

February 25, 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!

Calendar

Church Office is CLOSED until further notice. There will be no in-person worship services at church until further notice

Thurs, Feb 25 8 am A Peaceful Pause and Prayer, livestreamed

Sun, Feb 28

10 am Live-streamed Worship Service (No in-person worship). Watch at <u>www.facebook.com/bccucc</u> or on our website <u>at this link</u> 1 - 2 pm Black Lives Matter Vigil, Outside St. John's Church

Mon, Mar 1 7 - 8 pm 'Climate Church ' Adult Ed Study via Zoom

Tues, Mar 2 8 am A Peaceful Pause and Prayer, livestreamed 11 am Staff meeting via Zoom 2 pm Worship Tech Team meet via Zoom

7 pm Knitting for Others group meets via Zoom

Thurs, Mar 4 8 am A Peaceful Pause and Prayer, livestreamed

Sun, Mar 7

8:30 am CEYM meeting via Zoom 10 am Live-streamed Worship Service with Communion (No in-person worship). Watch at <u>www.facebook.com/bccucc</u> or on our website <u>at this link</u> 11:30 am - 12:30 pm Confirmation Class

Mon, Mar 8

3 pm Barrington Interfaith Partners meet via Zoom 7 - 8 pm 'Climate Church ' Adult Ed Study via Zoom

Tues, Mar 9

8 am A Peaceful Pause and Prayer, livestreamed

11 am Staff meeting via Zoom 2 pm Worship Tech Team meet via Zoom 7 pm Church Council meets via Zoom

Wed, Mar 10 Noon - Deadline for next eBridge

Thurs, Mar 11 8 am A Peaceful Pause and Prayer, livestreamed

Sat, Mar 13 10 am Buildings and Grounds team meet, Carriage Sheds. *Bedtime - Move your clocks forward 1 hour*

Sun, Mar 14 Daylight-Saving Time begins
'One Great Hour of Sharing' offering
10 am Live-streamed Worship Service (No in-person worship). Watch at
www.facebook.com/bccucc or on our website at this link

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

Sundays at BCCUCC

Our **online worship service** is at **10 am** every Sunday morning and you can watch it live either on our Facebook page <u>www.facebook.com/bccucc</u> (click on the 'posts' or 'videos' link to find it) or on our website at this link <u>https://bccucc.org/live-</u>



<u>stream-2/</u>. If you miss it live, a recording can be watched later at the same links. We include on the screen all of the information needed for participating in worship each week. Please note that there will be no in-person worship until further notice.

Lenten Sermon Series on Forgiveness

Forgiveness can be one of the more challenging things God requires of us. At different moments in our lives, it can be nearly impossible to imagine forgiving those who have hurt us. But what is forgiveness, really? What does it mean to forgive someone? For what do we need to ask to be forgiven? And is it a sin to consider the need to forgive God? Join Dale and Linda in this special



Lenten sermon series running Sunday mornings from February 28 through March 21.

March 7th is the first Sunday of the month

It is our tradition on the first Sunday of every month to do two things: celebrate Communion and have Deacons Fund envelopes in the bulletin so the congregation can make donations. These traditions are continuing as we worship together online.



COMMUNION: We invite everyone who wishes to participate to have elements prepared ahead of time for you to join in this celebration. It doesn't have to be bread and juice (or even wine) - whatever you have on hand will do. Christ is present and will not be denied if you do not have the "proper" elements. God understands and joins us however invited, if invited with an open and loving heart.

DEACONS' FUND: If you would like to make a contribution to our Deacons' Fund there are now two ways to do it. EITHER write a check payable to "BCCUCC" with "Deacons Fund" in the memo line, and mail to Barrington Congregational Church UCC, 461 County Road, Barrington RI 02806 OR make an online donation from our website at <u>https://bccucc.org/donation/</u> designating it go to the Deacons' Fund. (see under 'Reminders' later in this newsletter for more information about donating online).

Altar Flower dedications

On Sunday, February 28th: One vase is given by Miriam C. and William A. Weimann, Jr., Laura and Ralph Barton, and Deb Clarke in memory of R. Alden and Miriam C. Clarke. The other vase is given anonymously in honor of the church family.



On Sunday, March 7th: Both vases are given by Sue and Steve Terhune in loving memory of their son, Eric Cabral.

Birthdays being celebrated

The week of February 28th: Ellen Brady, Andrew Nellis, Matt Block, Walter Joachim-DelPoio, Lucy Joachim-DelPoio, Steve Fairbanks, Kim Fernandez, Caroline Steger, Bud Geary, and Katie Odjakjian.

The week of March 7th: John Brex, Colin Stabach, Jenn Peters, Finn Stabach, Tim Milisauskas, Tom Gidley, and Adam Gorman.

If your name doesn't appear and you'd like it to, please contact the church office so we can add your birthdate to our data base. Thank you.

Prayer requests

Deadline for submitting prayers to be included in worship is **8 am Sunday morning.** You can either leave a message on the church's answering machine (401) 246-0111, or email Dale <u>dale@bccucc.org</u> or Linda <u>linda@bccucc.org</u>. Please be sure that the person you are lifting up is comfortable with them reading your prayer to the whole community, and consider using first names only.



Deacons

Amy Barkat (chair), Nancy Arena, Steve Fodor, Lory McCoy, Pat Stoddard, Carol Strakosch, Jeff Stumpff, and Jane Tonn. In a pastoral emergency if you cannot reach either of our ministers, please reach out to one of our deacons.

New in this eBridge

Also check out the new articles from M&J later in this newsletter

UCC issues emergency appeal to assist those affected by Winter Storms

The UCC has <u>issued an emergency appeal</u> to assist the people dealing with the <u>aftereffects of the winter</u> <u>storm</u> in Texas and beyond. UCC Disaster Ministries, Global H.O.P.E. Team are working with leaders in the impacted communities in Texas and beyond. The current and ongoing needs



include support for shelter and food, clean-up, and repair. In addition, these communities will need Emotional Spiritual Care.

If you would like to make a donation, mail a check made payable to 'United Church of Christ' to 700 Prospect Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44115. Please be sure to note 'Winter Storms' on your check in the memo section, or in an attached letter.

You can also make an online donation at

https://www.ucc.org/disaster-winter-storms/ Online donors should designate gifts to the 'Emergency USA' fund.

Black Lives Matter Vigil

The monthly Black Lives Matter Vigil will return this month after a twomonth pause due to the coronavirus. On Sunday, February 28th, from 1 – 2 pm, supporters will gather in front of St. John's Church, 191County Road, Barrington. Bring signs. Masks and six-feet distancing are required.

The vigils are held on the last Sunday of the month in different locations,

and are sponsored by Barrington Congregational Church, United Church of Christ; Barrington Interfaith Partners; Barrington Presbyterian Church; Sts. Matthew and Mark Episcopal Church; St. John's Episcopal Church; and Temple Habonim.

Daylight-Saving Time begins March 14th

Don't forget to set your clocks ahead one hour when you go to bed on Saturday, March 13th as Daylight-Saving Time begins the following day.

Altar flower donor needed

There is an opening on **Sunday, March 14th** for someone to pay for one of the vases of altar flowers. Cost is \$30 per vase. Altar flowers can be given in memory, celebration or honor of a person or special event and your dedication will be read during the online worship service and appear in the announcements and eBridge. If interested, please contact Beth Buckley at elizabethbuckley21@msn.com or call (401) 247-0324.

Many cookies were creatively decorated!

On Saturday, February 13th Andrea Bullard and Cindy Elder hosted a Creative Cookie event for our church school families. Cindy baked 60 heart-shaped cookies and four households came to decorate them. Hopefully you saw the pictures during the online service on February 14th! A fun & sweet time was had by all.

We are looking forward to the next opportunity to get together and make Easter hats in March (more information in the next eBridge).

Ongoing happenings at BCCUCC

'Peaceful Pause and Prayer' is ongoing

Dale leads these morning meditations at 8:00 am on Tuesday and 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 new website at https://bccucc.org/live-stream-2/ and will remain available for later viewing on both platforms if you can't watch live.

Knitting for Others Group

The group meets virtually each month and will next meet on **Tuesday**, **March 2nd** at 7 pm via 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 nancy.arena@outlook.com.

Zoom information needed to participate was included in email sent to congregation but isn't included here for security reasons.

Book Group

The Book Group will next meet virtually via Zoom on **Tuesday**, **March 16th** at **9:30 am**. to discuss *Long Bright River* by Liz Moore. For more information about the group, contact Helen Schall at <u>helenschall@hotmail.com</u> or 401 245-4724. All are welcome to participate. *Zoom information needed to participate was included in email sent to congregation but isn't included here for security reasons*.

Women of Faith Reading Group

The Women of Faith Reading Group will meet again on **Thursday, March 18th** at **1:30 pm** on Zoom. They have chosen the book *The Dearly Beloved* by Cara Wall to read and discuss, and you will need to purchase or borrow your own copy. (The office isn't getting them for

you). New members are always welcome to join and for more information about the group, contact Jane Tonn at <u>itonn2@cox.net</u>. If you're new, contact Christine in the church office (<u>office@bccucc.org</u>) so she can send you the zoom information for connecting on the 18th.

Update on our COVID Commemoration Tile Project

Our congregation is coming together through ART! Many of you have already made your tile to add to our <u>virtual wall</u> on the church's new website.

We hope sometime this spring to create an outdoor display of the tiles at church for you to visit.

As we slowly work our way through the directory, one of the four of us will be reaching out to you to arrange your participation. We are using contactless drop-off/pick-up methods arranged personally with each family. The materials are also sanitized between use. It is our sincere hope to have EVERYONE in the congregation participate.

Any questions, please contact Joanne Ela (<u>gsbse@me.com</u>), Heather Williamson (<u>williamsonheather300@gmail.com</u>), Miriam Duvel (<u>msduvel@cox.net</u>), or Elizabeth Azevedo (<u>eazevedo17@gmail.com</u>)

Below are tiles created by congregation members. See more on our virtual wall





a morning

meditation for all





on Congregational Church, UCC



Meditative Coloring for Adults is taking a break during Lent and will return after Easter.

From the Mission and Justice Team

A video from the UCC for the end of Black History Month

'Equity and Equality in the Movement for Racial Justice'

Racial justice continues to be a concern for African descendant communities globally. The onset of COVID-19 in early March has affected people across the globe in in the Us people of color, particularly Black people, have been disparately affected resulting in



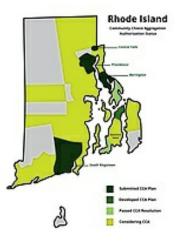
heightened racial-ethnic disparities and inequities. The movement for justice is complex and includes the call for equity and inclusion - issues that are essential to bringing changes in church and society.

Join Rev. Aundreia Alexander, Associate General Secretary for the National Council of Churches, Adele Halliday from The United Church of Canada, and Rev. Dr. Karen Georgia Thompson as they discuss the role of the church in creating a just world for all. <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SGMpxXsotqY</u>

Online presentation about Green Electricity for RI Communities

Did you know that Barrington is one of several RI communities that has created a program to offer green electricity to all of its residents? Come hear a run-down of updates on Barrington's and other RI communities' GMA program in an online presentation titled 'Green Electricity for Rhode Island Communities' being given on Thurs, March 4th from Noon – 1 pm.

Green Energy Consumers and its partner Good Energy are helping RI communities bring affordable AND cleaner electricity to residents through a process called Green Municipal Aggregation - GMA - (also known as community choice aggregation). Do you want to bring greener electricity to your community? Come hear more.



The presentation is hosted by Priscilla De La Cruz,

Rhode Island Director at Green Energy Consumers and Providence community member.

Register for the presentation at this link

Follow community progress at <u>www.greenenergyconsumers.org/aggregation</u>.

Presentation on 'Medicare for All: A Citizen's Guide'

Last year our Mission and Justice Team presented speakers from the RI Chapter of Physicians for a National Health Program (PNHP) discussing single payer, the public option and other health proposals. Those interested in a follow up program are invited by Students for a National Health Program (SNaHP) at Alpert Medical School of Brown University to join Dr. Abdul El-Sayed and Dr. Micah Johnson for a discussion/Q&A about their new book: Medicare For All: A Citizen's Guide. The talk will be held over Zoom on Thursday, March 4th at 5:30 pm and is free and open to the public.

Please RSVP to the talk and/or sign up for the SNaHP listserv here.

In case you missed it

Dale's latest blog

The latest blog was written by Dale and titled 'Welcome to Lent!'. If you missed it earlier, you can read it here

Death of a church member

It is with sadness that we report the death of long-time church member Pat Gregory who died surrounded by her loving family on February 20th age 85. Her burial was private.

Cards may be sent to her husband, Dave Gregory at 500 Waterfront Drive, Apt 426, East Providence RI 02914.

Online obituary and tribute wall.

Conference Happenings

Super Saturday

Registration is still open for the March 13 & 20 virtual **Super Saturday**. This online event features workshops, networking opportunities and а keynote from noted rabbi and entrepreneur Rabbi Elan Babchuck. Learn more and register. Registration deadline is March 4th.

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.

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

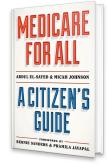
Reminders

Online donations to the church are now possible

One of the features of our new church website









United Church of Christ

Southern New England Conference Living the Love & Justice of Jesus



(<u>www.bccucc.org</u>) is the capability of accepting online donations. There's a red 'DONATE' button on the right side of the black menu bar near the top of each page. Clicking on it will take you to the 'Giving to BCCUCC' page. In the middle is a link to **Tithe.ly** through which you can make a donation to the church either using



a credit card or directly from your bank. (No need to set up an account). You are also able to designate where you would like your donation to go (pledge, gift, memorial gift, Deacons' Fund, etc). Questions? Contact Pat Stoddard, Financial Secretary at <u>pat@bccucc.org</u> or (401) 246-0111 x 102. <u>Visit the 'Giving to BCCUCC' page</u>.

Keep yourself and others safe

The <u>BCCUCC Guidelines for Outdoor Gatherings</u> is a one page document that all are asked to read and observe when they attend any BCCUCC outdoor gathering. Thank you.



Building Safety

A reminder that the church buildings remain closed until further notice. If you need to drop something off, or have asked to pick something up, the items can be deposited or retrieved from the white wooden "Church Mailbox" that's located at the top of the stairs by the office entrance, next to the boiler room door. We ask that people not enter the building. Thank you.

The office is closed but you can still reach us

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



Dale <u>dale@bccucc.org</u> (401) 246-0111 x 103 Linda <u>linda@bccucc.org</u> (401) 246-0111 x 104 Christine <u>office@bccucc.org</u> (401) 246-0111 x 101 (or just stay on the line) Pat <u>pat@bccucc.org</u> (401) 246-0111 x 102 Andrea <u>andrea@bccucc.org</u> (401) 246-0111 x 107

Clergy Days off each week: Linda is off on Mondays and Dale is off on Fridays.

