



**March 10, 2022**

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

If your email platform lets you see only part of this email, then click on the following link to [View as Webpage](#). 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.***

### **Thurs, Mar 10**

8 am Peaceful Pause and Prayer, Livestreamed  
6 - 7 pm Lenten Bible Study, via Zoom  
6:30 pm Outside use of Fellowship Hall

### **Sat, Mar 12**

Bedtime: *Move clocks forward 1 hour when you go to bed!*

### **Sun, Mar 13 Daylight Saving Time begins**

10 am Worship Service (in-person & online)  
Watch at [www.facebook.com/bccucc](https://www.facebook.com/bccucc) or on our website [at this link](#) or on [our YouTube channel](#)  
3 pm Ecclesiastical Council for Racquel Ray, via Zoom

### **Mon, Mar 14**

10:30 - 11:30 am Bereavement Group, Fellowship Hall  
5 pm Barrington Interfaith Partners meeting, via Zoom  
6 pm Search Committee, Room 6  
7 pm Buildings and Grounds meeting, Vestry

### **Tues, Mar 15**

8 am Peaceful Pause and Prayer - livestreamed  
9:30 am Book Group, Library  
11 am Staff meeting, Dale's office  
7 pm Deacons' meeting

### **Wed, Mar 16**

6 - 7 pm Lent in the Labyrinth, Outside behind Fellowship Hall  
7 pm Mission and Justice Team meeting via Zoom

### **Thurs, Mar 17**

8 am Peaceful Pause and Prayer - livestreamed  
1:30 - 3 pm Women of Faith Reading Group, Library  
6 - 7 pm Lenten Bible Study, via Zoom

**Sat, Mar 19**

9 - 11 am East Bay Kids Clothes and Toy Swap, Fellowship Hall

**Sun, Mar 20**

10 am Worship Service (in-person & online)

Watch at [www.facebook.com/bccucc](http://www.facebook.com/bccucc) or on our website [at this link](#) or on [our YouTube channel](#)

**Mon, Mar 21**

11 am Lay Visitation meeting, Library

**Tues, Mar 22**

8 am Peaceful Pause and Prayer, Livestreamed

11 am Staff meeting, Dale's office

4 pm Loaves and Fishes RI, Fellowship Hall

**Wed, Mar 23**

Noon *Deadline for eBridge*

6 - 7 pm Lent in the Labyrinth, Outside behind Fellowship Hall

**Thurs, Mar 24**

8 am Peaceful Pause and Prayer, Livestreamed

6 - 7 pm Lenten Bible Study, via Zoom

**Sun, Mar 27**

*One Great Hour of Sharing offering*

10 am Worship Service (in-person & online), Church School resumes

Watch at [www.facebook.com/bccucc](http://www.facebook.com/bccucc) or on our website [at this link](#) or on [our YouTube channel](#)

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

Send calendar information to [office@bccucc.org](mailto:office@bccucc.org)

## This weekend at BCCUCC

### Daylight Saving Time begins March 13th

Don't forget to move your clocks forward 1 hour when you go to bed on **Saturday, March 12th** as Daylight Saving Time begins the following day. You don't want to be late for church!



### More relaxed COVID protocols at BCCUCC

An email was sent to the congregation earlier this week announcing the relaxation of more of our COVID protocols. Church Council met March 8th and following discussion agreed on the new protocols. Included is that masking is now optional in both the church and education buildings, although masking is still required to enter the church office. There is also no longer a requirement to sign in when coming to worship on Sundays. For the remainder of the changes, [read about them here](#)



### Nursery Care has resumed

Nursery Care resumed on March 6th and will be available every Sunday morning for children aged 3 and under. Our nursery is located in the Education building across the driveway from the church.



Nursery

## Racquel's Ecclesiastical Council

**This Sunday, March 13th at 3 pm** an Ecclesiastical Council\*\* is being held via Zoom for our acting Associate Minister, Racquel Ray. It is hosted by the RI Association of the Southern New England Conference of the UCC, and all Conference delegates, clergy and friends are invited to attend (virtually). Please note that only clergy and delegates are allowed to vote.

*The invitation with the zoom link was included in the eBridge that was emailed to the congregation but isn't included here for security reasons.*

\*\*An Ecclesiastical Council is the final approval by an association of a candidate's fitness for ordained ministry. It is the last step on the long road toward being eligible for ordination.



## Services livestreamed to Facebook, website and YouTube

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



As of this Sunday, March 13th, masks are optional in worship. If you're feeling unwell or have symptoms, we ask that you please stay home and watch online.

For those not yet ready, quarantining, or unable to join us in person, the services are livestreamed so they can be watched online - either live or later - in three different places:

- the church's Facebook page [www.facebook.com/bccucc](http://www.facebook.com/bccucc)
- the Livestream page of the church website <https://bccucc.org/live-stream-2/>
- and [our church's YouTube Channel](#)

Occasionally, Facebook doesn't allow us to stream to their platform, and on those occasions it won't be possible to watch the service on either Facebook or our website. However, you should still be able to find the service on YouTube at the link above.

## Opportunities for Study and Reflection

### 'Peaceful Pause and Prayer'

All are invited to join Dale for 'Peaceful Pause and Prayer' online meditations every Tuesday and Thursday morning at 8 am. Each meditation provides moments for reflection, music, scripture, and silence. They can be watched on our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/bccucc](http://www.facebook.com/bccucc) or on the livestream page of our website at <https://bccucc.org/live-stream-2/> and will remain available for later viewing on both platforms if you can't watch live.



### Lent in the Labyrinth

Join Pastor Racquel for *Lent in the Labyrinth* as we contemplate our Lenten Journey in an intentional, prayerful, and physical way. The outdoor labyrinth (located beyond the terrace of the Education Building) will be open for quiet, candle lit walks from **6-7 pm** each **Wednesday evening** – stop by at any time during that hour on any of the dates as you are able.



Over 5 Wednesdays: **March 9, 16, 23, 30 & Apr 6** we will consider how to **Prepare, Simplify, Confess, Forgive, Draw Close, and Sacrifice** in parallel with BCCUCC's weekly Lenten themes for 2022. Over those weeks we'll also gain warmth and daylight hours while honoring our sacred campus environment and drawing closer to God and

Community. Note: All are welcome, however the ground is uneven and challenging for folks with physical differences.

## Lenten Bible Study

Journey through Lent to Earth Day exploring the complex issues around Environmental Justice in an 8 Week Bible Study prepared by the SNEUCC Minister for Environment and Economic Justice, Emma Brewer-Wallin. Rev. Emma Brewer-Wallin will be joining BCCUCC on Sunday April 24th as a Mission & Justice invited guest preacher.



Join Pastor Racquel Ray weekly via Zoom on **Thursday evenings** from 6 - 7 pm as we take up the topic of environmental justice. You are welcome to join any of the remaining sessions on **March 10, 17, 24, 31 and April 7, 14, & 21** There are videos to watch ahead of time to better inform the study conversations. **Please register** to request weekly lessons and links by contacting Racquel at [racquel@bccucc.org](mailto:racquel@bccucc.org)

## Ukraine Emergency Appeal

### UCC issues emergency appeal for Ukraine

**Situation Report:** On February 24, 2022 the Russian military attacked Ukraine. Hundreds of thousands of persons have already sought refuge outside of Ukraine. Others have remained in the country but are displaced from their homes. The humanitarian crisis is accelerating in Ukraine and in neighboring countries as the violence escalates and the number of people on the move multiplies.

**UCC Response:** The United Church of Christ is appealing for support for refugees and for elderly and other vulnerable people who are displaced within Ukraine and unable to leave. As a member of the ACT Alliance, UCC support is being targeted to people most in need through humanitarian relief partners with a history of working in the region. Aid also is being extended through Hungarian Reformed Church Aid, the relief agency of the Reformed Church in Hungary. The UCC's long-term relationship with the Reformed Church in Hungary is held through the Europe and the Middle East Office of Global Ministries.



Relief supplies.

*Photo copyright Hungarian Church Aid,*

Gifts made to UCC Ukraine Relief Fund will provide shelter, food, and other care to war refugees and internally displaced people. It also will help refugees and asylum seekers from African, Middle Eastern and other countries who had sought refuge in Ukraine and now are twice displaced, as well as other citizens of more than 125 countries living in Ukraine.

Uniting in prayer, action, and giving, we stand as a people of faith in love and compassion with the people of Ukraine and all who are affected, and with our global partners who are welcoming those driven from their homes.

**Donate here** or go to the UCC website [www.ucc.org](http://www.ucc.org) and click on the [link on the home page](#) to learn more. All donations will be deposited into the International Disasters fund designated for "Ukraine Relief." Your generous financial support will be used by our partners in the areas of greatest need.

One can also mail a check made payable to the **United Church of Christ PO BOX 71957 Cleveland, OH 44194**. Please be sure to note "Ukraine Relief Fund" on your check in the memo section.

# New in this eBridge... and reminders!

## Church School to return soon!

HOORAY!!! Church school will be resuming on **Sunday, March 27th**. We are excited to welcome the kiddos into the Education Building to participate in all of our children's programs. Masks are now optional. If anyone is not feeling their best, please enjoy the children's message during the service from home.



## Youth Group - adult chaperones needed

Youth Group will resume in April!! We will need adult chaperones to support our Safe Space guidelines of having 2 adults at events. A Safe Space facilitator is needed for **April 4th, 11th, and 25th**. There's no meeting on April 18th due to school vacation week. Please sign up with Pastor Racquel **by March 28th** so we can plan our program. Pizza and plenty of laughs are promised. Youth Group meets Mondays from 6-7 in the kitchen and fellowship hall. Contact Racquel at [racquel@bccucc.org](mailto:racquel@bccucc.org) or (401) 246-0111 ext 104 to volunteer or with questions.

## Loaves and Fishes RI needs volunteers

BCCUCC's ministry with Loaves and Fishes RI is changing and we need volunteers to make it happen. We're going to be providing food to a select group of students in need at DelSesto Middle School in Providence. We are partnering with We Share Hope (<https://wesharehope.org>) to receive groceries to provide 25 student families with food items. Additionally, Books are Wings (<https://www.booksarewings.org>) have generously offered to donate 2 books per student as a precious gift of literacy.



We will be making our first delivery to the DelSesto School on Friday, March 25th. For those of you interested in volunteering with this ministry please join us on **Tuesday, March 22nd at 4 pm** in Fellowship Hall, or call Jay Buckley at 401-578-6533. We will meet on this date to share the process and recruit a volunteer to shop for additional food items to supplement our donation from We Share Hope.

## East Bay Kids Clothes and Toy Swap returns

After several months hiatus due to the omicron virus, the East Bay Kids Clothes and Toy Swap will return on **Saturday, March 19th** from 9 - 11 am in Fellowship Hall. It's a place to trade clean clothes & shoes that no longer fit and get the next size up! Size newborn to age 12. Give what you can, take what you need. There's a \$5 donation at the door, but no-one is turned away.

For more information, visit their [Facebook page](#).



## SNEUCC Super Saturday March 19, 2022 9 am - 3:30 pm

### "A Future With Hope: Relevant, Prophetic and Transformative"

This virtual event features guest speaker: Rev. Sarah Drummond, Founding Dean of Andover Newton Seminary at Yale Divinity School. Sarah has written five books on the subject of ministerial leadership and dozens of articles on the same. She will speak on "Planning for a Better Babylon"

There are also morning, lunchtime, and afternoon virtual workshops you can sign up for.

[More information and to register](#) **Registration Deadline: March 13, 2022.**





## "Wrestling with the Church" - a blog written by Jeff Larsen

Rev. Jeff Larsen - our former Senior Minister - recently started writing a blog on his reflections of 50 years in ministry. If you're interested in some of his stories (some might sound vaguely familiar) you can find them [at this link](#). You can also subscribe (it's free) to get his latest story sent to your email inbox.



## FREE At-Home Rapid COVID Tests still available - no limits

The church still has supplies of COVID test kits from the Town of Barrington to distribute. The kits are available for pick up on the way out of church each Sunday or you can contact the church office (401) 246-0111 or [office@bccucc.org](mailto:office@bccucc.org) to arrange a pick up during the week. Each box contains two tests. There is no limit on how many can be taken by a person or household. If you know of others who need them, please take and pass along.



**Important note:** Many COVID test kits have had their **expiration date extended by 3 months** as more research has been done on the chemicals used. The AccessBio test kits we received show an expiration date of APR 2022. Checking the lot number on their website shows that the expiration date has been extended to JULY 2022. Information couldn't be found for the iHealth test kits which are labelled to expire 2022-06-28.

## From our Mission and Justice Team

### Swim Empowerment donations total

The Mission and Justice team would like to say a huge THANK YOU to all who donated to the Swim Empowerment Program following the February 13th visit to BCCUCC by guest speaker, Ray Rickman from Stages of Freedom. We are pleased to announce that \$3,440 was donated by the congregation and sent to Stages of Freedom for the program. The Mission and Justice Team will keep you updated on other opportunities to connect with this program.



### A Daily Reflection - Action Calendar to Cultivate Creation Justice

The UCC Creative Justice Ministries has provided a Lent calendar to help individuals to learn, reflect and take action on Creation Justice issues. [Click on this link](#) to see a pdf of the calendar. In order to be able to access all of the links included, [sign up here](#) to download a copy to your computer.



### UCC Webinar

#### "Restoring Nature: What People of Faith Can Do to Heal the Earth"

Douglas Tallamy's books have awakened thousands to the problem of wildlife decline and the solution that resides in habitat restoration. This is a solution of which you and your faith community can be a part. The solution can be as close as your backyard or

the property surrounding your place of worship. In this webinar, Tallamy will outline the crisis faced and what we can do in response. Even if you can't make the scheduled time for the webinar of 1 pm ET on **Wednesday, March 23rd**, still sign-up, and we will send you a recording.

[Register now!](#)



## Environmental Justice Internship

The Southern New England Conference, UCC is pleased to announce an Environmental Justice Internship for 2022-2023. The Environmental Justice Intern will help us create and lead school-year programming for youth or other church groups, hosted at two of our Outdoor Ministry sites, Silver Lake in Sharon, Connecticut and Irons Homestead, North Scituate, Rhode Island. [Click here for more information.](#)



## Ongoing groups

### Bereavement Group

The group will meet on **Monday, March 14th & 28th** from 10:30 – 11:30 am 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 Brenner at her new email address [betsybrenner3@gmail.com](mailto:betsybrenner3@gmail.com) or 245-8031.



### Book Group

The Book Group will next meet **Tuesday, March 15th** at 9:30 am in the church library. They will discuss *The Last Child* by John Hart. For more information about the group contact Helen Schall at [helenschall@hotmail.com](mailto:helenschall@hotmail.com) or 401 245-4724. All are welcome to participate.



### Women of Faith Reading Group

The group will meet again on **Thursday, March 17th** from **1:30 - 3 pm** in the church library. The group welcomes women of all ages from BCCUCC as well as other churches and faith traditions. For more information including their current book or article for discussion, contact Jane Tonn at 289-2349 or [jtonn2@cox.net](mailto:jtonn2@cox.net).



### Knitting for Others Group

The Knitting Group will meet again on **Tuesday, April 5th** from 6:30 pm until 9 pm over Zoom. You may join the call at any time and stay for as long as you'd like. All knitters and crocheters are invited to participate and new faces are very welcome. For more information on the group, contact Nancy Arena at 401 246-0212 or [nancy.arena@outlook.com](mailto:nancy.arena@outlook.com).



Zoom information isn't included here for security reasons - it was in the eBridge

## In case you missed it

### The Pastors' Blog

The latest blog was written by Dale and titled 'The 5 Most Asked Questions Upon My Return'. If you missed it earlier, you can [read it here](#)



## From the church office

### In the event of bad weather

We will always do our best to notify you of any cancellations, especially if we need to cancel Sunday worship, so be sure to check your email, Facebook, and the TV and radio stations\*. If all goes to plan, you should receive any cancellation notification by 8 a.m. Sunday morning - if not sooner. However, in the event that we lose power and/or internet connection we will be unable to post these notifications.



\*It is possible to check the RI Broadcasters list of cancellations from their home page at [www.ribroadcasters.com](http://www.ribroadcasters.com) and scroll down to the red 'View Current Closures' button, or you can access them directly [at this link](#).

## 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.



**Southern New England Conference**  
United Church of Christ  
*Living the Love & Justice of Jesus*

[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.

## Contact us

Dale [dale@bccucc.org](mailto:dale@bccucc.org) (401) 246-0111 x 103

Racquel [racquel@bccucc.org](mailto:racquel@bccucc.org) (401) 246-0111 x 104

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

Pat [pat@bccucc.org](mailto:pat@bccucc.org) (401) 246-0111 x 102

Andrea [andrea@bccucc.org](mailto: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.



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**THE END !**