

October 21, 2021

The bi-weekly newsletter of Barrington Congregational Church, United Church of Christ.

If your email platform only lets you see part of this email, then click on the following link to <u>View as Webpage</u> We don't want you to miss anything! You'll know you've reached the end when you see 'THE END!' in green.

Calendar

Church Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 9:30 am - 1:30 pm.

Sat, Oct 23 9:30 am 'Pumpkin Palooza' for Church School Families, Terrace or Fellowship Hall

Sun, Oct 24 10 am Worship Service (in-person & online), Church School Watch at <u>www.facebook.com/bccucc</u> or on our website <u>at this link</u> After worship: Brief gathering with Dale for those interested in joining the church

Mon, Oct 25 6 pm Youth group meets on Terrace

Tues, Oct 26 8 am Peaceful Pause and Prayer, Livestreamed 11 am Staff meeting, Dale's office

Wed, Oct 27 6:30 - 8 pm SE Region Annual Fall Gathering on Zoom 7 pm Membership Team meeting 7:30 - 9 pm Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary 8 pm RI Association Meeting on Zoom

Thurs, Oct 28 8 am Peaceful Pause and Prayer, Livestreamed

Sun, Oct 31 Stewardship Sunday and All Saints Sunday 10 am Worship Service (in-person & online), Church School. Watch at <u>www.facebook.com/bccucc</u> or on our website <u>at this link</u> After Worship: Trunk or Treat in Parking Lot

Tues, Nov 2 8 am Peaceful Pause and Prayer, Livestreamed 11 am Staff Meeting, Dale's Office 7 pm Knitting for Others Group meet via Zoom

Wed, Nov 3 Noon *Deadline for eBridge* 7:30 - 9 pm Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary

Thurs, Nov 4 8 am Peaceful Pause and Prayer, Livestreamed 1:30 - 3 pm Women of Faith Reading Group meet, Library 7 pm Search Committee meets, Room 6

Sat, Nov 6 Bedtime *Turn clocks back 1 hour*

Sun, Nov 7 Consecration Sunday

Daylight Savings Time ends 10 am Worship Service (in-person & online), Church School Watch at <u>www.facebook.com/bccucc</u> or on our website <u>at this link</u> After worship: Consecration Lunch, Outside in tent behind CE bldg

> For the complete church calendar visit <u>http://bccucc.view-events.com</u> Send calendar information to <u>office@bccucc.org</u>

In the next few days....

Multi-platform Worship - Sundays 10 am

All are invited to join us for our **multi-platform** worship service at **10 a.m.** every Sunday.

For those attending in person, we **require masks** be worn in worship (with exemptions for those under 2 or for medical reasons). We continue to take precautions

to provide the safest conditions possible for everyone, and have <u>new updated</u> <u>guidelines</u> in place. If you plan to worship with us in person in the sanctuary we ask that you read them ahead of time.

For those who are not yet ready to return to our sanctuary, or are not able to, the services are livestreamed so they can be watched online at the same links as before: <u>www.facebook.com/bccucc</u> or <u>https://bccucc.org/live-stream-2/</u>. If you miss the service live, you can watch it later at the same links.

We invite you to join us for worship - in person or online.

Are you interested in officially joining our church?

If so, please let Dale know (<u>dale@bccucc.org</u> or (401) 246-0111 ext 103) and also plan to stay after church for a very brief time **this Sunday**, **October 24th** - to find a convenient time for all those interested to get together at a later date with Dale for 'Conversations about our Church'. At Conversations you'll learn about the UCC, more about our church, who we are and what we believe - in preparation for becoming a member. It will also be a time to ask any questions you may have. All are welcome to join our church whether you're new to our church community or have been coming for some time.



Deadline for Youth Group event sign up is Fri, Oct 22nd

Our first **Youth Group** gathering will be on **Monday**, **October 25th** at 6 pm led by our acting Associate Minister, Racquel Ray. (We may have to adjust day/time in future as we learn more about participants



and family schedules). **All youth in grades 6-12 are welcome** to join us on the terrace for a campfire and roasting hotdogs and marshmallows. (Parents and siblings are welcome to join us and help us plan our future program!)



Please RSVP for safety and provision to Racquel by Friday,

October 22nd at <u>racquel@bccucc.org</u>. Questions? Reach out to Racquel by email or at (401) 246-0111 ext 104

Remembering those who have died this past year

We invite you to submit the names of loved ones have who died since last All Saints Sunday (November 1st, 2020) to the church office (246-0111 or office@bccucc.org) by Tuesday, October 26th. Their names will be read aloud with the tolling of a bell in the worship service on All Saints Sunday, October 31st.



New in this eBridge

OPEN THE DOORS......

This fall, at BCCUCC we are Opening our Doors to Gratitude and Generosity. Due to COVID, our doors remained closed for over 12 months. We cautiously opened them up in June to begin our multiplatform worship (in-person and online). This fall we are hoping to fling them open in gratitude for all of our blessings and then letting our generosity flow out into the community and beyond!



Over the next few weeks, you will continue to hear some of these personal stories in worship, in letters, and here in the eBridge. This sharing is building up to **Consecration Sunday**, which we are celebrating **November 7th**.

During morning worship on Consecration Sunday, we are asking our attendees and members to make their financial commitments to the missionary, benevolent, and educational ministries of our church that bring about so much change in our members and neighbors.

We urge you to consider attending worship on November 7th, even if you are not planning on completing a card. The procedure is done in such a way that no one feels personal embarrassment if he or she chooses not to fill out a card. We will cap off this celebration with our Consecration Lunch being held immediately after worship. This lunch will be held outside under a canopy tent (in case of rain) with boxed lunches from Blue Kangaroo. Hot cider and coffee will be available too! We want everyone to join us for our first shared meal in two years!!!

Thanks in advance for your enthusiastic participation in our Consecration Sunday events and for all that you do to Open the Doors to Gratitude and Generosity for our church, our community, and the world.

Your Consecration Sunday Team: Dale Azevedo, Racquel Ray, Kate Colby, Adam Grenier and Pat Stoddard.

Custodial Help Wanted

The church is looking for an additional custodian to help maintain our facilities. The paid position is part time with flexible hours. If you are interested or know of someone

that could fill the position please contact Paul Dennis for more information at 401-243-3493.

Buildings and Grounds Team seeks new members

The B&G team is looking for new members to help manage our church facilities. One of B&G's most important duties is creating the B&G budget and overseeing how it is spent. The team also manages Capital Improvements and the contractors and custodial staff working for the church. Meetings are normally once a month. For more information please call Paul Dennis at 401-243-3493.



Southeast Region Annual Fall Gathering & RI Association Meeting

The Rhode Island, Pilgrim, Old Colony, and Barnstable Associations of the Southern New England Conference, UCC, invite you to the **Southeast Region Annual Fall Gathering** on **Wednesday, October 27th** at 6:30 pm. on Zoom.

This special evening will celebrate the work of our local churches, highlight our keynote speaker Diana Butler Bass, and provide separate opportunities for each association to conduct any required business.

Diana Butler Bass, Ph.D., is an award-winning author, popular speaker, inspiring preacher, and one of America's most trusted



commentators on religion and contemporary spirituality. She will give the keynote address on "**Hope and Resiliency: Thriving Through the Pandemic**" Registration for is required at:

https://sneucc-reg.brtapp.com/SoutheastRegionAnnualFallGatheringOct272021

The Evening's Events:

- 6:30-6:50 pm Welcome and Worship
- 6:50-7:30 pm Keynote address
- 7:30-8:00 pm Q & A with Diana Butler Bass
- 8:00 pm Individual SE Associations Meet (see below)

Annual Meeting of the RI Association will take place on Wed, Oct 27th at 8 pm on zoom as part of the Annual Fall Gathering of the SE region of SNEUCC Conference (see above). The business to be conducted will consist of discussing and voting upon the RI Association's 2022 Annual Budget and a slate of nominations, followed by an opportunity for discussion of new business.

The zoom link required to participate will be sent to you when you register for the Fall Gathering (see above)

TAPIN seeks monetary donations for their Thanksgiving program

Pre-pandemic, BCCUCC would collect specific food items for donation to TAPIN's Thanksgiving Food program. This year, due to COVID 19 restrictions, they are only able to provide gift cards to their clients. If anyone would like to help TAPIN,



they would greatly appreciate monetary donations to purchase the gift cards that will help their clients buy Thanksgiving meals. Lately, their client numbers have increased significantly, and they hope to provide gift cards to everyone who needs one.

Tax-deductible contributions in any amount may be sent directly to Tap-In, P.O. Box 252, Barrington, RI 02806, or can be made on their website at <u>www.tapinri.org</u>

Time to change the clocks!

Daylight-Saving Time ends at 2 am on Sunday, November 7th, 2021. Don't forget to turn your clocks back one hour when you go to bed on **Saturday, November 6th** and enjoy an extra hour of sleep before coming to church the next morning for Consecration Sunday worship and lunch!!



Reminders

Come to church in costume on Halloween, Sun, Oct 31st!

Those who would like to are invited to come to church in costume on **Halloween - Sunday**, **October 31st.** Regardless of your age, you are welcome to dress up (in a kid friendly costume), and join in the fun! Our Trunk or Treat will take place in the parking lot after worship has ended (see below).



Trunk or Treat returns!





Your trunk can be decorated as simply or as elaborately as you like as this isn't a competition – just an opportunity for some fun!

See more photos from past Trunk or Treats





We already have some people signed up to decorate their trunks, but we'd love to have many more! Those interested in decorating their trunk, or if you have questions, are asked to contact Elizabeth Azevedo at (860) 301-2915 or <u>eazevedo17@gmail.com</u> - or you can just show up on the 31st with a decorated trunk!

As in previous years, the participating cars will be parked out front of the education building to help provide a safe place for the event and the area will be cordoned off to vehicles once the event starts.

it's not too late to purchase fresh fruit for TAPIN

For several years we held a citrus fruit sale at the church to raise money for mission trips. We partnered with the Providence Singers who have been running this sale as a fundraiser for their organization for more than 20 years! In addition to ordering fruit for themselves, the congregation was invited to order cases of fruit for delivery to TAPIN so it could be given away with the Thanksgiving Food bags to those in need in the East Bay. This year, due to COVID, TAPIN will be



giving out gift cards again instead of food bags, however they are excited to also be able to give away fresh fruit to their clients – something that's not always easy for TAPIN to come by at this time of year.

Church member Beth Zarlengo is once again running the Fruit Sale Fundraiser for the Providence Singers and invites the congregation to also order fruit for delivery to TAPIN. Many of the Singers also purchase cases of fruit for delivery to TAPIN and they donate over 500 lbs each year! To order fruit for donation to TAPIN please visit www.FloridalndianRiverGroves.com/ecommerce/723608 and choose 'Ship to Organization' then contact Beth at zarlengo@cox.net or (401) 447-6331 to let her know that your order is for TAPIN. If you're interested in ordering fruit for yourself or for delivery to someone else, please contact Christine Wallis in the church office (also a member of the Providence Singers) and she'll be happy to help you with your order. *Orders must be placed by October 26th*, and will be delivered the week before Thanksgiving. Thank you.

Volunteers needed to restock the pew racks

If you're looking for a way to spend some quiet time alone in the sanctuary, while doing something useful, then do we have the volunteer opportunity for you! We're looking for some additional volunteers to tidy and restock the pew racks on a regular basis. It's a task that gets done every 2 or 3 weeks, and with several people on the schedule, you'd only be asked to do it once every couple of months – and you can do it at your convenience. If interested, please contact Christine in



the church office at office@bccucc.org or call (401) 246-0111. Thanks.

Ongoing

'Peaceful Pause and Prayer'

Dale leads these online meditations at 8 am every Tuesday & Thursday mornings. Each meditation provides moments for reflection, music, scripture, and silence. They can be watched on our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/bccucc or on the livestream page of our website at <u>https://bccucc.org/live-stream-2/</u> and will



remain available for later viewing on both platforms if you can't watch live.

Knitting for Others Group

The Knitting Group will meet again on **Tuesday, November 2nd** at 7 pm over Zoom. All knitters and crocheters are invited to attend and new faces are very welcome. For more information on the group, contact Nancy Arena at 401 246-0212 or <u>nancy.arena@outlook.com</u>. *For security reasons the zoom info needed isn't included here but is in the email sent to the congregation.*



Bereavement Group to meet

The Bereavement group will meet on Mondays,

November 8th & 22nd at 11 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. The group is open to anyone (not just church members) who has lost a loved one at any time. New members are welcome. For more information, contact the facilitator, Betsy Brenner at jsbeeb@aol.com or 245-8031.

Book Group for November

The Book Group will next meet **Tuesday, November 16th** at **9:30 am**. at the **Cafe Water Street**, 279 Water Street, Warren if the weather is pleasant. If it isn't they will meet at the same time via Zoom. They will be discussing *O Pioneers!* by Willa Cathers. For more information about the group, contact Helen Schall at helenschall@hotmail.com or 401 245-4724. All are welcome to participate.

For security reasons the zoom info if needed isn't included here but is in the email sent to the congregation.

Women of Faith Reading Group

The group has started meeting again on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month from 1:30 – 3 pm in the church library. They will meet again on **Thursdays**, **November 4th & 18th.** The group welcomes women of all ages from BCCUCC as well as other churches

and faith traditions. For more information including the book currently being read, please contact Jane Tonn at 289-2349 or <u>itonn2@cox.net</u>.

From the Mission and Justice Team

Help needed for Afghan refugees

Dorcas International is asking us to help them in welcoming refugees from Afghanistan who have fled the upheaval and suffering there, and are seeking to resettle and build a life in Rhode Island.

Most who fled Afghanistan arrive with almost nothing but the clothes on their back. They need help with everything from warm clothes and household goods to furniture and cleaning supplies, and everything in between.

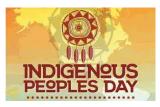
For a list of supplies needed and how to donate them <u>click here</u>.

To make a monetary donation, go to their <u>website page</u> and click on the 'Give Now' button on the top right. Thank you.

From the UCC: Learn more about Indigenous People.....

As we continue to recognize <u>Indigenous People's Day</u>, let us go beyond acknowledgement and call on Congress to create a 'Truth and Healing Commission' to not only confess past sins but move our nation toward a restored future. For more information:

- Visit the <u>Council for American Indian Ministries</u> website
- Visit the <u>National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition</u> homepage and <u>truth commission page</u>
- <u>UCC Resolution to Repudiate the Doctrine of Discovery and resource material</u>
- September 30th Day of Remembrance
- Take Action at this link









From Barrington Farm School: Community Compost Program launches new Drop-off Site

Barrington Farm School is a big proponent of composting, which is vital to regenerative and organic farming. Their <u>Community Compost Program</u>, in partnership with Barrington Conservation Commission, wants more residents to enjoy the benefits. So they are launching a new drop-off "hub spot" for suitable food scraps next to the tennis courts on Kent Street. Unlike their open drop-off system at the farm stand, this bin has a lock. This allows them to manage the scrap and



communicate with users. The service is still free, but they need your email to share information on keeping it running smoothly. So to get started, please email them for the combination to the lock at <u>BarringtonFarmSchool@gmail.com</u>

In case you missed it earlier

The Pastors' Blog 'From the River's Edge'

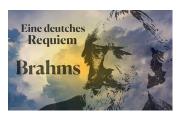
The latest blog ' Where Do You Find Your Strength?' was written by Dale. If you missed it earlier you can <u>read it here</u>



Community News

FREE concert of Brahms' Requiem to celebrate the return to live music

The Providence Singers are celebrating the return to live performance by inviting the community to a FREE performance of Brahms' Requiem. The concert will be on Sunday, November 7th at 3 pm at Cathedral of Sts. and Paul, Providence. Reservations Peter are recommended and can be made here or at www.providencesingers.org.



They will also perform the same piece on **Saturday**, **November 6th** at **7 pm** at St Mary's Church in Bristol. Tickets are available for this concert and can be <u>purchased</u> <u>here</u> or at the door.

Important note for both concerts: For the safety of guests, musicians, and volunteers, all concert attendees are required to wear masks and show proof of vaccination. Please come prepared. No exceptions.

Church member Beth Zarlengo and office administrator, Christine Wallis, are both members of the Providence Singers and are looking forward to singing this concert after almost two years of not being able to perform live. <u>Flier</u>

Conference Happenings

Keep up to date with our Conference - SNEUCC

The Southern New England Conference,

UCC (SNEUCC), publishes several newsletters - one of which comes out weekly and is titled '5 Things to Know and Share'. Read the latest edition at this



link and sign up to subscribe and get it sent to your inbox.

<u>Click on this link</u> to see the archive of all of the different SNEUCC newsletters - and subscribe to any that are of interest to you.

COVID Safety Reminders

Masks are required in both the education and church buildings

Masks are required for all participants in worship - with the following exclusions:

- anyone with a medical reason why they can't wear a mask
- children under the age of 2
- while leading worship

Education building is open with some important requirements

The education building re-opened on Sept 1st for church and public use with the following **requirements**:

• All visitors attending meetings or events shall **wear appropriate masks at all times** (Note: Visitors includes both church people and outside groups)



- Hand sanitizer shall be made readily available for all attendees (this is the responsibility of the organization/individual holding the event)
- An accurate **copy of attendees and contact information** shall be kept (this is the responsibility of the organization/individual holding the event)
- Weather permitting, doors and windows are to be propped open
- Any room or venue utilized by a group shall **remain vacant for at least 20 hours** before being utilized by a separate group.

Contact us

Dale dale@bccucc.org (401) 246-0111 x 103 Racquel racquel@bccucc.org (401) 246-0111 x 104 Christine office@bccucc.org (401) 246-0111 x 101 (or just stay on the line) Pat pat@bccucc.org (401) 246-0111 x 102 Andrea andrea@bccucc.org (401) 246-0111 x 107

Church Office Hours: Open Monday – Friday, 9:30 am – 1:30 pm. Closed on Federal and State holidays.

Building Security: The Education building will remain locked at all times, even when the office is open. Please ring the bell for entry and we'll be happy to let you in - or use the code on the keypad if you have it.

Please remember that masks are required in the education building at all times for all activities and meetings. Thank you for your cooperation.

