

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

# **2020 ANNUAL REPORT**



All church members are encouraged to attend the

**ANNUAL MEETING**

**Sunday, June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

via Zoom



following the 10 a.m. worship service

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**WARRANT**  
**for the 2020 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 virtually on

**SUNDAY, JUNE 7<sup>TH</sup>, 2020** immediately after worship **via Zoom**.\*

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 receive and vote on the slate of nominees for a Search Committee to fill the position of Associate Minister for Congregational Life.

ARTICLE IV: To hear a report from the 'Vision 2020 and beyond' Team.

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

*\* At the time of writing, we are still under COVID-19 pandemic restrictions and our congregation is not meeting in person. Our Sunday worship services are being livestreamed both on our church's Facebook page and website. The Annual Meeting will therefore take place virtually via Zoom. The information to join the Zoom meeting was sent to the congregation ahead of time – primarily by email, but also by regular mail to those without computer access. Members can join the meeting via computer/tablet/smartphone (video and/or audio) or via a regular phone call (audio only). For security reasons (to avoid zoom bombers) the zoom information required to participate in the meeting is not included here as this document will be posted to our church's website.*



**MINUTES of the 2019 ANNUAL MEETING**  
**of the BARRINGTON CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC**  
**held JUNE 9<sup>TH</sup>, 2019**

The annual meeting of the Barrington Congregational Church, UCC was called to order at 11:16 AM. A quorum was present.

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

Elizabeth Azevedo, for the Membership team, described that there are several openings. Membership is concerned about presenting a slate of nominees that is not within the By Laws.

Dale Azevedo: Changes were made to the By Laws in 2014 because of difficulty filling all the slots for officers and ministry teams. We have to find replacements for those who have been serving. We are still operating in our 1950s mode. Clerk and Treasurer offices are vacant. Deacons are needed, among other positions.

Discussion followed:

- We may need to consolidate even more.
- It's hard to get people with busy lives to come out. Could make a motion to form a By Laws Committee
- We are adhering to a structure that is somewhat archaic – how much power do we have outside UCC policies
- We have autonomy
- For instance, the position of historian is not needed - everyone keeps really good records
- We need to re-examine the structure –
- It's about more than ByLaws – how do people want to give their time to the church – some ministries are not represented on the new roster –
- People are busy – how can I serve and still have time to myself?
- The Renewal Team has been trying to figure out where we need to go – Council is working on Why we do what we do? How can we change in a way to encourage people to participate?
- We have a lot of new people in the church – aren't they asked about what they do, etc.
- We were active when we were younger but now I'm at a different stage – could we job share?
- We need to talk to people when they join – some may come from “top down” churches – may not know there's a commitment to this church when you join
- We could have a committee to talk to ministry teams –
- In another organization I am mentoring a new member, could we do that?

Dale noted: Let's celebrate the people who are here because we love the church. Is there something that you are willing to do? (one response)

Motion: Accept the slate of officers and members as written and others who wish to serve (Larry, Paul D); approved unanimously.

Motion: To form a committee to review the structure (Larry, Paul D) approved unanimously.

List of those who volunteered to serve on this new ad hoc committee: Abby Ashley, Marlene Manchester, Kate Colby, Bernie Hawes, Jane Tonn, Helen MacDonald, Tom Gidley, Heather Williamson, Larry Ashley (convener)

Dale asked: Is there anyone willing to be Clerk? (No) Treasurer? (No)

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

Larry for Buildings & Grounds - The arches in the foyer of Fellowship Hall on the river side are decaying at the base – there is wall movement that is also affecting the windows. An engineer

came in and said that this has to be repaired this summer – a report will be issued. The floor has asbestos beneath the flooring. The right thing to do is to pull up the whole floor; windows may have to be repaired also. This will be a lot of expense.

ARTICLE IV: To adjourn the meeting. (Miriam, Lynne). Dale thanked everyone for attending and offered a prayer. Meeting adjourned 11: 54 AM.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Pat Cordeiro*, Clerk



**MINUTES of the ANNUAL BUDGET MEETING  
of the BARRINGTON CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC  
held JANUARY 26<sup>TH</sup>, 2020**

A **quorum** was in attendance.

**Meeting commenced** at 11:12 AM with Tom Strolla presiding as acting Moderator.

**Articles of the Meeting** were announced as:

- 1) Calling the meeting to order,
- 2) Presenting the church's annual budget for January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020,
- 3) Transacting any other business not connected to the budget,
- 4) Adjourning the meeting.

**Finance Ministry team Chairperson Tom Colby presented the budget.** His comments included: 1) the church conducted a very successful Stewardship Focus for church year 2020 , 2) 2020 Expenditures included: an increase in Personnel costs for COLA and Insurance, a Marketing expense, a "Special Ministry initiative" expense, travel expense for church personnel engaged in conference business, conference dues expense which is based on a proportional giving model taking into account last year's income and penned at 5.06%, an increase in cash reserves for emergency purposes of \$5000. Tom then stated that \$401,000 of income from pledges was budgeted, yet the church can realistically count on \$390,000 of pledge income based on new information made available.

**Tom Colby proposed an adjustment to the budget** that would decrease the addition of cash reserves and decrease the special ministry initiative; hence, balancing the 2020 church budget.

**Marion Fodor made a motion to approve the budget** with the adjustment; the motion was seconded and unanimously approved by the quorum present.

There was no additional church business.

**The meeting adjourned at 11:20 AM.**

Faithfully submitted,  
*Gregory A. Voigt*, Clerk



**MINUTES of the SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**  
**of the BARRINGTON CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC**  
**held APRIL 10<sup>TH</sup>, 2020 via Zoom**

**Article I:** The meeting was called to order at 4:04 pm by Moderator Kathy Sullivan

Rev. Dale Azevedo opened with a prayer and noted that there were 52 “families” attending on Zoom. Kathy welcomed all to the Zoom meeting and gave the floor to Dale. Dale, as technical oversight, reviewed the technical process by which the meeting via Zoom would be conducted. He ended by noting that, the vote would be handled by roll call and staff who attend the meeting would abstain from the vote, due to its direct effect on them.

**Article II:** Kathy called on Tom Colby to explain the reason for the meeting.

Tom stated that the council voted to apply for a loan under the CARES PPP (Payroll Protection Program) Act to help with any revenue losses due to the Covid19 pandemic. Under the CARES Act, BCCUCC can apply for up to 2.5 times its monthly payroll, and a portion of the loan may be forgiven if BCCUCC maintains its payroll during that time. Tom could not say how much our income has been affected so far, but given that we have not been able to gather for worship, income has likely been reduced. Additionally, we know some members of our congregation have been laid off, suggesting more potential income reduction in the near future.

The council approved moving forward with this particular loan option because: a portion may be forgiven, it is help for a 2 month window, and its only stipulations are that the organization is closed for business and it maintains its payroll during that window. For the portion of the loan that is not forgiven, the annual interest rate is 1%, and there are no prepayment penalties. Tom suggested we pay back any amount not forgiven.

Tom further stated that council started the application process, but to continue with the process and accept a loan if it is forthcoming, we need congregational approval. The loan applied for is for \$64,000.

**MOTION** to approve continuing the loan application process to receive a loan for \$64,000 under the CARES PPP Act, some portion of which to be forgiven, and to endeavor to use only the amount needed so we can pay back any unforgiven portion. (Tom Colby).

Kathy asked if there were any questions from membership.

Question: When is Linda leaving, because it could impact loan decision? Tom replied that Linda is under contract to the end of December. The Loan rules are to maintain 8 weeks of payroll from the beginning of the loan.

Question: Can you please speak to the separation of church and state as it pertains to this loan? Dale responded that in his understanding there is no violation of the constitutional requirements of separation of church and state. The Cares Act does not pick out any particular religion or organization. The loans are open to all small businesses and all faith communities. Furthermore, there are no strings attached that undermine our ability to preach the gospel.

Question: Is this under PPP and would we go for more? Tom answered that yes, we are applying under the CARES PPP Act, and we are asking for the upper limit according to the loan payroll calculation.

General discussion ensued about the possible use of the monies and our potential loss of income. Up to 25% of the money can also be used (and forgiven) for some non-payroll items, including utilities, as long as staffing is maintained. The government is looking to keep people off of unemployment, so is willing to pay to help organizations keep their employees paid. Building & Grounds, and Finance, have already made a decision to continue to pay part-time staff at current levels.

Question: It sounds like we are trying to take advantage of a situation that may or may not be necessary. Are we behind in income now? Could we just ask the congregation to pay their pledges? Do we need to borrow from the Federal Government?

There was further discussion: We hope and pray that pledges will be fulfilled, but recognize that there will be situations that will hinder this. We want to make sure we don't use this in a way that lets members think it is ok to reduce pledges in the future. This can't be a windfall. Several people agreed, it should only be used to replace lost income and anything left over should be given back. We know we are forgiving Tots rent in April and possibly May. It is also possible we will not get the loan. The loan is first come first serve, which is why we moved forward with the application last Friday. It is not guaranteed that we get the loan; it is not guaranteed the loan will be forgiven.

In responding further to the question of why go to the federal government for a loan if we are not behind now, it was noted that this is in *anticipation* of lowered funds, given the circumstances. The CARE PPP Act exists now, but not necessarily later, so why not act now? And, as a further reply, we can't tell what our situation is right now. We are getting this loan as protection and we can refund it if we don't need it.

Moderator Kathy Sullivan called for a vote. The motion was approved.

**Article III:** Kathy thanked the attending members and called for a motion to adjourn.

**MOTION** to adjourn (Wendy Forman). The motion was approved.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:31pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Kate Colby, Clerk Pro Tem



## **Reports from our Ministers**

### **SENIOR MINISTER**

**DALE AZEVEDO**

I must say that it is difficult to sit down and write this report. Usually the Sr. Minister's report covers an overview of the past year and lays out a quick vision of where we are headed in the coming year. Unfortunately, this typical format is complicated by the reality that we are currently 2-3 months into the Coronavirus global pandemic. We have not met physically as a community for that entire time. We have relied on virtual meetings and online worship services. In many instances these have been effective, but they are a major departure from what most of us experience as "church". This has been a trying time for the church leadership and all our membership. Everything we have done prior to March 13 is filtered through our present lens of physical distancing. However, before I continue with the report, I want to celebrate the wonderful work our staff and church leadership have done to adjust to our current circumstances and how supportive and understanding our membership has been. BCCUCC is doing great in these times.

Perhaps the biggest change we experienced this year, outside of Covid-19, was the change in our Associate Minister. Brendan received a call from Oregon and left in January to begin his new ministry there. We welcomed Linda Hartley on February 1 and she has done amazingly well to come in and adapt to this difficult reality. She tried to maintain continuity for the confirmation class and has led an adult spiritual gifts workshop. She has a wonderful worship presence and will be an asset to our congregation and any other call she receives following her "designated term" here with us. We are currently recruiting a search committee to present a candidate to be our settled associate minister. This transition is anticipated at the end of 2020.

Another noteworthy event was a very successful stewardship campaign this past fall. The success of this campaign was driven by both our longtime committed members and the growing influx of new families joining our church. This growth is symbolized in a 300% increase in our three youngest church school classes. It has been great to see so many new children in worship for the children's message and helping to lead our new monthly intergenerational worship services. Between the influx of these new families and an increase in giving we have held and celebrated many successful ministries over the past year. You should be able to read about them in the following pages.

What lies ahead of us is a lot of uncertainty. We are blessed to be such a healthy organization, in members, ministries, and financials. Many faith communities are going to find it difficult to weather a prolonged pandemic. Some communities have announced they will be shutting down for the summer and re-evaluating their future in the fall. Others have announced that they will remain physically distanced and worshipping virtually for the next year. Still others are finding ways to open up and hope their precautions are thorough enough to prevent the spread of Covid-19 through their membership and beyond.

We are currently in the process of establishing a team that will guide our future decisions. They will be keeping up with all the latest guidelines published by the state and federal governments as well as from our new conference, the Southern New England Conference, UCC.

So far, we have proven to be a very resilient community. The love and connection we have to one another along with the faith we share in God has kept us focused and committed to each other and our ministries. Although giving during the pandemic appears to be down some, many



members have fulfilled their entire year's giving early to keep our ministries happening. Our teams, which initially took a few weeks to a month in isolation, have returned and are meeting regularly through video conferencing. We are beginning to explore what it means to be a church in the 21st century and how much this pandemic will change that definition.

In closing I share one of the scripture verses that was read this past Sunday, "For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the LORD, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope." (Jeremiah 29:11)

## **ASSOCIATE MINISTER (DESIGNATED TERM)**

**LINDA HARTLEY**

Even though I joined the ministry team only a few short months ago, it certainly has been a busy time filled with new challenges and opportunities. Only about one month after my first Sunday with you, we found ourselves moving to online worship due to the Coronavirus pandemic. Confirmation classes and the Lenten class also moved to online meetings, as did every other team and group gathering. Visitation also shifted from in-person visits to telephone calls and emails. I have been especially grateful for the many phone conversations I have had with individuals in our congregation as we have shared concerns as well as laughter. We have seen what we have known all along – the church is not the building. It's so much more.

The Confirmation program, begun in the fall by Brendan Curran, has been busy this year. In addition to classes, our nine Confirmands have participated in community service opportunities including a service day at Mathewson Street Church in November and a community service project assembling hygiene kits for Church World Services in early March. In January, the Confirmands attended a workshop at Seekonk Congregational Church, "Racial Justice and Our Faith," sponsored by the Rhode Island Association of the UCC. In February, members of the Confirmation class attended the Ash Wednesday service. In April, due to the suspension of in-person meetings, Confirmation classes moved online. The suspension of in-person worship through May meant making a difficult decision about Confirmation Sunday. After consultation with the Confirmands and parents, it was decided to move Confirmation to the fall when we can gather together in person to welcome these young people into membership. We all look forward to this time of community and celebration.

During Lent, I led a four-week course, *Discerning Your Spiritual Gifts*. While this began with in-person meetings on Thursday evenings, it too moved online in mid-March. This was a very enjoyable program for me to design and to lead. Over the course of the four weeks, we explored the gifts we recognize in ourselves as well as how we've been using those gifts in our work, families, and communities. We also looked at the gifts we have but maybe haven't been expressing as much as we would like. Although the course was cut short by one session as we reconfigured meetings to conform to the states' stay-at-home restrictions, we quickly navigated online learning. This provided us all with the additional opportunity to stay connected while so much around us was changing. Our shared laughter and sense of community were truly a blessing during this time.

Over the past few months, we have truly borne witness to the fact that the church is so much more than the building. Even as we have faced unique challenges in recent months, the work of the church continues to reach people and support them in faith through life's challenges and celebrations. I am blessed to be a part of this work.

## **Reports from our Church Officers**

### **MODERATOR**

**KATHY SULLIVAN**

In my second year as Church Moderator, I am still amazed by the dedication and commitment of the members of the Council to ensuring the safe and successful operation of our church. I am awed by their love of this church community and willingness to work through the challenges of keeping our church functioning – whether it be decisions about the structure of fellowship hall or managing the challenges of COVID 19 – these members humbly work to make this church the welcoming place it can be today and for years to come.

The council members represent the ministry teams and the work they achieve throughout the year, from the work of the many teams that make this church an exciting, inviting, and engaging place. We reflect on how to best promote our church to the wider community through social media and being a presence at community events. The work of the Council and committees continues to be reflected in the number of new young faces at Children's time.

We saw Brendan grow in his time with our congregation and move to a new congregation in a new state. Therefore, we are in the process of assessing the role of Associate Minister and the process for a search committee. Like all change, it is not easy but can present new opportunities for growth and reflection.

The Council continues to bring the work of the Church Renewal process to fruition with its quarterly Visioning meetings. This provides a time to step back from the monthly business role of the council and enable us to think bigger and wider with a view to strengthening, not only the physical property, but our congregation. These open sessions are an opportunity to reflect on our purpose as a church community.

Of course, we now find ourselves in uncharted waters with the onset of a pandemic and the inability to worship together. This is incredibly hard on all of us. It is a time when we need community and God the most and yet are prevented from gathering. So, we have had to be adroit and creative to sustain community. Hidden strengths and undiscovered talents rise to the surface whether that is in quickly creating an online service or compiling a beautiful video of the church grounds to regale us at Easter, or the choir sharing their soothing music through Zoom. God is good all the time even in a pandemic.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve alongside such wonderful leaders.

### **HISTORIAN**

**LIZ ROSENHOLM**

BCCUCC aka 'The White Church' is holding onto its tradition as an active member of the community by helping those in need. The Deacons' Fund allows us to help those less fortunate by giving gift cards for food at the local market, Shaw's.

Dianne Wilkin and I have been sorting the historical papers, Bibles and memorabilia by centuries and then by decades. Proper containers are being purchased to store these articles for preservation. Unfortunately our progress has been halted by the pandemic; however we will resume this activity when all is open again.

## AUDITOR

No report was submitted.

## TREASURER

JOHN LOERKE & BARBARA WUTH

### Operations

Something of a milestone was reached in 2019 when Total Revenue exceeded \$500,000 for the first time, 3.0% above 2018 and a similar percentage higher than budgeted. Gifts were greater than expected and a brief interval of slightly higher interest rates allowed earnings on CDs to boost Investment Income (now accounting for 16.5% of Operating Income).

The favorable revenue variance made our goal of a balanced budget achievable while still maintaining reserves to cover possible future health care costs and permitting normal expensing of our initial foray into marketing, leaving intact a generously donated reserve for future communications outreach.

### Capital Improvements

Sources of capital improvement funding:

Swift and Spectacular Response to the Arch Crisis	\$30,025
Generous Donation	22,131
Contribution from Operations	<u>20,813</u>
Total	\$72,960

Major capital improvement highlights:

Doors Project	\$12,520
Painting – Front and North Church Exterior	9,950
Arches Project – Engineering and Deposits	8,320
Condensate Pump Project	7,877
Camera System Upgrade	6,700
Foundation Restoration	5,195
Exterior LED Lighting	5,166
Fireside Garage Door Replacement	2,937
Security Alert System	<u>2,765</u>
Total	\$61,431

### Endowment

A banner year in the stock market highlighted Endowment's 2019. In aggregate, the Fund rose nearly 18%, trailing indices weighted by the mega tech stocks, but in line with risk-adjusted metrics. Additions to the Fund totaled \$5,567

## Summary of Financial Activity and Financial Position for 2019

### Statement of Activities for the Year Ended December 31, 2019

	<u>Operations</u>	<u>Capital Improvements</u>	<u>Endowment</u> <sup>Note A</sup>	<u>Total</u>
Revenues				
Pledges, Gifts and Offerings	\$386,453	\$72,960 <sup>Note B</sup>	\$5,567	\$464,980
Investment Income or Loss	80,690 <sup>Note C</sup>		320,826	401,516
Rentals	20,211			20,211
Other	13,488			13,488
Total Revenues	<u>\$500,842</u>	<u>\$72,960</u>	<u>\$326,393</u>	<u>\$900,195</u>
Expenses				
Staff	\$332,296			\$332,296
Office	13,779			13,779
Church Life/Christian Education				23,698
Buildings & Grounds	82,144			82,144
Capital Improvement	20,813	61,431		82,244 <sup>Note D</sup>
Missions	28,889		86,673 <sup>Note E</sup>	115,562
Total Expenses	<u>\$501,619</u>	<u>\$61,431</u>	<u>\$86,673</u>	<u>\$649,723</u>
Change in Net Assets	-777	11,529	239,720	250,472
Net Assets 12/31/18	<u>100,143</u>	<u>39,053</u>	<u>1,803,419</u>	<u>1,942,615</u>
Net Assets 12/31/19	<u>\$99,366</u>	<u>\$50,582</u>	<u>\$2,043,139</u>	<u>\$2,193,087</u>

### Statement of Financial Position for the Year Ended December 31, 2019

Assets				
Cash and Investments	\$245,444	\$17,946	\$2,043,139	\$2,306,529
Receivables and Other Assets	15,879	0	0	15,879
Total Assets	<u>\$261,324</u>	<u>\$17,946</u>	<u>\$2,043,139</u>	<u>\$2,322,409</u>
Deferred Income & Liabilities				
Funds for Designated Purposes	161,957	17,993 <sup>Note F</sup>	0	179,950
Other	0	-50,629 <sup>Note G</sup>	0	-50,629
Total Liabilities	<u>161,957</u>	<u>-32,636</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>129,321</u>
Net Assets	<u>\$99,366</u>	<u>\$50,582</u>	<u>\$2,043,139</u>	<u>\$2,193,088</u>

### Notes to the Financial Statements

- A The Endowment account balance is held in various funds subject, in certain cases, to terms significantly restricting the Church's use of the principal balance.
- B Includes receipts from Operations of \$20,813.
- C Includes receipts from Endowment Funds of \$78,500.
- D Unadjusted for double counting, actual capital spending totaled \$61,431.
- E Includes disbursements to Operations Investment Income of \$78,500.
- F Includes reserves against possible flood damage and property insurance deductible of \$17,993.
- G Includes \$50,629 Due from Operations.

## Special Reports

### VISION 2020 TEAM

LARRY ASHLEY

During the Annual Elections in 2019, where members are appointed to the various committees, it was commented that we had a large number of unfilled positions on the various teams. And a year later, we have found that to be again true with many positions going without a volunteer to fill them. Out of that 2019 comment came the establishment of the Vision 2020 Team where we were charged with examining our current committee make up and determine where modifications to our committee structures were possible or necessary.

We found that with the exception of a small change in 2014, our Ministry Team model has been essentially unchanged over a number of decades where the makeup of the team structure was based on a larger number of members. Further, while the roles and directions of many teams have changed, their basic structure has not been modified.

Based on that knowledge, the Vision 2020 Team has looked at the many roles that are necessary for the successful running of our church and have broken them down into the hundreds of tasks that occur on a steady basis. We've also looked around the country at many different churches to see how they are structured.

This has led to many discussions and at times, healthy disagreements, as to what is best for our church. Out of those many conversations has come the agreement that we must ensure that our teams are kept nimble enough that they may change as the needs of our church and society changes. While currently approximately 83 positions are required to be filled through the Annual Election, we hope to reduce the number of elected positions significantly, possibly combine teams and perhaps even change the roles of the teams. And in some cases, teams might not change at all.

A significant amount of work remains for the Vision 2020 Team, however, this will all be proposed with an eye towards creating new vibrancy for member participation where teams and their structures remain interesting and flexible. And where we as a church can be ready to meet the ever changing needs of our members and the community at large.

*Vision 2020 Team: Larry Ashley (chair), Abby Ashley, Dale Azevedo, Kate Colby, Bernie Hawes, Helen MacDonald, and Tom Strolla.*

## **Reports from our Ministry Teams**

### **BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS MINISTRY TEAM**

**PAUL DENNIS & LARRY ASHLEY**

This past year has been a busy year for the Building & Grounds Ministry Team with both planned and unplanned work.

From an unplanned perspective, the laminated wood arches in Fellowship Hall consumed a great deal of our attention over the majority of the past year. It was discovered that the structural arches located on the east side of Fellowship Hall had decayed due to water intrusion and that their bases were essentially no longer existent. Consequently, the wall had started to deflect outward at its base and a large gap was readily apparent between the concrete floor and the three beams. One arch had a gap of 1¼". This wall deflection also prevented the windows from opening in some cases.

To repair this issue Northeast Engineers was hired to develop a plan and drawings as well as to monitor the repair work. Deslandes Construction was hired to repair the arches and work was completed in January of this year.

Building & Grounds and of course all our congregation are deeply appreciative of the many members that generously donated to fully cover the cost of the repairs. This helped to bring these repairs to rapid completion assuring that Fellowship Hall was available for use.

From planned project perspective, a great deal of work was planned and completed.

This included the addition or replacement of new security cameras around the Education building with a central viewing point in the office. This improvement provided the office with the ability to view all entrances remotely. Other security enhancements were also made at this time.

The front doors of the Sanctuary were removed, repaired and rehung with a fresh coat of paint. The doors had been delaminating and leaking and had become the home to a couple of species of fungi.

The rusting vestry side door, which was difficult to open, was replaced with a commercial door that now swings open easily ensuring that all may enter the Sanctuary without effort. This repair was made possible through the generous donation of an anonymous donor.

The outside north and west sides of the Sanctuary were repainted keeping the Sanctuary protected from the elements. The gleaming white was certainly noticed by members and passersby who commented on the great appearance of the church.

This was further enhanced by the replacement of the old spotlights that were used to light up the front of the Sanctuary and the steeple with brighter, more energy efficient LEDs. The Sanctuary continues to be a beacon of hope to all that see it during both the day and at night.

Additionally, a long standing problem due to the lack of sufficient lighting around the Education Building was resolved by replacing the old, dim, lighting fixtures with bright energy efficient lighting over all doors and stairways. The difference is remarkable. And we expect to see a reduction in energy costs with this lighting improvement.

The landscaping around the Sanctuary Grounds continues to improve through the efforts of a landscaping company that was hired to tend to the grounds.

With the departure of our Associate Minister, the Building & Grounds Team took advantage of having the Nathaniel Road parsonage vacant and after a thorough cleaning the walls and ceilings were painted in most of the house. The floor in the kitchen and side entryway was replaced and the carpet in the family room. Additionally, new blinds were purchased and installed and much of the lighting was replaced with LED's. Appliances were also repaired as needed. We plan on having the landscaping around the parsonage cleaned up this year as much of it is overgrown.

We continue to be thankful to Building & Grounds members for their efforts to keep our structures and grounds in good shape and usable by all of our members. We're also particularly thankful for the donations of funds and efforts by members of our church community which make many of our projects, including some not listed above, possible.

## **CHANCEL MINISTRY TEAM**

**BETH BUCKLEY**

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

Funding for the Chancel ministry comes from donations from the congregation for weekly altar flowers and from donations to the Chancel Fund at Christmas and Easter. We coordinate the distribution of the weekly altar flowers to members and friends of the congregation who may be ill, bereaved, shut-in or otherwise in need of remembrance. Arrangements are purchased from The Greenery in Warren at \$30 per vase. The Thanksgiving cornucopia arrangements of fresh vegetables are from local producers and purchased at Quality Fruitland. They are later donated to Tap-In. The Chancel team meets on the Saturday before each holiday to set up the special arrangements. Any extra money to the Chancel Fund is used for anything that might enhance the worship service, e.g. sound system, altar tables, etc.

Our usual routine was changed in mid-March due to the Covid 19 pandemic. Our worship services now are seen live and online. Sunday flowers are displayed as usual at the altar and a photograph of them is shown during the service. Dale or Linda reads the dedications and describes the flowers. Easter Sunday was different in that we didn't use as many flowers as usual. Setting them up on the day before required our wearing masks, gloves and observing social distancing. Flowers would ordinarily be given to the donors or to bereaved members of the congregation, but due to worries of spreading the virus, we no longer distribute the Sunday flowers. Some of the Easter flowers are perennial and will be distributed over the summer after the Covid 19 subsides. We expect the remainder of the church year through the end of June to be online. Still there are many of us who wish to provide the funding for the flowers and have them dedicated to their loved ones.

Chancel is under the umbrella of the Deacons. We work together for serving at Coffee Hour and the Soup Kitchen. We do not have regular meeting times but touch base with each other at Coffee Hour on Sunday mornings. We also meet for brunch occasionally to review plans for upcoming events.

## **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND YOUTH MINISTRIES TEAM**

**GREG VOIGT and ANDREA BULLARD**

CEYM celebrated the start of church year 2019-2020 on Open Doors Sunday with the theme “Be the Change.” An ice cream truck, a dunk tank and a bouncy house added to the festivities and church families were encouraged to register their children for Sunday School. In addition, a solicitation to the congregation to increase the pool of Sunday School teachers and assistants was put forth, though it was met with limited success. Due to demographics, the Sunday School population for church year 2019-2020 seemed to be concentrated in the pre-school to 4<sup>th</sup> grade population with a limited population in the 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade range, but a healthy population of confirmation-aged students.

CEYM continued to provide Pew Pals for children during church services. Some of the highlights of the year included: monthly All Ages worship services, Advent Arts, the Christmas Eve Pageant and a Mardi Gras themed pancake breakfast fund raiser. The team also gave out goodie bags to children after the Christmas Eve service.

Reverend Brendan Curran left for a new ministry at the beginning of February and Linda Hartley came in to fill the Associate Minister position. She continued the confirmation class of nine youths. An attempt to establish a youth group in the Fall was made, but participation was extremely low. That energy was redirected towards the confirmation class.

Adding to the challenges this year was the COVID-19 virus and contagion which closed the church property from March 15<sup>th</sup> to present. This closure significantly effects the confirmation previously scheduled for Pentecost Sunday (postponed to the Fall of 2020) and Jubilation Sunday signifying the end of the 2019-2020 Sunday School year. CEYM Coordinator Andrea Bullard began offering stories via FaceBook during “Llama Pajama Time”. She also began joining the ministers to give a message at the Children’s time during the Sunday service. Additionally, a youth service trip to Puerto Rico scheduled in June was necessarily cancelled due to the COVID-19 outbreak.

The Our Whole Lives (O.W.L.) program did not have enough participants to justify offering it this year. We hope to figure out a way to offer it next year or next summer when the pandemic is safely behind us.

The ministry team is continually looking for ways to engage children in the activities of the church and has solicited the involvement of children in Soup Kitchen tours-of-duty, church property cleanups, and community service projects. We are also seeing more involvement of the children in the All Ages worship services. The church has hosted 3 separate Boy Scout troops which have met on successive days each week in Fellowship Hall pre-COVID-19 and a number of the scouts are members of the church family.

Our ministry team looks forward to a safe re-opening of church activities and an active year of Christian education once the COVID-19 virus has abated.



## **DEACONS**

**BERNIE HAWES**

The 2019-2020 was a year of change and challenge.

Amy Barkat and Jane Tonn were installed as new deacons on October 6<sup>th</sup>, as our other seven Deacons were rededicated. Jane offers a rich religious perspective to the group, which, coupled with Amy's organizational skills and enthusiasm, greatly benefits the team. Three (preferably four) deacons need to be added to the roster for 2020-2021 since three members' terms are done: Chris Brady, Bernie Hawes and Kim Zeleznik. Chris Brady deserves special recognition for having served as a Deacon in our church for a total of fourteen years. His dedication and contributions are greatly appreciated.

Our Deacons Fellowship dinner at Pat Stoddard's home kicked off our year on October 4<sup>th</sup>.

Every month the Deacons meet to organize communion, review our upcoming goals and discuss new ways to connect with our faith family and community. Each meeting starts with time dedicated to spiritual devotion. We are invited to share our reflections based on a religious passage, quote, example or story. It's an effective way to open our meetings.

The Covid-19 Virus has certainly thrown a curve ball at all our church activities. While we are not currently holding service or meetings in person, we do continue to meet and interact virtually for both. We hope our church family is able to enjoy the Sunday services via Facebook or the BCCUCC website.

We continue to support our neighbors in need with grocery gift cards and our church members in crisis through the Deacons Fund. This special fund is collected on the first Sunday of the month, historically via a specific envelope found in the pews. With worship now restricted to virtual services, we hope those who are able will continue to support the Deacons Fund throughout the pandemic. We are funneling the money for grocery cards to Tap-In while our office is closed.

Our Associate Minister Brendan Curran's move to lead a church in Oregon segued into our welcoming Linda Hartley, Associate Minister, Designated Term, to our ministry team. The deacons are enjoying getting to know and work with Linda despite the challenges she faces with the social distancing mandates. Her talents seem to nicely complement those of Rev. Dale.

The Deacons continue to have a strong role in the worship service, and provide other services as we have traditionally. While social distancing has prevented or delayed some of these traditions, we work closely with Dale and Linda to find ways to reach out and interact with our members.

I was honored to serve as a deacon, and to sit as their chair these past three years.

## **ENDOWMENT MINISTRY TEAM**

**KATE COLBY**

2019 was an exceptionally good year for investments and our funds saw significant growth. We ended 2019 with a total of \$2,043,139 under management; up from \$1,803,419. Of the 2019 total, \$125,722 are designated for specific use. The 3 managers of our funds all had returns near their benchmarks. Rhode Island Foundation had returns of 18.6%, while United Church Funds' were 19.2% and Ocean State Incubator Fund's were 19.7%.

Distributions from the Endowment Fund are used primarily to support operations. In 2019, that support totaled \$78,500. The first quarter of 2020 saw significant drops in the market, and our Endowment Fund value dropped as well, which is likely to negatively affect next year's distribution. A new distribution formula was approved and used for the 2020 budget. The averaging used in this new formula, smooths out sharp increases/decreases to the distribution amount, and should help soften the impact to next year's distribution. The Endowment team is also tasked with maintaining the purchasing power of the Endowment Funds. We are currently in the process of refining our purchasing power analysis process.

The Endowment Team implemented a significant change in 2019. We obtained approval to move, and moved, funds from Rhode Island Conference to United Church Funds (UCF). United Church Funds are endowment investments overseen by the UCC. UCF manages a much higher value of investments and gives us several choices for allocation of our own funds, while still clearly striving to invest in a socially responsible way.

Continuing with our outreach program, we held information sessions for our members in early 2019 and sponsored an Estate Planning Workshop. We also designed a brochure, which is ready to be published. Due to the Coronavirus pandemic, publication of the brochure and other events we were considering have been put on hold. We will reevaluate the situation in the fall.

We will continue to work on outreach to remind members of the meaningful work our church is doing, and that giving to our Endowment Funds is a viable option to help finance those important efforts.

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

## **FINANCE MINISTRY TEAM**

**TOM COLBY**

2019 concluded with a successful stewardship campaign feeding into our annual budget process. This year the generosity of the pledges made it possible to plan some expansions of capability including marketing. As we progressed into spring, there were significant changes; we said goodbye to Brenden, hello to Linda, and suspended in-person Sunday services due to Covid-19.

To support a continued form of Sunday services, we have adopted on-line tools. We also expanded our Wi-Fi support to include the sanctuary. The expense related to this was unplanned, unexpected, and enabled by other savings.

In anticipation of possible declines in income, we applied for and received a PPP loan of approximately \$64,000 under the CARES act as passed by congress in early April. We expect that a good portion of this will be forgiven. We are planning to return/repay at least as much as the non-forgivable portion of this loan. At the time of this writing, we have not seen a reduction in expected giving, however, some pledged giving has been accelerated and, given the state of the economy, it still seems likely that we will suffer larger than usual reduced and lost pledges.

*Tom Colby, Chair, Steve Fodor, Sam Sylvester  
and Co-Treasurers John Loerke and Barbara Wuth*

## 2020 OPERATIONS BUDGET

### BCCUCC budget 2020

1	Income	
2	Pledges	
3	Pledges	394,191
4	Prior year	500
5	Shrinkage	<u>-10,000</u>
6	Total Pledges	<u>384,691</u>
7	Offerings and Gifts	18,400
8	Investment income	82,800
9	Rental income	<u>20,731</u>
10	Total Unrestricted Income	<u>508,622</u>
11	Collections for missions	4,750
12	Other designated income	<u>6,750</u>
13	Total Restricted Income	<u>11,500</u>
14	Total Income	<u>520,122</u>
15	Expense	
16	Personnel	<u>342,615</u>
17	Buildings & Grounds	
18	Capital	20,000
19	C&E building	44,660
20	Parsonages	16,050
21	Insurance	<u>26,020</u>
22	Total Buildings & Grounds	<u>106,730</u>
23	Office	<u>13,800</u>
24	Church Life	
25	Christian Education	5,350
26	Chancel	4,000
27	Other teams	7,680
28	Other projects	<u>9,000</u>
29	Total Church life	<u>26,030</u>
30	Mission-General Funds	
31	SNEUCC, RI Association	22,298
32	Other	<u>3,400</u>
33	Total Mission-General Funds	25,698
34	Missions-Restricted funds	<u>4,750</u>
35	Total Missions	<u>30,448</u>
36	Total Expense	<u>519,623</u>
37	Surplus/-deficit	<u><u>499</u></u>

## LAY VISITATION MINISTRY TEAM

LINDA HARTLEY

The Lay Visitation Team calls on those in our church community who are unable to attend church in our sanctuary. Whether an individual is homebound due to illness, injury, has restricted mobility, or is suffering from loss and grief, team members reach out through phone calls, cards and, when appropriate, in-person visits. The mission of the Lay Visitation Team is to maintain connections to make sure these individuals know that they remain in the thoughts and prayers of our church community.

This spring, the work of the Lay Visitation Team was focused on cards, notes and phone calls as the Covid-19 pandemic precluded in-person visits. During this time of isolation for those most at risk in our church community, team members continued to maintain those human connections so necessary to our health and well-being.

If you know of someone who might be in need of our caring and prayers, or if you would like to be part of this important ministry, please call the church office.

## MEMBERSHIP MINISTRY TEAM

ELIZABETH AZEVEDO

*“...for I was a stranger and you welcomed me,”* Matthew 25:35

Our big fall project was the creation of a new photo directory for the church. We encouraged church families and friends to get their picture taken after church or provide a picture for us to use. These were organized into a document. With great help from the church office staff, the information part of the directory through the church database was updated. And then the 2 documents were merged to complete the process. Both physical and digital copies of the directory were provided to the congregation.

The team updated the welcome folders in the fall and winter, after Linda Hartley joined the church staff. Welcome folders continue to be provided in several locations including the church building and fellowship hall as part of the Welcome Table where information is available about our church.

The team is involved in hosting new members as they join the church family. This year involved one New Member Sunday due to the stay at home orders through the spring. Cake, boutonnieres and signing the official membership book are part of our welcoming traditions in addition to smiles and welcoming faces.

Each fall or winter we host a Senior Luncheon in the Fellowship Hall. About 45 senior adults attended. Soup from Blount's was donated, and games were played by all.

During the spring, much of our attention is focused on the nominations process for both church council and the church's ministry teams. After determining what spots are open, the process of recruiting church officers and team members requires many phone conversations and emails. This year, the good news is that there are three ministry teams full or near full, CEYM, Buildings & Grounds, and Mission & Justice. Three teams are still in need of more volunteers, they are Membership, Stewardship, and Finance. The church council slate is full, excepting the position

of auditor. We appreciate the willingness of those that came forward to serve the BCC, UCC community for this year.

Our spring goal was to begin the process of looking at the new membership form and how to better gather interest and information about incoming members.

*Elizabeth Azevedo, Libardo De Le Torre, Liz White, Wendy Forman, Fred MacDonald*

## **MISSION AND JUSTICE MINISTRY TEAM**

**HELEN SCHALL**

The purpose of the Mission and Justice Team as stated in the Church By Laws 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 on such issues as the environment, hunger and poverty. To reach these goals we partner with other groups and follow guidance from the United Church of Christ resources in creating 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 the community felt that they were invited to “Be the Change.”

Activities from May, 2019 – May, 2020:

- Letter writing to legislators on climate change occurred in May 2019.
- Support for BCCUCC’s table at the HIV/AIDS walk in Providence
- Hosting of a Potluck program in partnership with the East Bay Citizens for Peace: Listening to the Call of the Great Spirit. This Peace Walk was initiated by the New England Peace Pagoda of Leverett, MA, who were walking portions of the regions that underwent “The Great Dying” prior to the landing of the Mayflower.
- Participation in Gun Violence Awareness Month (June) – the church steeple was illuminated in orange to help bring awareness to gun violence and need for tighter regulation
- Participation in Sts. Matthew and Mark’s Mission to Help the Children Committee which collected donations that were sent to four non-profit organizations assisting people in need at the border.
- Support for the McCoy’s as they welcomed a family of asylum seekers into their home.
- Sponsorship with East Bay Citizens for Peace of a lecture by Dr. Neta C. Crawford: Costs and Consequences of the Post 9/11 Wars.
- Support for the UN Youth Climate Action Summit by participating in a vigil outside the church and keeping the church open for an hour in the morning for those who wanted to learn more about the issues. Also, more Peace flags for the UN International Day of Peace were made by congregants during coffee hour on several Sundays with an emphasis on climate change.
- Sponsorship with Barrington Interfaith Partners of the presentation “Voices of Immigration” a forum with three speakers sharing their experience with immigration issues.

- Sponsorship with Peace Action of a program “This Is Why We Can’t Have Nice Things” with Kevin Martin, national president of Peace Action.
- Thanksgiving Food Drive for TAPIN which collected almost 200 items.
- “Giving Tree” supporting Women’s Resource Center which collected \$805.00.
- The Mitten Tree which provided numerous hats and mittens to Amos House and Loaves and Fishes RI.
- Presentation of “What Is Medicare for All and Why Does it Matter” with J. Mark Ryan, MD and James Cowen, MD.
- Presentation of UCC’s “Our Faith, Our Vote, Our Voices” with a survey of what issues members of our congregation are interested in and a viewing of the UCC video, “When Religion and Politics Meet.” Future events with other speakers had to be postponed due to the pandemic.
- Registration for voting at Stop and Shop.
- Endorsement of R.I.P. Medical Debt, an initiative of the new Southern New England Conference to raise funds to relieve medical debt. BCCUCC’s contribution was \$4000.00.
- Support for the Muslim Community by placing the Blessed Ramadan sign in front of the church during Ramadan.
- Education on UCC Special Offerings

Financial Donations were made to the following:

	\$
Rhode Island State Council of Churches .....	200.00
Mathewson St Church Friendship Breakfast .....	100.00
Dorcas International Institute of RI .....	100.00
Barrington Farm School Adopt a Row .....	200.00
TAPIN .....	100.00
Open Doors RI .....	100.00
AIDS Project Rhode Island .....	100.00
Christian Community Soup Kitchen .....	150.00
BCCUCC Loaves and Fishes RI.....	225.00
S.H.I.N.E. ....	400.00
TAPIN .....	100.00
RI Community Food Bank .....	100.00
Arbor Day Foundation (purchase 100 trees).....	103.00
R.I.P. Medical Debt .....	1129.00

This has been a very active year even with the interruption by Covid – 19. We hope to continue the “Our Faith, Our Vote, Our Voices” campaign and to become better at the use of social media and technical platforms to promote awareness of our activities.

## **MUSIC MINISTRY TEAM**

## **PATRICIA STODDARD**

The Music Ministry is another expression of our faith and an essential part of the worship life of our church. We hope that the musical offerings lend additional spiritual context to the worship service for the congregation as well. We strive to complement the weekly message with anthems and instrumental music ranging from very early times to the current day.

Organist and Choir Director Marina Zabinski continues to lead us both spiritually and musically. The choir sings every Sunday from early September through the 3rd Sunday in June. Once again, the choir and Marina presented a moving Christmas Cantata during Advent, ably accompanied by Dennis Pratt - bass, Greg Voigt - trumpet, Heather Williamson - violin, Trinkie Brueckner – flute and Seth Azevedo – oboe. Narrators were Amy Barkat and Van Edwards. Marina's son, Nikita Zabinski, was the special guest pianist for the 6 pm Christmas Eve Family Service. The choir presented special anthems for the 10 pm Christmas Eve service; Greg Voigt and Matthew Brenner also presented special music for that service.

The Sing and Celebrate Choir, directed and guided by Kate Colby, participated in worship services several times in the fall and during the Christmas season. Kate and the children's choir provide us a view of the world from a different perspective and bring their youthful enthusiasm to their music.

I don't think any of us would have envisioned that the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent, March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020, would be our last in-person worship service for the foreseeable future. Due to the Coronavirus Pandemic, worship and worship music as we have known it for so long has changed in a big way. As a church, we have become creative and flexible as we navigate the world of livestreaming of worship services. We are blessed to have talented staff and church members that have worked hard to keep us spiritually connected during this unprecedented time.

Thanks to the Colby family who were the musical "bridge" for several weeks as several folks worked hard to incorporate the choir into livestream worship. Special thanks to Erik Ela for sharing his technical knowledge, skills, and encouragement to form the "Quarantine Choir", which made its debut on Easter Sunday. Each Sunday since then the choir has presented anthems and hymns in a pre-recorded and very meaningful fashion, some with instruments. How long this will continue is unknown at this time. I am happy to contribute pre-recorded handbell solos for some of these worship services.

New members are welcome to join the "Quarantine Choir" – please be in touch with Erik if you are interested in this new, creative and resilient way to be together - virtually, knowing that God is with us all the way!

## **STAFF PARISH RELATIONS TEAM**

## **MARION FODOR**

The Staff Parish Relations team consists of five members. Members of the team are our Senior Pastor Dale Azevedo, John Muth, Kim Zeleznik, Heather Williamson and Marion Fodor.

The SPRT offers an opportunity and place for our Pastors, staff and members of the congregation to bring forth any communications that need to be shared. We are a sounding board for staff-parish relationships and are always available to meet at any time as needed. We also receive

goals for the Pastors and discuss how they are being met as the year progresses. We listen to their joys and concerns, interact with their thoughts and offer support of their ministries. We met quarterly during the year.

In the fall of 2019 Brendan submitted his resignation so the team discussed with Dale and formulated some plans for Brendan's departure and his exit interview. We also reviewed procedures for filling his position which were then referred to church council.

Dr. Linda Hartley joined BCCUCC in February as our designated term Associate Pastor until December of 2020. She presented her goals to SPRT. Since then we will have had two virtual meetings. I shared our work at the May church council meeting.

In May along with Dale, SPRT helped manage the review of staff and Pastors according to our by-laws. Those reviews will be completed and filed by the end of June.

## **STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY TEAM**

## **BILL BLOCK**

Over the past several years, the Stewardship Ministry Team has continued to modify the previously utilized New Consecration Sunday Stewardship Program. The Team of Bill Block, Michael Collins, Abby Ashley and Pat Stoddard, with Dale's support, modified the program to reflect a more personal approach, incorporating ideas we learned during the church renewal process. This year we celebrated how, through our congregation's generosity, we are "Being the change." We do not give to the church because of what the church needs, but rather because of the impact such giving produces. Such generosity transforms not only those who receive it, but the givers as well.

128 Giving Cards were received prior to the budget meeting, totaling \$391,349. This is an approximate 6% increase over the 2019 total, driven in part by the large number of new commitments.

Analysis of the financial commitments includes:

New commitments – 23 – 18% of the total

Commitments with increase over 2019 – 40 – 31% of the total [10% increase vs. 2019]

Commitments with same amount as 2019 – 50 – 39% of the total

Commitments with decrease from 2019 – 15 – 12% of the total [31% decrease vs. 2019]

Lost commitments due to attrition & other factors - 13

Two additional pledges (totaling \$2,600) were received after the budget meeting.

We appreciate the continuing commitment of the congregation to the important ministries of our church, as we look ahead to our future.



## USHERING MINISTRY


TOM COLBY

The Ushering Ministry team has 12 members at present – and two additional potential members – several more would be most welcome when we resume regular services. The suspension of in-person services has meant that the primary functions of the usher team are on hold. Normally, there are 3 separate schedules each year: September thru January, February thru June, and Summer (July to Labor Day weekend). During September thru June, there are four (4) ushers scheduled to be on duty each Sunday. During the summer months, only two (2) ushers are scheduled for each Sunday.

The ushers prepare the sanctuary prior to a service by opening the shutters, lighting the altar candles, and preparing the microphones and hearing devices. During the service the ushers provide microphones for announcements and collect the offering and present it at the altar. The ushers also count attendance at each service and record the number categorizing adults, children, clergy and staff. After the service has ended, the ushers restore order in the pews, close the shutters, turn off sanctuary lights, lock the offering in the safe, and lock up the church building.

An additional responsibility of the ushers is to help ensure the safety of church services. This includes being alert to potential unsafe or threatening situations. In the event of emergency, the ushers ensure that emergency responders can access the church as needed, and if necessary, the congregation can safely exit the building.



	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Our Mission Statement</b></p> <p>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.</p>
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**AFFIRMATION OF WELCOME**  
*(Adopted at the 2010 Annual Meeting)*

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.

## 2020 - 2021 SLATE OF NOMINEES FOR OFFICERS, MINISTRY TEAMS etc

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 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.



<i>Office</i>	<i>Term Expires</i>	<i>Year#</i>
<b>MODERATOR</b>		
Tom Strolla	2021	1
<b>CLERK</b>		
Greg Voigt	2021	2
<b>CO-TREASURERS</b>		
Barbara Wuth	2021	4
Leo Drury	2021	1
<b>HISTORIAN</b>		
Dianne Wilkin	2021	1
<b>AUDITOR</b>		
John Loerke	2021	1

<i>Office</i>	<i>Term Expires</i>	<i>Year#</i>
<b>CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS AT LARGE (2)</b>		

Amy Barkat	2021	2
Liz Wiedenhofer	2021	1

### **CHURCH DELEGATES:**

#### **(5) to RI Association**

*The Membership Team is recommending the following be nominated: Moderator, plus one member each from Deacons, Finance, Mission and Justice, and CEYM – these will be appointed by the chair of their team.*

#### **(2) to Southern New England Conference, UCC (SNEUCC)**

*Chosen from among our delegates to the RI Association.*

## MINISTRY TEAMS

	<i>Term Expires</i>	
<b>DEACONS (10 - 12)</b>		
<i>The deacons serve 3 year terms and can serve for 2 terms (a max of 6 years)</i>		
Joe Judge	2021	2 <sup>nd</sup> Term
Patricia Stoddard	2021	
Carol Strakosch	2021	
*	2021	
Steve Fodor	2022	
Amy Barkat	2022	
Jane Tonn	2022	
*	2022	
*	2023	
*	2023	
*	2023	
*	2023	

	<i>Term Expires</i>	<i>Year#</i>
<b>BUILDINGS &amp; GROUNDS MINISTRY TEAM (8)</b>		
Sue Terhune	2022	3
Sim Hawes	2022	3
Paul Dennis	2021	2
Marlene Manchester	2021	2
Francis Seader	2022	1
Jay Buckley	2022	1
*		
*		

<b>CHRISTIAN EDUCATION &amp; YOUTH MINISTRIES TEAM (6 + one youth)</b>		
Kathy Sullivan	2021	5
Cathleen Joachim	2021	2
Kristen Westmoreland	2021	2
Cindy Elder	2021	2
Maya Kelly (youth)	2021	2
*		
*		

	<i>Term Expires</i>	<i>Year#</i>
<b>ENDOWMENT MINISTRY TEAM (4-6)</b>		
Bob Mason	2021	7
Kate Colby	2021	5
Dick McWhirter	2022	3
Lynne Lehman	2022	3
Seth Forman	2021	2
*		

<b>FINANCE MINISTRY TEAM (4-6)</b>		
Tom Colby	2021	7
Sam Sylvester	2021	5
*		
*		
*		
*		

<b>MEMBERSHIP MINISTRY TEAM (8)</b>		
Libardo DeLaTorre	2021	4
Wendy Forman	2021	3
Fred MacDonald	2021	2
Trinki Brueckner	2022	1
Joanne D'Adamo	2022	1
Greg Voigt	2022	1
*		
*		

<b>MISSION and JUSTICE MINISTRY TEAM (4)</b>		
Helen Schall	2021	3
Nancy Arena	2022	3
Susan Rotblat-Walker	2022	3
Caroline Morgan	2022	3
Seth Forman	2021	2
Bernie Bowdoin	2021	2
Trinki Brueckner	2022	1

*Term Expires    Year#*

**STAFF-PARISH RELATIONS TEAM (4)**

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

*Correct for year 2019-2020\**

Marion Fodor	2020	6
John Muth	2020	6
Kim Zeleznik	2020	5

*Correct for upcoming year 2020-2021\**

Heather Williamson	2021	2
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*\* In the Fall of 2019, Church Council decided that because all of the existing 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. At that time, Steve Peck came off and Heather Williamson came on to serve her first term on SPRT (2019-2020). Another long-serving member will be replaced in Fall 2020 tbd.*

**STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY TEAM (5)**

Bill Block	2021	5
Michael Collins	2022	3

\*

\*

\*

**DEACONS SUBGROUPS:**

**CHANCEL TEAM (4)**

Bethia Rosner  
Liz Rosenholm  
Beth Buckley  
Jen Melker

**MUSIC TEAM (2)**

Pat Stoddard  
Heather Williamson

**USHER TEAM (2)**

Bethia Rosner  
Tom Colby

**LAY VISITATION TEAM**

*This is a non-elected group of people  
and is currently led by Rev. Linda Hartley*

Kathy Block  
George Bolton  
Rose Marie Bolton  
Miriam Duvel  
Joan Miller  
Debbie Mason  
Peggy Matteson  
Cheryl Muth  
Helen Schall



## FROM THE CHURCH RECORDS

May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2019 – May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020

This report covers the approx. 12-month period from mid-May 2019 through the end of May 2020. The categories shown are also requested each December for the United Church of Christ Yearbook Report.

### NEW MEMBERS (9)

12/8/19

Trinki Brueckner  
Stephanie Drury  
Leo Drury  
Rosemary Garcia  
Vanessa Kiley  
Thomas Kiley  
Carly Lapinski  
Peggy Matteson  
Bill Matteson

*There was no New Member Sunday in Spring 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.*

### CONFIRMATIONS (8)

6/2/19

Eva Brieger  
Claire Fay  
Ben Flynn  
Maya Kelly  
Paulina Lemos  
Charlotte McGarry  
Kate Robertson  
Sage Wells

*Confirmation Sunday for the 2019-2020 confirmands was originally scheduled for May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, it has been postponed to the Fall when hopefully we will be back to worshipping together in the sanctuary.*

### MARRIAGES (2)

Thomas Faulhaber and Susan Tremblay

Brendan Curran and Daniel Watts

### BAPTISMS (0)

Infants and Children (0)

Adult (0)

## DEATHS

### Active Members (5)

Joyce Mabey  
Kris Dunlap  
Jane Peterson  
Marjorie Stumpff  
Virginia Williamson

### Others (7)

Cyril Wyche  
Jeanne Fulford  
Nancy Hazard  
Mary Ela  
David Lea Jr.  
Michael Guglielmo  
Emmet Deschene



ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP AS OF MAY 18, 2019 was 298

Between May 19, 2019 and May 31, 2020 the following changes occurred:

#### Additions to Active Membership (20)

8 - Confirmation  
9- New Members  
3 - Return to Active Membership

#### Losses to Active Membership (35)

5 - Death  
0 - Transfer Out  
30 - other reasons (moved away,  
were inactive, etc)

**ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP AS OF MAY 31, 2020:  $298 + 20 - 35 = 283$**

*(see next page for further explanation)*



## MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

*reflecting changes in the membership that occurred between Jan 1<sup>st</sup> and Dec 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019*

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 12/31/2019 was 297 (see following table for breakdown).

<i>From the Yearbook Report Form:</i>	
<b>Statistics for January 1 – December 31, 2019</b>	
Active Membership as of 12/31/2018	296
Additions during year:	
Confirmation	8
Confession of Faith	1
Letters of Transfer	2
Reaffirmation of Faith	8
Losses during year:	
Death	2
Transfer	0
Other removals	16
Active Membership as of 12/31/2019	297

*Note: The information listed on the previous pages reflect those changes that took place between May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2019 and May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020, as opposed to the information directly above, which is for changes between January 1 and December 31, 2019.*



Between January 1, 2020 and May 31, 2020 there were the following changes in ACTIVE membership:

- + 0 New Members
- + 0 New Members (by Confirmation)
- + 0 Return to Active Membership
- 4 Death of Active Member
- 10 Removals (moved away etc)

**ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP AS OF MAY 31, 2020 is  $297 - 4 - 10 = 283$**

*A Reminder....*

All are invited to attend the  
**ANNUAL MEETING**  
of the Barrington Congregational Church, UCC on  
**Sunday, June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2020**  
Immediately following worship via Zoom\*.

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

*\*The Zoom login information has been emailed to the congregation  
and is not included here for security reasons.*



Barrington Congregational Church

United Church of Christ

461 County Road,

Barrington, RI 02806

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e-mail address: [office@bccucc.org](mailto:office@bccucc.org)

website: [www.bccucc.org](http://www.bccucc.org)

Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/bccucc](https://www.facebook.com/bccucc)



Senior Minister: The Rev. Dr. Dale Azevedo

Associate Minister: The Rev. Dr. Linda Hartley

Organist/Choir Director: Marina Zabinski

Office Administrator: Christine Wallis

Financial Secretary: Patricia Stoddard

Christian Education Coordinator: Andrea Terni Bullard

Custodian: John Cordeiro