to give.

If you have the skills and time to join our Worship Technology Team, please reach out to Dale at dale@bccucc.org. He looks forward to working with you!

What's happening

BCCUCC Happy Hour /Coffee Hour via Zoom - now needs a password

Are you missing your church friends and pastors? We're doing all that we can to stay connected these days, so we're hosting a weekly Happy Hour/Coffee Hour with Dale. This virtual gathering is being held

every Thursday from 4:30 - 6:00 pm via Zoom Meeting. The link to the meeting is the same each week but Zoom has tightened up its security so you also now need a password.

All the info needed for access was included in the email you received (sent 4/9/20) but for security reasons is not being included in this version that gets posted to our website. If you have any problems, contact Dale via text/phone/email.



So grab your favorite beverage (beer, coffee, water, wine, seltzer, you name it), sit down with your computer and hang out with your church friends for a while. Feel free to drop in as you are able and for as long (or short) a time as you want. We miss you and would love for you to join us!

For those of you new to Zoom, check out directions on how to join us by going to our website and clicking on the "BCCUCC Happy Hour / Coffee Hour is LIVE!" link near the bottom of the page. Hopefully that will get you up and running!

'Llama Pajama Time with Andrea'

'Llama Pajama Time with Andrea' is now on **Saturdays at 9:30 am**. We invite both the young and young at heart to tune in to www.facebook.com/bccucc or https://www.bccucc.org/live-stream-page/ as Andrea reads a story or two, shares a Psalm and talks with the children.



If you're not able to watch live, you can always watch a recording later on the <u>live-stream page</u> of our website.

Dale away

Dale will be 'on vacation' for the week after Easter – with the exception of attending the Church Council meeting via Zoom on Tuesday evening. If you need to contact a pastor during this time, please reach out to Linda Hartley at 401 246-0111 x 104 or 401 286-6582 or linda@bccucc.org. Thank you.



Stay connected

During this time of separation, we are all encouraged to keep in touch with each other. If there's someone in the church you'd like to reach out to - maybe someone living alone - but you don't have their contact information, please call the church office and leave a message (401 246-0111 x 101) or email office@bccucc.org. Christine will then get their contact information to you.

'RIP Medical Debt' offering - deadline for donations is April 15th.

In early March, in a 'Moment for Mission', Seth Forman told the congregation about the R.I.P. Medical Debt Initiative that the Southern New England Conference was inviting all 609 churches to participate in to celebrate the birth of our new conference. He, and then Nancy Arena in an eBridge article, explained why the Conference had launched this economic justice initiative:



- Medical debt contributes to more than 60% of all bankruptcies.
- 75% of individuals in medical bankruptcy had health insurance.
- 43 million Americans now owe about \$75 billion in past-due medical care.
- Medical debt forces families to forgo or be denied health care services.
- The financial burden of medical debt forces families to cut back on other critical

needs, such as food and clothing.

Although much has changed since the M&J Team committed to this fund raising effort and there will be no special offering taken in church, we encourage all of you to prayerfully consider donating, as every \$100 collected will be used to eliminate \$10,000 in medical debt in some of the needlest communities in our region, including Providence. Please make checks payable to 'BCCUCC' with 'R.I.P. Medical Debt' in the memo line and mail them to the church office at 461 County Road, Barrington RI 02806. Thank you.

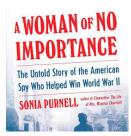
To learn more go to: https://www.sneucc.org/RIP-medical-debt.

UPDATE: Thank you to those who have already responded. We invite others to donate if they are able. Our deadline for receiving donations is April 15th.

The following is from an email received 4/1/20 from SNEUCC: "To date, you, the members of the Southern New England Conference United Church of Christ, have raised \$40,000. This will be used to eliminate \$4,000,000 of medical debt! What a blessing this is!"

Book Group will meet via Zoom

The Book Group has chosen A Woman of No Importance' by Sonia Purnell to discuss at their April meeting which will be via Zoom on Tuesday, April 21st, at a time tbd. Some people were unable to get hold of a copy of this month's book, so they are invited to share information about another book that they've been reading instead. More information from Helen Schall at helenschall@hotmail.com or 245-4724. All are welcome.



Reminders

Prayers of the People

Dale and Linda are including Prayers of the People during each Sunday's worship service. (Please note that they won't be sharing prayer requests at the Easter Sunday service, so only submit prayers for inclusion the following Sunday, April 19th). They invite you to email or text them prayers (to dale@bccucc.org or linda@bccucc.org), or leave a



message on the church's answering machine (246-0111) any time prior to 9:00 AM on Sunday morning so they can include them in the live stream. Please be sure if you are mentioning people, to confirm that they would be comfortable with being lifted up in public AND that you don't include full names. Perhaps just mention first names. We want to be respectful of peoples' privacy as we hold them in our prayers.

Church Offering - please continue to give if you are able

Thank you to those of you who have already mailed in your contributions to the church. If you are financially able to do so at this time, we encourage you to mail in your regular contributions or use online banking if that is available to you. This will allow our cash flow to remain stable and for the church to be able to pay its bills and meet payroll. We appreciate your efforts! If you have any questions or concerns, please contact our Financial Secretary, Pat Stoddard, at pat@bccucc.org or 246-0111 x 102. Thank you.



Ways to watch our live-streams

We are doing our live-streams using 'Facebook Live' and there are two places to watch it online:

1. On the church's Facebook page www.facebook.com/bccucc

On the church's webpage <u>www.bccucc.org</u> at the '<u>BCCUCC live-stream'</u> link from the home page, where the feed will be embedded.

For Facebook live, simply go to www.facebook.com/bccucc to watch.
You don't need a Facebook account to see it. If you do have an account, search for the church's Facebook Page which is 'Barrington Congregational Church UCC'. If you 'Like' our page should then get our news feeds, and also be able to comment on our posts and the live feeds.

If you're not able to watch live, you can watch a recording later, on the <u>live-stream page</u> of our website.

The office is closed but you can still reach us

Following recent recommendations, the church office will be closed for the foreseeable future. However you can still be in touch with the ministers and staff. You can either send an email or leave a message on the answering machine at the person's extension. Both emails and voice mail messages will be checked regularly. Our contact information is:



Dale <u>dale@bccucc.org</u> (401) 246-0111 x 103

Linda linda@bccucc.org (401) 246-0111 x 104

Christine office@bccucc.org (401) 246-0111 x 101 (or just stay on the line)

Pat pat@bccucc.org (401) 246-0111 x 102

Andrea andrea@bccucc.org (401) 246-0111 x 107

As Dale says in his most recent blog "if you need support, strength, or help in these days, please don't wait for Linda, me, or someone else from the church to call you. Reach out to us. We're still here and we'll be there for you in the ways that we can!"

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