

March 11, 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

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 <u>www.facebook.com/bccucc</u> or on our website <u>at this link</u> 11:15 am Climate Change Workshop with Rev. Jim Antal, via Zoom

Mon, Mar 15

7 - 8 pm 'Climate Church ' Adult Ed Study via Zoom

Tues, Mar 16

8 am A Peaceful Pause and Prayer, livestreamed
9:30 am Book Group meet via Zoom
11 am Staff meeting via Zoom
2 pm Worship Tech Team meet via Zoom
7 pm Deacons meeting via Zoom

Wed, Mar 17 St Patrick's Day 7 pm Mission and Justice Team meeting via Zoom

Thurs, Mar 18 8 am A Peaceful Pause and Prayer, livestreamed 1:30 pm Women of Faith meet via Zoom

Sat, Mar 20 10:15 am Easter Hat Making and Parade for children and families, Terrace

Sun, Mar 21

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>

11:30 am - 12:30 pm Confirmation Class

Mon, Mar 22 7 - 8 pm 'Climate Church ' Adult Ed Study via Zoom

Tues, Mar 23 8 am A Peaceful Pause and Prayer, livestreamed 11 am Staff meeting via Zoom 2 pm Worship Tech Team meet via Zoom 4 pm Staff Parish Relations Team (SPRT) meets via Zoom

Wed, Mar 24 11 am Lay Visitation meets via Zoom Noon - *Deadline for next eBridge* 7 pm Membership Team meeting via Zoom

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

Fri, Mar 26 Deadline for Easter Chancel Fund donations

Sun, Mar 28 Palm Sunday

10 am Live-streamed All Ages Worship Service (No in-person worship). Watch at www.facebook.com/bccucc or on our website at this link 1 - 2 pm Black Lives Matter Silent Vigil, County Road outside BCCUCC

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

This Sunday, March 14th

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.



One Great Hour of Sharing Offering

O n Sunday, March 14th our worship service will include a video about the OGHS offering which is being taken that with our fellow day along UCC congregations across the country. By supporting the OGHS offering, we let love flow into communities worldwide by providing hope in adverse times. When we share our resources, it also gives us a tangible way to be present in the world beyond and to serve our local communities. OGHS supports sustainable



development, disasters, and refugee initiatives. Thank you for sharing your love and changing lives near and far. Learn more about OGHS at <u>www.ucc.org/oghs</u>

There are several ways to make a donation: EITHER write a check payable to "BCCUCC" with "OGHS" in the memo line, and mail to Barrington Congregational Church UCC, 461 County Road, Barrington RI 02806 OR make an online donation at our church website <u>www.bccucc.org/donate/</u> designating it go to 'One Great Hour of Sharing'.

Watch a short video on how to make an an online donation from our church website.

BCCUCC hosting Climate Change Workshop

BCCUCC is hosting a Climate Change Workshop this **Sunday, March 14th** at **11:15 am** on Zoom. Rev. Dr. Jim Antal, will lead a discussion of his book, *Climate Church, Climate World*. In the book he considers the moral challenge of climate change, why people of faith should engage in it, and how they should do it. This virtual, free event is open to all those in the community who wish to partake, regardless of religious affiliation so invite your friends!

If interested in participating in the workshop, please register by emailing the church

office at office@bccucc.org and we will then send you the necessary zoom information. All

Learn more about the workshop and Rev. Jim Antal.

Sundays at BCCUCC

Sunday morning worship

Our online only worship service is at 10 am every Sunday morning and you can watch it live either on our Facebook page www.facebook.com/bccucc (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 continues

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**.

Altar Flower dedications

On Sunday, March 14th:

One vase is given in loving memory of Kathleen Lynne Fodor by her family.

The other vase is given by Fred Rocco in loving memory of his dear friend Linda Smith Schofield, a Tiverton, RI UCC member who recently passed away. A wonderful friend full of stock, gardening and Netflix tips, who will be missed.

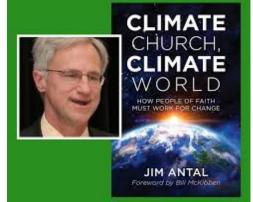
On Sunday, March 21st:

One arrangement is given by George Bolton in celebration of Rose Marie's 91st birthday.

The other arrangement is given by Nancy Arena in loving memory of her sister Karen Ethel Crisman who was born on St. Patrick's Day.









Birthdays being celebrated

The week of March 14th: Tony Cioe, Wade Ogden, Andrew Helm, Joe Weissfeld, Mike Hoyt, and Chris Waite.

The week of March 21st: Julie Ackerman, Amy Gorman, Andrew Materne, Rose Marie Bolton, Lois McCartney, Chris Silva, Alexa Bullard, Carolyn McGarry, and Shelby Bowman.



If your name doesn't appear and you'd like it to, please contact the church office so we can add your date of birth 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

Video on 'How to Contribute Online' at our church website

There's now a short video (only 52 secs) that shows how easy it is to make an online contribution to any of our church ministries from our church website. <u>Watch</u> <u>the video</u> Thanks to Laurie Dubel for creating it. For those who prefer written directions, they are included under 'Reminders' later in this newsletter. Please remember that you don't need to have a Tithe.ly account or sign in to be able to make a donation.



We invite donations to our Chancel Fund this Easter

Money donated to this fund will be used to help beautify the Sanctuary for Easter Sunday, pay for spring plants to be delivered to our homebound, sick or recently bereaved, and contribute to improvements in the sanctuary space throughout the year to enhance the worship experience.

Even though we are not able to gather in the sanctuary to worship this Easter, we will still be decorating the altar



area in preparation for the celebration of Christ's resurrection. The Deacons will also be delivering spring plants to our homebound etc. as is their custom.

Donations to the Chancel Fund, in any amount, may be made in memory of a loved one, or in thanksgiving for, or celebration of, someone or something (a person, birthday, anniversary, etc). The donors and dedications will be listed in the Easter Sunday worship service.

There are now two ways to make a donation to the Chancel Fund: **EITHER**: <u>Download a Chancel Fund donation form at this link</u>, fill out the requested information then mail to the church office, together with a donation check in any amount.

OR: <u>Donate online from our church website</u>. Use the Tithe.ly link on our donation page, designate your donation for 'Chancel Fund (Easter flowers)' and then add your dedication in the memo box. Be sure to include who is making the donation as well as if it's given in memory, celebration, or in honor of someone or something. Video on how to donate online from our website

We ask that all donations and dedications be received in the church office **by Friday**, *March 26th.* Thank you for your donation.

Easter Hat Making and a Parade!

On **Saturday, March 20th** at **10:15 am**, Andrea Bullard will be hosting an Easter hat making workshop for the children and families of our church community. Join her on the terrace (we will be using the outside heaters!) to make Easter hats. After the hats are created, we will have a parade that will be videoed and viewed during the Easter Sunday worship service.

and viewed during the Easter Sunday worship service. Each family will have their own table with the supplies they will need. We will be socially distanced, hand sanitizer will be available and masks are required. Refreshments will not be provided, but families are welcome to bring their own snacks and beverages. There will NOT be access to the building, so please plan ahead! If the weather is inclement, the decision to postpone will be made early that morning.

Please RSVP by March 17th to Andrea at <u>andrea@bccucc.org</u> to secure your spot, include a contact phone number and the number of people in your group. Let her know if you have any questions. It will be great to see each other again!

'Holy Week in a Box!' for Church School families

Church school families, please keep an eye out for Andrea Bullard **during the week of March 22nd** as she hops around the East Bay delivering 'Holy Week in a Box!' Holy Week is the week before Easter that begins with Palm Sunday and concludes on Easter Sunday. Historical documents show us that the church

used to call this "Great Week" because of the great deeds done by God during this time! Holy Week in a Box gives you some tools and resources to explore these great deeds of God together as a family. There will also be a special "BCC Pen Pal" project included in the box that we hope every child will participate in as it will be part of our Jubilation Sunday worship service.

Please support the Egg-a Day program in Haiti

The children in Haiti love hard boiled eggs! For those who receive an egg a day through the Egg-a-Day nutrition program, the egg might be the only thing they have for breakfast and lunch on many days. The program, started in Haiti in 2013 by the Haiti Task Force of the RI Conference, arose from observing that many children were undernourished and not attending school nor doing well in school. With the assistance of the One Egg international program, eggs produced at the large

Haiti Broilers farm, are transported to local communities where the women hard boil the eggs for the children at schools and orphanages. There has been a noticeable improvement in school attendance and children's health. At the height of the program, 2500 children were being fed at 17 schools and orphanages at a cost of \$25,000 a year. With the pandemic, schools closing, and donations dropping, the smaller program







now supplies 5 orphanages and several school sites where the children can still get their eggs. There is an urgent need for funds to keep the program going. Hopefully the schools will be re-opening and new sites can be added to fulfill all the requests. (The yearly grant of \$10,000 from the One Egg foundation has been cancelled.)

To make a donation you can either send a check to the church office, made payable to 'BCCUCC' with 'Egg-a-Day' in the memo line; or you can donate online at the BCCUCC website <u>www.bccucc.org/donate/</u> (use the Tithe.ly link) designating it for 'Egg-a-Day Childhood Nutrition'. Thank you. <u>Video on how to donate online</u>

If you missed it, Trish Sylvester spoke more about the Egg-A-Day program during the 'Time for Children' in the March 7th worship service. <u>Watch the video of Trish's</u> <u>presentation</u> that includes some great photos.

Latest update on our COVID Commemoration Tile Project

We continue to reach out to families to participate in our COVID Tile project. It is a slow process, and we are grateful for your patience as we work through the directory.

One thing we do ask is that when you get your tiles you try to complete them within a week. This helps keep the packets moving through the congregation. Just as a reminder, all materials are sanitized in between families.

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>)



See more tiles created by our congregation on the virtual wall at our website.

Black Lives Matter Vigil

The monthly **Black Lives Matter Vigil** will be held on **Sunday, March 28th**, from 1 - 2 pm. Supporters will gather in front of Barrington Congregational Church UCC, 461 County Road, Barrington. Bring signs. Masks and six-feet distancing are required. All welcome. The vigils are held on the last Sunday of the month in different locations, and are sponsored by Barrington Congregational Church, United Church of Christian Destination and Interfacility Destination.



Christ; Barrington Interfaith Partners; Barrington Presbyterian Church; Sts. Matthew and Mark Episcopal Church; St. John's Episcopal Church; and Temple Habonim.

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 <u>www.facebook.com/bccucc</u> or on the livestream page of our new 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.



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. For security reasons the zoom information is not included in this version that goes on our website etc. Contact Helen if interested in participating.

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>jtonn2@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.

Knitting for Others Group

The group meets virtually each month and will next meet on **Tuesday**, **April 6th** 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 <u>nancy.arena@outlook.com</u>. For security reasons the zoom information is not included in this version that goes on our website etc. Contact Nancy if interested in participating.



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

From the Mission and Justice Team

A poem to go with Rev. Jim Antal's Climate Change Workshop

The Mission and Justice Team is sponsoring the workshop on Climate Change with Rev. Jim Antal on Sunday, March 14th after worship (see article earlier in this newsletter). To go along with our discussion with him, here is an inspiring poem by Amanda Gorman titled <u>'Earthrise"</u>



From RI Climate Action Campaign

For the first time in years, the Rhode Island Senate is voting on a meaningful piece of climate legislation - 'Act On Climate 2021' (S78-SUB A).

On **Tuesday, March 16**, the Senate will vote on <u>S78-SUB A</u>, a bill that will mandate Rhode Island to reduce climate-warming emissions according to the latest science. Contact your state senator TODAY to let them know you support 'Act On Climate 2021'.

The email can be as simple as this: *Hi Senator*.

I'm a constituent and I live at [ADDRESS]. I urge you to vote yes on Act On Climate (S0078-Sub A) on Tuesday, March 16. Climate change is an issue of concern for me because....[INSERT A SHORT ANECDOTE HERE.]

Both an email and phone call is best. You can <u>find your legislator here</u> and find their <u>contact information here</u>. This is a crucial action to ensure climate action is taken this year - we need you!

Learn more by reading What does Act On Climate 2021 accomplish?

In case you missed it

Linda's latest blog

The latest blog was written by Dale and titled 'Loss and Hope'. If you missed it earlier, you can <u>read it here</u>



Registration for March 20 Super Saturday extended to March 14

Registration has closed for the March 13 Super Saturday, but registration for the **March 20** virtual **Super Saturday** *has been extended to March 14th.* This online event features workshops, networking opportunities and a keynote from noted rabbi and entrepreneur Rabbi Elan Babchuck. <u>Learn more and</u> register.

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 <u>at this link</u> 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.

Reminders

Online donations to the church are now possible

One of the features of our new church website (<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.





Southern New England Conference

United Church of Christ

Living the Love & Justice of Jesus



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.

Community Information

'Just Checking In'

'Just Checking In' is the name of a program run by East Bay Community Action Program (EBCAP) for Retired Seniors and Volunteers (age 55+). The purpose is to ensure that friends and neighbors are connected with a peer, empowered with local community resources, informed of current news, and safely aging at home. You can either volunteer to be a 'telefriend' who will call other seniors to check in and provide some friendly conversation, OR you can request that a telefriend call you. For more information, please contact EBCAP's Office of Volunteer Services at (401) 435-7876 or rsvp@ebcap.org

Enrollment open for Early Childhood Education Services

East Bay Community Action Program - Early Childhood Education Services is now enrolling for a variety of **Head Start** programs. <u>Learn more</u>

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.

