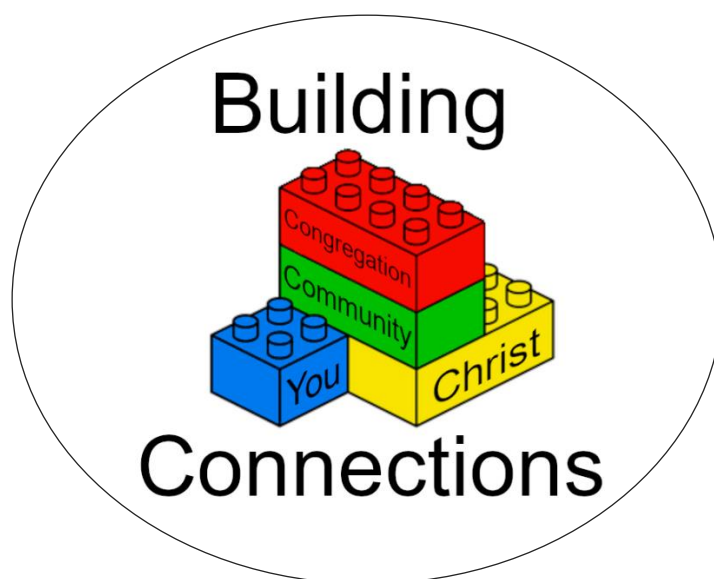


**Barrington Congregational Church, U.C.C.
Barrington, Rhode Island**

2021 ANNUAL REPORT



All church members are encouraged to attend the

ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, June 13th, 2021



via Zoom

following the 10 a.m. worship service

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Warrant for the 2021 Annual Meeting.....	1
Minutes of the 2020 Annual Meeting	1
Minutes of the 2021 Annual Budget Meeting.....	3
Reports from our Ministers:	
Senior Minister.....	5
Associate Minister	6
Reports from our Church Officers:	
Moderator.....	7
Historian.....	8
Treasurer	
Operations	9
Capital Improvements.....	9
Endowment	9
Summary of Financial Activity and Financial Position for 2020	10
Auditor	11
Special Reports:	
Moving Forward Task Force	11
Reports from our Ministry Teams:	
Buildings and Grounds	12
Chancel	12
Christian Education and Youth Ministries (CEYM)	13
Deacons.....	14
Endowment	15
Finance.....	16
2021 Operations Budget	17
Lay Visitation.....	18
Membership	18
Mission and Justice.....	19
Music.....	21
Staff Parish Relations Team (SPRT)	22
Stewardship.....	22
Ushering	23
2021 – 2022 Slate of Nominees for Officers, Ministry Teams & Delegates	24
From the Church Records.....	27
Membership Statistics.....	29

WARRANT
for the 2021 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 13TH, 2021 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 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.

Respectfully submitted:

Greg Voigt Clerk

** We continue to be under some COVID-19 pandemic restrictions and our congregation is not yet meeting in person. Our Sunday worship services are still being livestreamed both on our church's Facebook page and website, although we will soon return to the option of in-person worship while also livestreaming the service for those who are either unable or not yet ready to return to in-person worship.*

The Annual Meeting will once again 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 website.



MINUTES of the 2020 ANNUAL MEETING
of the BARRINGTON CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC
held JUNE 7TH, 2020 via Zoom

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

Meeting commenced at 11:14 AM with Kathy Sullivan presiding as Moderator.

Articles of the Meeting were announced as:

- 1) Calling the meeting to order;
- 2) Receiving and voting on the slate of nominees for officers, ministry teams, and delegates;
- 3) Receiving and voting on the slate of nominees for a Search Committee to fill the position of Associate Minister for Congregational Life;
- 4) Hearing a report from the "Vision 2020 and Beyond" Team;
- 5) Considering any other business that may properly come before the meeting;
- 6) Adjourning the meeting.

Membership Committee Chair Elizabeth Azevedo presented a slate of officers, new members to ministry teams and delegates to the conference. Officers are as follows: Tom Strolla, Moderator (1st year), Greg Voigt, Clerk (2nd year), Barbara Wuth, Co-Treasurer (4th year), Leo Drury, Co-Treasurer (1st year), Dianne Wilkin, Historian (1st year), John Loerke, Auditor (1st year). New members to ministry teams are as follows: Francis Seader, Buildings & Grounds (1st year), Jay Buckley, Buildings & Grounds (1st year), Trinki Brueckner, Membership (1st year), Joanne D'Adamo, Membership (1st year), Greg Voigt, Membership (1st year), Trinki Brueckner, Mission & Justice (1st year). Member at Large is Liz Wiedenhofer (1st year). A voice vote initiated with unanimous approval.

New Deacons were nominated to include: Nancy Arena and Lory McCoy. Trinki Brueckner motioned for approval, Heather Williamson seconded the motion and the new deacons were unanimously approved.

Search Committee members for the position of Associate Minister for congregational life were presented to include: Chris Brady, Chair; Jane Tonn; Kim Fernandez; Gabe DelaTorre; Seth Forman and the Rev. Dale Azevedo. Erik Ela motioned for approval of the committee and Susan Rotblat-Walker seconded the motion. Members of the Search Committee were unanimously approved.

Tom Strolla presented preliminary findings for the "Vision 2020" Team which included: a report which would be presented by summer's end detailing streamlining ministry team participation and utilizing ad-hoc appointments for ministries as they evolve over the church year; and thanks to Larry Ashley, Chair, for the work he and the rest of the team was putting into envisioning the protocols to be used by the church in the next decade and beyond.

Other business to be considered included: thanks to the outgoing Moderator, Kathy Sullivan for her dedication to fulfilling the leadership role in such exemplary fashion; and thanks to the Membership Ministry Team for their hard work in fashioning the slate of church officers, ministry teams, and delegates.

There was no additional church business.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:33 AM.

Faithfully submitted,

Gregory A. Voigt, Church Clerk

◇

MINUTES of the ANNUAL BUDGET MEETING
of the BARRINGTON CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC
held JANUARY 24TH, 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:

- 1) To call the meeting to order;
- 2) To review and vote on the proposed church budget for January 1-December 31, 2021;
- 3) To Consider any other business that may properly come before the meeting;
- 4) To Adjourn the meeting.

Chair of Finance Reviewed 2020 BCCUCC Financials, Proposed 2021 BCCUCC Budget with Adjustments, and Presented PPP Loan Forgiveness Options: Tom Colby reviewed income and expenses for 2020 indicating a bottom line surplus of \$14,000 of income v. expense due to an unexpected \$25,000 gift. Pledge income was \$6000 less than budgeted, and personnel and church life expenses declined; while office software support expense increased due to COVID. For 2021, Tom has estimated a budgeted total income to support church operations at \$371,000. (This represents a \$23,000 decline in pledge income from 2020). \$83,000 is expected from endowment income. Rental income from TOTS Cooperative to the church has been reduced by \$5000. All told, total church income is \$23,000 less than last fiscal year income. Decreases in expenses are budgeted for personnel, CEYM, and church supplies; while increases in expenses for office software, chancel and proportional giving to the conference are budgeted. Bottom line for 2021 budget is that the church would run a deficit of \$14,191 in income v. expenses. Adjustments to the proposed budget included a \$3000 increase to custodial service and a \$4200 increase to property and casualty insurance for church property. With adjustments, the church would run a \$21,000 deficit in income v. expenses for 2021.

A motion to approve the budget with adjustments was put forth by Kate Colby and seconded by Jane Tonn. Tom Strolla polled the members present for questions. Pat Stoddard, BCCUCC Financial Secretary, stated that TOTS Cooperative income did come into the church at \$700 for January 2021. Chris Brady asked if there was any change to the church's staffing model and reiterated his strong belief that the church required 2 professional clergy on staff. The Rev. Linda Hartley will stay on as a designated-term associate minister through June 2021 and an interim is expected to be hired to fill her vacancy following her departure. With no more questions, a vote was called to approve the church budget for 2021 and the budget was unanimously approved.

Other Business – Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) Loan Forgiveness: Tom Colby discussed the \$63,740 loan given to the church by the federal government to support salaries and church operations during COVID. The amount received has not been included in church budgeting and has been segregated as additional capital on the church's balance sheet. Tom estimated a \$50,000 shortfall in church income during COVID. He expected, as a result, that the church could apply for and receive a 90% loan forgiveness from the federal government. Joe Judge and Dick McWhirter recommended the church apply for full loan forgiveness. Steve Fodor disagreed about keeping PPP loan money the church did not need. Bernie Hawes asked about the original congregational vote regarding PPP and the Rev. Dale Azevedo said that the general consensus was

that the church would pay back PPP monies not utilized. Joe Judge said he thought, based on the formula for PPP loan repayment, that the church would have to pay something back; but also restated the notion that the church would run a deficit in 2021, based on the approved budget (which indicated a church need to utilize PPP monies). Paul Dennis reiterated that PPP could be used for utilities expense, not just personnel. Marion Fodor questioned the time frame to finalize a decision on PPP loan repayment; and Tom Strolla indicated that the deadline for forgiveness was 10 months from the end of the covered period beginning October 2020. Marion stated that she did not feel well-informed enough to decide now on how much of the PPP loan should be forgiven. Tom Colby stated that the original PPP loan amount of \$63,740 was based on 2 ½ months of wages, pension expense, and health insurance expense – the total of which exceeded the \$63,740 loan the church accepted; and thought that using the PPP funds to “fire up” the church would be worthwhile. Tom believed that the application for PPP loan forgiveness should be filed no later within the next 2 months. Earl Dunlap asked if the \$25,000 gift to the church received in December 2020 should be part of the calculation for PPP loan forgiveness. Tom Colby said that, without the gift, the church would have run an \$18,000 deficit in 2020. Marion suggested tabling the decision on how much loan forgiveness for which to apply made sense. Dick said that if the church delayed in making the forgiveness determination, it would give church leadership more time to discern the best use for the PPP funds granted and forgiven. Steve said that, free of December 2020’s \$25,000 gift received, the church’s losses due to COVID seemed commensurate with a full forgiveness request. Marion proposed a motion that “the Finance Ministry Team review loss in pledges, gifts and rental income; then come up with a dollar figure for loan forgiveness.” This motion did not receive a second. Amy Burkat asked that the Finance Ministry Team do a loss assessment for 2020 and also estimate anticipated losses for 2021 for the church. Erik Ela indicated that he had confidence in Tom Colby and his team to determine the appropriate amount for PPP loan forgiveness. Joe Judge motioned that “Tom Colby do a complete study on the loan forgiveness application process, that he bring the results of his study to the Finance Ministry team who would then deliberate over and approve a plan for submission of the PPP loan forgiveness; and present the plan to Church Council for approval keeping the congregation informed of the decisions made.” Susan Rotblat-Walker seconded the motion which was then affirmed by vote of the members present. Eileen Dennis wished to make it known that any church member who wanted to attend the council meeting where such approval was granted could attend that meeting. Tom Strolla said he would take responsibility to inform the congregation about the PPP loan forgiveness deliberation and actions to be taken.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:11 PM with a motion by Tom Strolla and a second by Amy Barkat

Faithfully submitted,

Gregory A. Voigt, Church Clerk



Reports from our Ministers

SENIOR MINISTER

DALE AZEVEDO

This past year has been difficult on everyone. We never could have predicted that the pandemic would leave us going 14 months without meeting in-person on a regular basis. Nearly all our ministries, including worship, have been held virtually. In addition, much of our standard outreach has been on hold. Loaves and Fishes Rhode Island, the soup kitchen, even our Shaw's gift card ministry have all been canceled until further notice. The few exceptions to this reality have been our Church School and Confirmation programs. Those programs met outside as much as possible and supplemented that with far-distanced gatherings in Fellowship Hall. Be sure to read about them in the following pages.

I have to say, as difficult as it has been, there have also been many benefits to meeting virtually. Meetings have often been more focused and with greater attendance since people have not needed to travel and knew they would be through at a reasonable time. Apparently, many people have enjoyed watching church from their own couch while drinking their morning coffee, as well. No doubt we will learn from this and adapt some of our ministry practices due to this.

The greatest challenge we have faced has been emotional and spiritual distancing. We have offered up numerous opportunities for people to gather in smaller groups outside or online throughout the year. Some of these options have been more successful than others, but none of them have replaced the feeling of gathering in-person each Sunday for worship and coffee hour. We have hung in there, but we truly miss each other.

Last summer we also decided to put two major initiatives on hold: the rewriting of our bylaws and the search committee for our Assoc. Min. of Congregational Life. We felt that we had other more pressing priorities to deal with at this time. Additionally, it would have been difficult moving forward on either of those fronts while in virtual meetings. We are excited that the search committee is starting up again and we expect the bylaw changes to pick up soon, as well.

Two groups have stepped to the forefront this year that need special recognition. Our Worship Technology Team has been faithfully committed to bringing us quality online worship. It hasn't always been smooth (thanks to technological glitches) but their dedication and expertise have been invaluable. They are working hard now to help us transition into a multi-platform future where worship is shared seamlessly with an online and in-person community.

The other group has been our Moving Forward Team. This team has met on and off throughout the pandemic sharing relevant information and making recommendations to the Church Council regarding safe ways to meet. They have done a great job trying to gather the relevant data from the CDC, the conference, and the RI Dept. of Health and interpret it for our unique setting and programs. I thank both of these teams for their service during this trying time.

Another highlight of this past year has been working with Linda Hartley, our designated term Associate Minister. Linda has shared her teaching and leadership skills with us through worship and adult education programs among other areas. She led our Lay Visitation Team and ran our confirmation programs this year. We have been blessed to have her stay with us longer than originally expected and has blended very nicely into our ministries.

Finances have been surprisingly solid throughout this time. Yes, income was noticeably down in 2020, but so were expenses. For that year, we fared pretty well. We did apply for and receive a loan in the spring of 2020 intended to help small businesses maintain their staffing. This federal loan was part of a stimulus program focused on keeping small businesses afloat, people employed, and the economy running and is “forgivable” if those conditions were met. We have not felt the need to apply for similar loans since then. In 2021 our income appears to again be down, although these losses are not unexpected. Again, our expenses have also been down. The larger question before us is how this drop in income will develop in the months and years ahead. Will we rebound quickly as the pandemic moves into the rear-view mirror or will this reduction in income become our new norm? Time will tell.

It is also worth noting that the pandemic is not the only challenge we have faced. We find our nation in the middle of what some are calling its greatest divide since the Civil War. Our two-party system has become seemingly irrevocably divided; to the extent that Americans cannot even agree on the basic facts of science, racial inequality, and economic disparity. The dual trauma of living through a global pandemic and national political and social unrest has taken its toll on many of us. Most of our staff and lay leadership are tired and worn out. Everyone is ready for things to be “normal” although we have no idea what that new reality will be or how we can get there. The good news is that this opens the door wide for the church to step in and share the Gospel. Christ came for a hurting world and we are certainly hurting.

This brings us to our final point and that is looking forward. There is no doubt the pandemic has changed us as a church, community, and country. Historians looking back at past significant national and global events warn that it will take 5-10 years before things return to “normal”. And, as I have said, that normal will be different than it was 18 months ago. These questions confront us: What does ministry look like going forward? What are the short-term changes we need to incorporate into our mission? What are the long-term ramifications of surviving a global pandemic? And, how does the ongoing political divide in this country impact our vision of living in and ministering to a just society?

It is faith in God and mutual support that has led this church through 300 years of living and ministering in this world. And it is these two that will continue to carry us on. It is clear that there is much God still has planned for us and we have faith we are up for the task.

ASSOCIATE MINISTER (DESIGNATED TERM)

LINDA HARTLEY

The past year certainly has been one of challenges as well as inspiration. We’ve navigated a full year of the pandemic and have learned how to be church when we couldn’t gather together in person. To maintain those connections among our church family, I worked with the members of the Lay Visitation Team, sending cards and making phone calls. The commitment of each team member to find innovative ways to keep in touch has been inspiring. The commitment of our Worship Technology Team also has been an inspiration to me. I am particularly in awe of the work they did to carry out the vision of our worship series for Advent and Christmas. I’ve been so blessed to be a part of this community of faith as we have worked to stay connected through calls and cards, and through our online worship experience.

This year was an unusual one for Confirmation. In October, we confirmed eight young people whose Confirmation Sunday was postponed from last May with the hope that we would be able to gather in person in the fall. Of course that wasn't possible, but we certainly celebrated them last fall with our traditional dove release and a virtual worship service as they confirmed their faith and joined with our church. Also in the fall, I began a new class with five young people as they too embarked on this journey of faith. Due to Covid restrictions, we weren't able to participate in community service projects as previous years' classes have done. However, during the year, the class sent Christmas, Valentine's Day, and Easter cards to individuals on our Lay Visitation list, and in January we joined with the youth of Seekonk Congregational Church for an online Racial Justice Awareness workshop. In May, we celebrated our Confirmands with the traditional dove release, and we welcomed them into membership with the Barrington Congregational Church on May 16th. We are truly blessed to have these young people, from both Confirmation classes, as new members of our church family.

I was also blessed this past year to have the opportunity to get to know some of you better through Bible studies. Last summer, I enjoyed exploring Little Known People in the Bible, and the Motif of Wells with several of you. And during Advent, I enjoyed collaborating with Dick McWhirter as we explored the biblical archaeology related to the Bible stories about King David's palace, the prophecies of Isaiah, and the nativity of Jesus.

Through all the challenges of this past year, I have been inspired by the hopefulness of our young people. I have also been inspired by the many creative ways we have found to maintain our connections to each other. And now, as we prepare for the day when we can safely gather together once again, we will do so with an even greater understanding of how important those connections are. May God continue to guide us and bless us as we move forward into the next year in the life of the Barrington Congregational Church.

Reports from our Church Officers

MODERATOR

TOM STROLLA

It has been an 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 as it goes about its work even during this incredibly difficult year.

The ministry of Rev. Dr. Dale Azevedo has continued to bless us. We have also been blessed with the presence of Rev. Dr. Linda Hartley for the past year and a half. They have unique qualities that they bring to the life of the church yet have grown to work tremendously well together. We are fortunate to have them, and we thank them for their unending faith, humor, and also for challenging our faith and helping 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 to create a dynamic, spiritually uplifting, and visually interesting online Sunday service. While we were forced into the situation, BCCUCC did its usual incredible job of stepping up and creating something memorable. In fact, it was so successful that Church Council agreed that we should continue with the multi-platform service as we work our way out from the pandemic and back into our church building. The newly formed Worship Tech Team deserve our great thanks

for all they did this past year. We also formed a Moving Forward Team to help us plan for the ways we can safely get back to seeing each other in person again. They too deserve our great thanks.

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. 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 been challenging, and at times difficult, I find it to be a truly rewarding experience and I am thankful that I have the opportunity to serve. I stepped away from a church leadership role over the past several years, but when approached by Dale last year to serve as moderator, I felt a call to return to that role and I am glad I did. I feel blessed to be a part of this great church and church family. We have accomplished much in this trying year, and we have more of God's work to do. Let's keep moving forward! Peace.

HISTORIAN

DIANNE WILKIN

For a place to which people turn in moments of fear and uncertainty, the Barrington Congregational Church was faced with a unique challenge during the Coronavirus Pandemic: how to provide comfort, community and fellowship, and prayerful hope when our beloved historical building had to be closed.

News of the virus had brought the stark realization that this was not just a passing flu, and major changes had to be made to try to avoid its spread. Governmental guidelines like sheltering in place, social distancing and the wearing of masks became the norm.

Our church has a rich history of resilience dating back more than 300 years however, and members and staff of present-day BCC rallied to the occasion. Perhaps this time was easier than past challenges with electronic communications to keep us all in touch. Who had ever heard of 'virtual' Worship Services, let alone 'virtual' choral performances? Yet our Church Council, Deacons, Ministry teams and our senior Minister Dale Azevedo and new Associate Minister Linda Hartley met regularly with Church members skilled in technology to bring this all to us. It was a Christmas Eve service, for example that few will ever forget. We are grateful to our Pastor's wife Elizabeth for organizing a Commemorative Painted Tiles Project to be able to remember how we all experienced this isolating time.

In the midst of this very serious health threat and the re-arranging of our lives, also came a series of racial and social justice issues in the country that were just impossible to ignore. BCC was on the forefront of organizing a town wide event in support of the Black Lives Matter Movement that brought over 1200 residents out to the streets holding signs of support in front of the Church. Behind the scenes advocacy for LGBT, Women's issues, Asian American and Native American rights, as well as Gun Violence Prevention and the urgent need to address the Climate Crisis continued, as did Faith, Book and Community outreach groups, Children's Programs, Confirmation classes and the honoring of our 2021 Graduates.

In November came a fractious US election, followed by a tumultuous day on the Jan. 6th storming of the US Capitol. At times it all seemed almost too much. And then, Rev. Dale stepped up and

began a series of online Morning Meditations called ‘Peaceful Pause and Prayer’ at 8am on Tuesdays and Thursdays, just precisely what was needed.

Going forward, the Church has been able to hold a few in-person Coffee Hours out-of-doors for Fellowship, and Church teams are actively planning a return to the Sanctuary in June, following the latest health guidelines. And some recent exciting news has been the offer of some generous donors to lay the groundwork for a matching offer to help preserve our Carriage Sheds, a cherished historic feature of our Church.

TREASURER

LEO DRURY & BARBARA WUTH

Operations

The pandemic dislocations of 2020 adversely impacted most sources of income. Pledge income slightly trailed the budgeted amount even after allowance for expected shrinkage. Hard to predict Gifts declined and Plate Offerings of course went to zero after March. Rentals suffered as an accommodation was made for Tot’s Cooperative when they weren’t able to function. Investment income held steady and provided 16.8% of Operating Income.

A decision was made to significantly increase the contribution from Operations to Capital Improvements from the budgeted \$20,000 to \$31,500, enabling the replacement of a major component of the heating system. This bumped the deficit for the year to \$13,706 from roughly a breakeven budgeted level.

Capital Improvements

Sources of capital improvement funding:

Contribution from Operations	\$32,262
Arches Project Donation	1,600
Interest Income	<u>63</u>
Total	\$33,925

Major capital improvement highlights:

Steam Pipe Replacement	\$23,633
Nathaniel Parsonage Renovations	15,098
Arches Project	<u>21,845</u>
Total	\$60,606

Results are distorted by the timing of the Arches Project. Fund raising largely occurred in 2019, expenditures were incurred mainly in 2020.

Endowment

Despite the pandemic, the stock market experienced another strong year in 2020 and the Endowment Fund again achieved a double-digit increase in value, rising 11.4% to nearly \$2.2 million. There were no additions to the Fund.

Summary of Financial Activity and Financial Position for 2020

Statement of Activities for the Year Ended December 31, 2020

	Operations	Capital Improvements	Endowment ^{Note A}	Total
Revenues				
Pledges, Gifts, Offerings, Bequests	\$388,910	\$33,925 ^{Note B}	\$0	\$422,836
Investment Income or Loss	81,967 ^{Note C}		233,751	315,718
Rentals	15,681			15,681
Other	15,776			15,776
Total Revenues	\$502,334	\$33,925	\$233,751	\$770,010
Expenses				
Staff	\$321,534			\$321,534
Office	16,345			16,345
Church Life/Christian Education	14,329			14,329
Buildings & Grounds	91,098			91,098
Capital Improvement	31,500	60,606		92,106 ^{Note D}
Missions, Disbursements & Fees	41,234		89,809 ^{Note E}	131,043
Total Expenses	\$516,039	\$60,606	\$89,809	\$666,454
Change in Net Assets	-13,706	-26,681	143,942	103,556
Net Assets 12/31/19	99,366	50,582	2,043,139	2,193,088
Net Assets 12/31/20	\$85,661	\$23,902	\$2,187,081	\$2,296,644

Statement of Financial Position for the Year Ended December 31, 2020

Assets				
Cash and Investments	\$303,483 ^{Note H}	\$41,133	\$2,187,081	\$2,531,697
Receivables and Other Assets	11,276	0	0	11,276
Total Assets	\$314,759	\$41,133	\$2,187,081	\$2,542,973
Deferred Income & Liabilities				
Funds for Designated Purposes	229,098 ^{Note H}	21,993 ^{Note F}	0	251,091
Other	0	-4,762 ^{Note G}	0	-4,762
Total Liabilities	229,098	17,231	0	246,329
Net Assets	\$85,661	\$23,902	\$2,187,081	\$2,296,644

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 \$31,500.
- C Includes receipts from Endowment Funds of \$81,500.
- D Unadjusted for double counting, actual capital spending totaled \$60,576.
- E Includes disbursements to Operations Investment Income of \$81,500.
- F Includes reserves against possible flood damage and property insurance deductible of \$21,993.
- G Includes \$4,762 Due from Operations.
- H Includes \$63,700 PPP Loan for which forgiveness has been requested but not yet received.

AUDITOR

JOHN LOERKE

With the easing in COVID interaction limitations, the audit is underway. Results will be forthcoming in a future eBridge.

Special Reports

MOVING FORWARD TASK FORCE

TOM COLBY

At the May 2020 council meeting it was decided that a team should be brought together to “determine a prudent protocol for timing and enacting ... a re-opening” of the church. “The task force would put together a list of recommendations that would then be approved and/or amended by the church council and the deaconate.”

As we started, we certainly did not expect that the process of working through the pandemic restrictions and re-opening would take over a year. The task force has worked on several fronts 1) monitoring the state of the pandemic, CDC and RI Health Department guidelines for pandemic safe practices, 2) translating these guidelines into recommendations for church building operations, 3) developing recommendations for safely returning to in-person worship and meetings.

One of the key things that we learned early in the process was that many people would be waiting until there was a vaccine available before coming back to church. This is finally coming to pass and returning to in-person church services is on the near horizon. The CDC and RI Department of Health have both relaxed their guidelines for safe behaviors. The task force is considering retaining 3 foot distancing and masking for the protection of unvaccinated people. We are also watching the advice from the conference. Currently, this advice is to be thoughtful and carefully assess the risks and mitigations that are particular to individual churches. So, please watch for announcements in the e-Bridge for specifics on what to expect as we re-open.

The primary concern has, and will continue to be, the safety of our whole worshipping community. Because of this, the recommendations of the task force may lag the government guidance. We ask for patience as we move through the summer and into fall. It is our hope that as more people are vaccinated and the prevalence of the virus abates, we will be able to move to a more normal environment.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dale Azevedo, Tom Colby, Erik Ela, Linda Hartley, Peggy Matteson, Andrea Bullard

Quotes taken from May 2020 council meeting minutes.

Reports from our Ministry Teams

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS MINISTRY TEAM

PAUL DENNIS

Buildings and Grounds continued to maintain and improve our facilities over the past year. Our custodial staff was reduced to one part time employee but John was very busy taking care of projects that there never seems to be enough time for. This included some painting inside and out, clearing out church closets, the garage, and the boiler room.

Improvements in the boiler room included electrical upgrades, fire alarm upgrades and a new safer pit ladder. A major project was replacement of the large steam pipe that connects the boiler room to the church building. This involved digging up and then re-paving the driveway between buildings.

Work in the church included some interior painting of windowsills and trim. A new utility sink was installed in the vestry kitchen.

At the Fireside Rd parsonage two large trees were removed from the front yard which threatened power cables on the street. Dale and Elizabeth picked out and installed new blinds.

At Nathaniel Rd we had a large window air conditioner installed as well as some plumbing repairs and a new garage door opener. Squirrels were evicted from the attic.

Rentals were down due to Covid. We decided to help Tots Preschool stay open through the pandemic by forgiving rent for several months. They were able to resume payments earlier this year.

The Education Building and church remained closed all year. We appreciate the help from Pat and Andrea for keeping an eye on things so that there were no maintenance surprises.

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.

The Covid-19 pandemic has changed our usual routine over the past 15 months. The congregation has continued to donate flowers in memory of loved ones, in spite of the fact that we were not meeting together in the sanctuary. The Tech Team photographs the flower arrangements on the altar, and they are shown during the zoom Sunday services. Dale and Linda give the tributes as the photos are presented. Also, The eBridge announces the donors for Sunday flowers. After the services the flowers are given to the donors or to someone else if designated by the donors.

Three holidays were celebrated with extra flowers: Christmas, Thanksgiving, and Easter. For Easter and Christmas the flowers were from our usual florist, The Greenery. Thanksgiving decorations included a large cornucopia with vegetables grown in Rhode Island and purchased from Quality Fruitland. These are donated to Tap-In. This year many of the bulbs from the Easter flowers will be planted near the patio behind Fellowship Hall.

Funding for the Chancel Team is from the donations for Sunday flowers, \$30 per vase. For the larger arrangements on Easter and Christmas members offer contributions and specify loved ones for whom they make a dedication. Any extra funds are used for anything that might enhance the worship service, e.g. sound system, altar tables, etc.

The Chancel Team is under the umbrella of the Deacons. If not dealing with a pandemic, our team would be assisting with serving at Coffee Hour and with the Soup Kitchen as needed. 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 with emails and frequent phone calls.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND YOUTH MINISTRIES TEAM

KRISTEN WESTMORELAND and ANDREA BULLARD

CEYM began the year with the church continuing to meet by virtual online worship service due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This meant that some creative brainstorming was needed to find opportunities to keep our youngest members connected and supported in faith. Church school, which started in October, consisted of several different approaches.

First, the Time for Children during worship evolved from Andrea's "Llama Pajama Time" last spring to a variety of CEYM team members stepping up to read books, tell Godly Play stories and recite poetry. This also included some pre-filmed segments featuring the children themselves.

Second, one Saturday each month, Andrea arranged for families to come together for an outside craft event on the church grounds. This was quite labor intensive as all materials needed to be sanitized and duplicated for each family. A nice core group of 4 - 8 families participated. They were thankful for the in-person time, as most felt their children were spending too much time online for school and other activities. The events included "planting" the Peace Pole, rock painting, pumpkin decorating, poster making, dressing up and filming the nativity story, making bird feeders, decorating Valentine's Day cookies, making Easter hats and having a parade, painting pots that were filled with pansies and delivered to church members of concern, and getting ready for Jubilation Sunday. One of the highlights of our pre-filmed segments was youth interviewing older members of the church about their Easter memories and asking what they looked forward to when we could all worship again in person.

Third, Andrea mailed birthday cards to our youth and embarked on an ambitious schedule of home deliveries of items and kits to remind the youth of their faith journeys. Starting in July she delivered shopping bags full of summertime activities and arts & craft supplies to support them. At Christmas, customized mugs with the slogan "Rock the World" and bags with Snowman Soup, Reindeer food & other goodies were delivered to 22 families. At Lent, Holy week boxes containing a variety of interactive ways to explore the events of Holy Week were delivered to 22 families.

We wrapped up the year with Jubilation Sunday and the theme "Ready When You Are". Kiddos planted a potted rainbow garden, made "Welcome Back" posters and enjoyed cold treats from an ice cream truck.

To make these efforts possible, Andrea attended safe church training to ensure all measures were taken to provide safety. In addition, Andrea participated in virtual workshops for Christian Education certification and routinely met with other CE leaders to brainstorm and share ideas during these challenging times. She is also assisting with the formation of an offshoot of the Association of United Church Educators (AUCE) group for the Southern New England Conference called the Southern New England Association of United Church Educators (SoNEAUCE).

Linda Hartley was able to meet at least once a month with the confirmation class of 5 youths with the help of parents, and involved the youth in worship service frequently as readers. The year concluded with the traditional doves being released, but the ceremony was pre-filmed due to COVID restrictions. The Our Whole Lives (O.W.L.) program was suspended for the year, as it was not possible to offer this program virtually and maintain fidelity.

Our ministry team looks forward to a safe re-opening of church activities and an active year of Christian education and faith formation. Our goals will include responding to the needs of our families to provide the best church school experience going forward. This may mean finding ways to hybridize virtual components with in-person learning. It will also mean diversifying our teaching volunteers to broaden the pool of available adults and young adults. We will revisit the Our Whole Lives Program to determine the best way to restart that program and consider ways to bring youth together in fellowship.

DEACONS

AMY BARKAT

From June 2020 to June 2021 the Deacons of BCCUCC, along with the rest of the world, were living in the grips of the pandemic in a big way. That being said, the Deacons still 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 had a total of 8 Deacons. It was my first year as Chair of Deacons and I was proud to lead this impressive team. Of the 8 deacons there were 3 new faces: Lory, McCoy, Jeff Stumpf and Nancy Arena. Lory, Jeff and Nancy bring such unique perspectives and gifts to this team and the church.

We kicked off the year with a socially distanced gathering at Lory McCoy's house in September and also filmed the Deacon's Dedication there as well. The Deacons met via Zoom every month to discuss our work and highlights from the year include leading a Laity Service in November, this time virtually and by Pat Stoddard and Jeff Stumpf. We continued our tradition of delivering flowers to the grieving or shut-ins. Some of those visits provided amazing ways for our Deacons to connect to our congregants – whether it was a socially distanced chat outside on the porch or a phone call – people often shared had meaningful it was to get a check-in and the Deacons felt the same.

When the pandemic hit in the spring of 2020 we had decided not to do a Easter Tenebrae service because pandemic was still so fresh and new we didn't quite have our sea legs back in terms of virtual services... but Easter 2021 we carried on. The Deacons were dedicated to the idea of still

holding a Tenebrae service, albeit virtually. So for the first time, the Deacons were recorded doing their readings individually in the church and Dale and Linda led the service live on Facebook. While the impact of worshipping in person can never be matched, this Tenebrae service turned out to be an incredibly beautiful experience both to the dedication of our deacons to commit to the format but also from the support of our Worship Tech Team and clergy.

As Dale and Linda led the congregation through new ways to worship the Deacons found themselves giving lots of great feedback and opinions on topics like how/if to do a drive by Ash Wednesday service. We were all quite happy that Dale and Linda were able to make that a reality and offer some semblance of ritual back into the Easter season.

Additionally, the pandemic has given us a lot of time to reflect on the best use of our Deacon's fund. We continued through the whole year to provide monetary support to institutions like TapIn, whereas we used to put some of that money towards Shaw's gift cards for people coming to the office. Towards the end of this year, we discussed trying something new both in how the funds are allocated but also how we share with the church what the funds are doing and the direct impact it's having on the community. We hope to see the fruits of that labor next year.

Finally, this year has forever changed all of us but I'm grateful for having led this beautiful group of people through it.



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.



ENDOWMENT MINISTRY TEAM

KATE COLBY

Although March 2020 saw steep declines in the market due to the arrival of COVID19, the markets bounced back quickly and 2020 ended as a good year for investments. BCCUCC ended the year with a total of \$2,187,081 under management; up from \$2,043,139. Of the 2020 total, \$140,293 are designated for specific use. Rhode Island Foundation returns of 12.3% and United Church Funds returns of 12.7% were each near their benchmarks. Ocean State Incubator Fund surpassed its benchmark with returns of 13.7%.

In 2020, endowment funds supported operations with distributions of \$81,500. At the time of the Annual report last year, there were concerns that 2021 distributions would be negatively affected due to COVID19's early effect on the market, but with the market's rebound those concerns dissipated. The endowment funds were able to support budgeted distributions in the amount of \$82,500 for the year 2021. First quarter 2021 also saw growth in the value of our investments, ensuring stable or improved distributions in 2022.

This past year, the team mainly focused on two tasks. First, as mentioned in the 2019 Annual Report, the endowment team endeavors to maintain the purchasing power of the Endowment funds. To that end we developed a formula to monitor purchasing power of the funds over time. Our analysis shows that the funds have grown suitably over time compared to inflation. This suggests our current distribution rate of 4.5% (used to determine the amount budgeted to operations) is appropriate and sustainable for the time being.

Secondly, the team worked on the required triennial review of the Endowment Policy. Updates were made and approved by Council in March. Significantly, several procedures and references were appended to the policy to help with continuity as new members join the team.

Although paused during COVID, outreach is still an important aspect of the endowment team's mission. As restrictions ease, we will look at outreach options again. A brochure which was on the verge of being published in 2020 will be revisited, and we hope to add a web page to the BCCUCC website over the next year. 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

2020 concluded with a moderately successful stewardship campaign feeding into our annual budget process. There did seem to be some economic effect as a result of COVID. 2020 pledges were 96% fulfilled, ending about \$15,000 below plan. Unsurprisingly, pledges for 2021 were down from the prior year by about \$23,000.

Summer 2021 is rapidly approaching, and we look to moving back to in-person services. There will likely be some settling into new routines and practices to maintain a safe environment for all members. With luck, we have budgeted accurately to address this. Church Council has approved a move to support what we are calling multi-platform services - both in-person and virtual. The technology to support this is being funded by a very generous gift received at the end of last year.

In anticipation of possible declines in income, we applied for and received a Payroll Protection Program (PPP) loan under the CARES act. As of this writing, an application for forgiveness has been submitted and approved by the bank; the SBA decision is pending. Our expectation is that all \$63,700 will be forgiven. A reduction of income, and increased expenses over 2020 and 2021 impacted the bottom line by about \$50,000. Forgiveness of the PPP loan will help the Church remain on sound financial footing.

Tom Colby, Chair, Sam Sylvester, and Co-Treasurers Leo Drury and Barbara Wuth

2021 OPERATIONS BUDGET

Income	
Unrestricted Income	
Pledges	
Current Year	371,707
Prior Year	500
Shrinkage	<u>(10,000)</u>
Total Pledges	362,207
Total Offering and Gifts	15,400
Total Investments and Interest	83,000
Total Rentals	<u>15,231</u>
Total Other Income	<u>1,000</u>
Total Unrestricted Income	476,838
Restricted Income	
Total Missions Income	<u>4,900</u>
Total Non-Missions Income	<u>6,000</u>
Total Restricted Income	<u>10,900</u>
Total Income	<u>487,738</u>
Expense	
Total Personnel	317,632
Operations	
Buildings and Grounds	
Capital	20,000
Total Church and Education Building	49,700
Total Parsonage – Fireside	8,600
Total Parsonage – Nathaniel	<u>7,450</u>
Total Insurance	<u>30,204</u>
Total Buildings and Grounds	115,954
Total Office	14,800
Church Life	
Special Ministry Initiative	2,000
Conference Delegates Travel Support	1,000
Marketing	6,000
Total Christian Education	4,350
Chancel	4,500
Church Supplies	1,500
Deacons	100
Endowment	100
Membership	980
Music	1,750
Stewardship	<u>2,750</u>
Total Church Life	25,030
Missions – General Funds	
SNE Conference Dues	21,056
RI Association Dues	2,340
Loaves and Fishes Truck	1,500
Missions – non UCC	<u>1,900</u>
Total Missions – General Funds	26,796
Total Restricted Missions	4,900
Other Expenses	
Miscellaneous Expense	
Total Other Expenses	<u> </u>
Total Operations Expense	<u>187,480</u>
Total Expense	<u>505,112</u>
Net Income (Loss)	<u>(17,374)</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 past year, Lay Visitation Team members made phone calls and sent cards and notes to let our members know that we are thinking of them. Once again, due to the pandemic, in-person visits were limited. We are looking forward to the time when we can reach out in person once again. We are grateful to our team members who continue to maintain the 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.

The Lay Visitation Team – *Kathy Block, George Bolton, Rose Marie Bolton, Rev. Linda Hartley, Debbie Mason, Peggy Matteson, Joan Miller, Cheryl Muth, and Helen Schall*

MEMBERSHIP MINISTRY TEAM

JOANNE D'ADAMO

“...for I was a stranger and you welcomed me,”

Matthew 25:35

For this past year, the work of the Membership Team has shifted and adapted in response to the Covid pandemic. The very nature of the Membership team is to work in community of the church. This posed a challenge to replicate in light of no in-person worship or gathering.

One of the Team's responsibilities is to welcome visitors to church and provide information to prospective members. Alas, Welcome Folders have gone untouched in the last year. As we excitedly move to in-person worship, there is ample supply going forward. The folders are located in several locations in the church building and in fellowship hall as part of the Welcome Table.

This year, the welcoming of new members was conducted remotely. While we missed the congregational personal welcome that typically would occur during the church service and at Coffee hour, we adapted a few traditions to still offer a welcome! A Membership team member personally delivered a socially distanced welcoming smile to represent the congregation along with a congratulatory gift bag, celebratory cupcake, and boutonniere to wear for the New Member Zoom meeting. We also took nice photos to share with the congregation.

For Confirmation, we took a similar approach to celebrating this occasion. For the Confirmations in October 2020 and in May 2021, we put together gift bags with a boutonniere, cupcake, and a river rock with a spiritual message.

Each fall, we host a Senior Luncheon in the Fellowship Hall. This past year there was no safe opportunity to recreate this lovely event. However, we sent a “Hello” greeting card to all Seniors, with the message the church family was thinking about them and wishing them good health. We used a beautiful aerial photo of the church which we hoped people might enjoy.

Each Spring, the Membership Team is responsible for fulfilling nominations for the church officers and the church ministry teams. The Team contacts people currently in positions and 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 for a couple of coffee hours, a table is set up to provide information about various volunteer roles. In spite of being without these in-person opportunities, we can report the slate for church officers is full, with the exception of one Member-at-Large position. Some of our ministry teams have full slates but there are other teams that are in need of additional members. There are vacancies on Buildings and Grounds, Christian Education and Youth Ministries (CEYM), Finance, Membership, Stewardship, and Endowment. If anyone is interested in filling any of these vacancies or wants to learn more about what’s involved, the Membership Team would love to hear from you – or reach out to a current member of the particular team or to the church office.

We sincerely appreciate the willingness of everyone who has served in this past year, and who has offered to continue to serve the BCCUCC community for this upcoming year.

MISSION AND JUSTICE MINISTRY TEAM

HELEN SCHALL

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 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 participants in the missions and justice issues of the church.

Activities from May 2020 - May 2021:

- 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.
- An update on the R.I.P. Medical Debt showed that the collaborative effort by 122 United Church of Christ congregations, (including Barrington Congregational Church, UCC) four Associations, and more than 100 households in the Southern New England Conference has abolished \$26.2 million in medical debt. Two separate buys benefited families in seven states and first responders around the country.
- In the aftermath of the killing of George Floyd in May 2020, the M&J Team held a Black Lives Matter Rally on June 7th. An estimated 1200 people lined the sidewalk in front of the church and extending south on both sides of County Road. This vigil continued monthly (with the exception of December and January due to the high rates of Covid-19) with the

location rotating between the different churches on County Road. A community gathering on the town hall lawn on May 23rd, 2021, marked the one year anniversary of George Floyd's murder and twelve months of the vigils. It included local clergy, community leaders and representatives of Black Lives Matter Rhode Island and was sponsored by BCCUCC, Barrington Interfaith Partners, Barrington Presbyterian Church, St. James Lutheran Church, Sts. Matthew & Mark Episcopal Church, St. John's Episcopal Church, Temple Habonim, and United Methodist Church of Barrington. A food collection for Higher Ground International was also held.

- In support of the town's new observance of June as Pride Month, Mission and Justice placed a new Pride sign in front of the church for the rest of the month.
- Families were invited to make Peace Flags in observance of the United Nations International Day of Peace on September 21st. Peace Flag kits were delivered by members of the Team and once returned, were hung on the Church grounds.
- M&J partnered with the East Bay Citizens for Peace and the East Providence Library to hold a virtual talk with George Kassis about the U.N., its supporters, and its effect on the Middle East.
- In lieu of our traditional Thanksgiving food drive, the congregation was asked to send checks to Tap-in directly or to the church.
- A drive through drop off was held for donations of mittens, gloves, hats and scarves for various organizations and for toiletries for the Women's Resource Center on two Saturdays in December.
- In January, the Mission and Justice Team invited the Rev. Jim Antal to be a guest preacher. Jim is a well-known advocate for climate justice and its intersection with faith. His book, *Climate Church, Climate World*, was then made available to the congregation and Dale led a study group during Lent to discuss it. Jim was also a guest at a Zoom presentation and discussion following church that was open to the public. Members of the study group, along with M&J, continue to explore ways the church can take steps to educate on this issue and to take action. We now have a series of signs that will be placed in front of Fellowship Hall.
- In February, we responded to an emergency request from Amos House for gloves. Even with short notice, we were able to collect over five dozen pairs that were delivered by Kathy Block.
- In April, M&J supported the town's program: *A Conversation with Ibram Kendi: Exploring Equity, Diversity and Inclusion* via Zoom.
- Mission and Justice donated 300 trees in honor of the nearly 300 active church members in observance of Earth Day (April 22nd)
- Because of the pandemic, the M&J Team throughout the year tried to provide opportunities to educate the congregation by notifying them of webinars presented by many groups, including the UCC, Interfaith Power and Light and local partners such as the Interfaith Coalition to Reduce Poverty and the Barrington Public Library. Topics ranged from racial justice, climate change, immigration, to voting issues. We also tried to keep them informed of volunteer opportunities, such as TAP-IN, the Barrington Farm School (especially their collection for Progresso Latina) and at the McCoy Family Farm.

- Information for the *Our Faith, Our Vote, Our Voices* campaign with updated reminders on registration and ballots from the Secretary of State and the League of Women Voters and on issues at the state house and on the national campaign in 2020 was also provided.
- The M&J team provided education on the four UCC Special Offerings taken at various times during the year.

Financial donations were made to the following from generous donations to the church:

Higher Ground - \$1000.00
 Federal Hill House - \$1000.00
 Progresso Latino - \$1000.00
 Nourish Our Neighbors - \$1000.00

From the M&J budget:

East Bay Coalition for the Homeless - \$500.00
 RIP Medical Debt - \$200.00
 RI State Council of Churches - \$200.00
 RI Community Food Bank - \$200.00
 Barrington Farm School - \$100.00
 Earthday.org - \$309.00

Thank you for the work of all the team members and to the congregation for your support.

MUSIC MINISTRY TEAM

PATRICIA STODDARD

In a year like no other, the music ministry of this church continued to enhance and lend additional spiritual context to the virtual worship services. This would not have been possible without the outstanding technical and musical skills of church member Erik Ela. As the year went on, the quality and creativity of the prerecorded anthems soared! To date, the “Quarantine Choir” has recorded over 25 anthems and over 54 hymns – just remarkable. Also recorded were several vocal solos, small group pieces, handbell solos, instrumental pieces, and one anthem that included the Sing & Celebrate Choir. I believe I can speak for the congregation in sincerely thanking all who participated in any way to continue this ministry.

The technology also allowed us to enjoy and appreciate the outstanding musical gifts of Organist and Choir Director Marina Zabinski. The choir would not be complete without her efforts. Her live preludes and postludes in the virtual services were a real treat.

As we look toward a different future, conversations about how that might look are underway. As you are not doubt aware, pandemic conditions are changing for the better and complete reopening of Rhode Island’s businesses, organizations and economy is underway. How the music ministry will contribute when we return to in person hybrid worship services in late June/early July remains to be seen, but your church musicians stand by to continue their ministry in a meaningful and safe way.

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, Heather Williamson, Laura Ward, and Kim Zeleznik.

SPRT offers an opportunity and place for our ministers, 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 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 staff reviews.

During the 2020-2021 calendar year, our team held its first meeting on 3/23/21 over Zoom. At this time, we welcomed our new member, Laura, as well as elected a new chair, Kim. Laura agreed to act as the liaison and attend the Church Council Meetings each month. Our team met again on 4/19/21 over Zoom to assign members to each of the staff reviews. These 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 and Michael Collins, with support from Rev. Dale and Pat Stoddard, modified the program to reflect a more practical approach given the Pandemic. This year we celebrated how, through our congregation's generosity, we are "*Building Connections*." 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.

113 Giving Cards were received prior to the budget meeting, totaling \$371,677. This is an approximate 5% decrease over the 2020 total, driven in large part by the Pandemic. We are fortunate and grateful that the decrease wasn't larger.

Analysis of the financial commitments includes:

New commitments – 10 = 9% of the total

Commitments with increase over 2020 – 36 = 32% of the total [10% increase vs. 2020]

Commitments with same amount as 2020 – 45 = 40% of the total

Commitments with decrease from 2020 – 22 = 19% of the total [25% decrease vs. 2020]

Lost commitments due to attrition & other factors – 25

One additional pledge (totaling \$5,000) was received after the budget meeting.

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

USHERING MINISTRY

TOM COLBY


After a year on hiatus, the Ushering Ministry will be restarting as we re-open the church. The team works well with 12 members, but better with a few more. The suspension of in-person services has meant that the primary functions of the usher team have been 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, 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 safety during church services. When in service, this also includes being alert to potential unsafe or threatening situations. We will also be keeping an eye on additional requirements as safety concerns around COVID-19 are adjusted and (hopefully) reduced and eliminated. 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.

Tom Colby, Bethia Rosner Co-chairs



	<p style="text-align: center;">Our Mission Statement</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>
---	--

2021 - 2022 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 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	2022	2
CLERK		
Greg Voigt	2022	3
CO-TREASURERS		
Barbara Wuth	2022	5
Leo Drury	2022	2
HISTORIAN		
Dianne Wilkin	2022	2
AUDITOR		
John Loerke	2022	2

CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS AT LARGE (2)

Sam Sylvester 2022
* 2022

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

Term Expires

DEACONS (10 - 12)
The deacons serve 3 year terms and can serve for 2 terms (a max of 6 years)

Steve Fodor	2022
Amy Barkat	2022
Jane Tonn	2022
*	2022
Nancy Arena	2023
Lory McCoy	2023
Jeff Stumpff	2023
*	2023
Patricia Stoddard	2024 2 nd Term
Carol Strakosch	2024 2 nd Term
*	2024
*	2024

Term Expires *Year#*

ENDOWMENT MINISTRY TEAM (4-6)

Kate Colby	2022	6
Dick McWhirter	2022	4
Seth Forman	2022	3
*		
*		
*		

FINANCE MINISTRY TEAM (4-6)

Tom Colby	2022	8
Sam Sylvester	2022	6
*		
*		

Term Expires *Year#*

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS MINISTRY TEAM (8)

Sue Terhune	2022	4
Sim Hawes	2022	4
Paul Dennis	2022	3
Marlene Manchester	2022	3
Francis Seader	2022	2
Steve Cipoletti	2022	2
*		
*		

MEMBERSHIP MINISTRY TEAM (8)

Libardo DeLaTorre	2022	5
Wendy Forman	2022	4
Joanne D'Adamo	2022	2
Greg Voigt	2022	2
*		
*		
*		
*		

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

Kathy Sullivan	2022	6
Cathleen Joachim	2022	3
Maya Kelly (youth)	2022	3
Tim Milisauskas	2022	2
*		
*		
*		

MISSION and JUSTICE MINISTRY TEAM (4)

Helen Schall	2022	4
Nancy Arena	2022	4
Susan Rotblat-Walker	2022	4
Seth Forman	2022	3
Trinki Brueckner	2022	2

Term Expires Year#

STAFF-PARISH RELATIONS TEAM (4)

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

John Muth**	2020	7
Kim Zeleznik	2020	6
Heather Williamson	2022	3
Laura Ward	2022	2

*** 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. As the longest serving member, John Muth will be replaced in Fall 2021 but will serve on the team until then.*

STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY TEAM (5)

Michael Collins	2022	4
*		
*		
*		
*		

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
*

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
Joan Miller
Debbie Mason
Peggy Matteson
Cheryl Muth
Helen Schall



FROM THE CHURCH RECORDS

June 1st, 2020 – June 8th, 2021

This report covers the 12+ month period from the beginning of June 2020 through early June 2021. The categories shown are also requested each December for the United Church of Christ Yearbook Report (see page 29).

NEW MEMBERS (4)

8/24/20

Fred Rocco
Jeff Stumpff
Chris Waite
Joanne Waite

TRANSFER IN (1)

2/8/21

Racquel Ray

CONFIRMATIONS (13)

10/18/20 *

Ava Bowman
Kim Colby
Daniel Lemos Jr.
Grace Mole
Julia Mole
Lara Nicholson
Jack Silva
Evan Waite

5/14/21

Ava DiMatteo
Katie Dubel
Camden Siwik
Finn Stabach
Max Sylvester

**The youth confirmed on 10/18/20 were our 2019 – 2020 confirmands. Their original confirmation date was May 31st, 2020 but due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the service was postponed to Fall 2020 in the hope that it could take place in the sanctuary. Unfortunately, pandemic restrictions continued for many more months so their confirmation service finally took place online in October. The service for the 2020-2021 confirmands took place in May 2021 and was also online. Parts of each confirmation service were held outdoors and with social distancing. These were pre-recorded and the videos shown during the online services.*

MARRIAGES (0)

BAPTISMS (1)

Infants and Children

Magnolia Grace Ciociola

Adult (0)

DEATHS (8)

Members

Others (0)

Carolyn Faulhaber
Chloe Paulhus
Fred MacDonald
Joan Allen
Ozzie Rosenholm
Jane McCabe
Pat Gregory
Bette Reid



ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP AS OF MAY 31ST, 2020 was 283 *(Number reported in 2020 Annual Report)*

Between June 1, 2020 and June 8, 2021 the following changes occurred:

Additions to Active Membership (20)

13 - Confirmation
5 - New Members
..2 – Return to Active Membership

Losses to Active Membership (28)

8 - Death
0 - Transfer Out
20 - other reasons (moved away,
were inactive, etc)

ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP AS OF JUNE 8TH, 2021 $283 + 20 - 28 = 275$

(see next page for further explanation)

MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

reflecting changes in the membership that occurred between Jan 1st and Dec 31st, 2020

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 12/31/2020 was 277 (see following table for breakdown).

<i>From the Yearbook Report Form:</i>	
Statistics for January 1 – December 31, 2020	
Active Membership as of 12/31/2019	297
Additions during year:	
Confirmation	8
Confession of Faith	0
Letters of Transfer	0
Reaffirmation of Faith	4
Losses during year:	
Death	7
Transfer	0
Other removals	25
Active Membership as of 12/31/2020	277

Note: The information listed on the previous pages reflect those changes that took place between June 1, 2020 and June 8, 2021, as opposed to the information directly above, which is for changes between January 1 and December 31, 2020.



Between January 1, 2021 and June 8, 2021 there were the following changes in ACTIVE membership:

- + 1 New Member (Transferred in)
- + 5 New Members (by Confirmation)
- + 0 Return to Active Membership
- 5 Death of Active Members
- 3 Removals (moved away)

ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP AS OF JUNE 8TH, 2021 is $277 + 6 - 8 = 275$

A Reminder....

All are invited to attend the virtual
ANNUAL MEETING
of the Barrington Congregational Church, UCC on
Sunday, June 13th, 2021
Immediately following worship via Zoom*.

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

Telephone: (401) 246-0111

e-mail address: office@bccucc.org

website: www.bccucc.org

Facebook page: www.facebook.com/bccucc



Senior Minister: The Rev. Dr. Dale Azevedo
Associate Minister (Designated Term): 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