



March 28, 2024

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

Calendar

*Office Hours: Mon - Fri, 9:30 am - 1:30 pm.
Closed on Federal and State Holidays & where otherwise noted*

Thurs, Mar 28 Maundy Thursday

7 pm Service of Tenebrae and Communion, Sanctuary
After service: Choir rehearsal, Vestry

Fri, Mar 29 Good Friday

Office Closed

Sunrise to Sunset - Good Friday Labyrinth Walk
Noon - Prayers at the Labyrinth

Sun, Mar 31 Easter Sunday

6:15 am Outdoor Ecumenical Easter Service with Communion, Osamequin Point
10 am Easter Worship Service, Nursery Care only
After worship: Easter Egg Hunt and Coffee Hour, Fellowship Hall (and outside)

Mon, Apr 1

Office Closed

Tues, Apr 2

10 am Staff meeting, Dale's office
6:30 - 9 pm Knitting for Others, Library and via Zoom

Wed, Apr 3

7:30 pm Choir rehearsal, Vestry

Thurs, Apr 4

8:30 - 9:30 am Coffee Chat, Thrive Tribe Cafe
1:30 - 3 pm Women of Faith Reading Group, Library

Sat, Apr 6

9 am - 2 pm Outside use of Fellowship Hall

Sun, Apr 7

9 am - 12:15 pm OWL Class, Library
10 am Worship Service with Communion and Hymn Sing, Church School

Mon, Apr 8

10 - 11 am Bereavement Group, Library
5 - 6:30 pm Barrington Interfaith Parents (BIP) meeting, Library
7 pm Bible Study with Dale, Library

Tues, Apr 9

10 am Staff meeting, Dale's office

1:30 - 3 pm Governing Board meets, Library

Wed, Apr 10

Noon *Deadline for eBridge*

7:30 pm Choir rehearsal, Vestry

Thurs, Apr 11

8:30 - 9:30 am Coffee Chat, Thrive Tribe Cafe

Sat, Apr 13

8 am - 12:30 pm Outside use of Fellowship Hall

Sun, Apr 14

8:45 am Church School Team meeting, Library

10 am Worship Service, Church School

11:15 am Brief meeting with Dale and those interested in joining the church

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

If you can't be with us in person, we invite you to worship with us online

Our **Sunday morning services** are **livestreamed** for those unable to attend in person. They can be viewed on [our Facebook page](#) or on [our YouTube channel](#) - either live or watched later.

Only once the service is over, can a recording of the service be found on [our website](#). The **Sunday worship bulletin** is also posted to [our website](#).



Holy Week continues at BCCUCC

Maundy Thursday Tenebrae Service

The Deacons invite the congregation to attend a Tenebrae Service at **7 pm on Thursday, March 28**. Tenebrae (Latin for "darkness") is a church service observed during the final part of Holy Week commemorating the sufferings and death of Christ. The Deacons consider it to be one of the most moving services held at our church. Hymns will be sung; the choir will also sing and there will be Communion by intinction. The essence of the service is the reading of the Passion – the time just prior to and including Christ's crucifixion. 12 Deacons are gathered around a table at the front of the sanctuary along with 12 candles, which provide most of the lighting. After each scripture passage is read, the Deacon extinguishes the candle in front of them leaving the sanctuary in total darkness for a brief time after the twelfth reading. For some, it is a powerful reminder of the foundation of our faith and what we believe. We urge you to come and experience this special service – all are welcome.



Good Friday Labyrinth Walk and Prayers

The church labyrinth, which is located behind the education building just below the terrace, will be open from **sunrise to sunset** on **Good Friday, March 29** and you're invited to come walk it whenever you are able.

At **noon**, Rev. Racquel Ray will lead a brief prayer service at the labyrinth. All are welcome.



Easter Sunday

Ecumenical Easter Sunrise Service

All are invited to this outdoor Ecumenical Easter Sunrise service with Communion, held jointly with St. James Lutheran Church. The service will be at **6:15 am** on **Easter Sunday, March 31** at Osamequin Point which is located 1.1 miles north of the church on the Wampanoag Trail (Route 114).



Easter Sunday Service in the Sanctuary

All are invited to our **10 am service** on **Easter Sunday, March 31**. The sanctuary will be decorated with spring flowers and the service will include preaching by the Rev. Dale Azevedo, a children's message, and music from the organ and choir. Come celebrate Christ's resurrection with us! Following the service there will be a Coffee Hour and an Easter Egg Hunt (see below).



We welcome young children in worship

For those who want it, our **Nursery** is available every Sunday morning to provide loving care for infants and children aged 0 - 3 years old. Parents/guardians are welcome to drop off their child/children in the nursery located in the Education building before going to the worship service. The **Nursery Nook**, located directly below the sanctuary, is another option for parents with wiggly children of any age to retreat to and still hear the service on the loud speaker down there. We love the sound of children in worship so parents are welcome to keep their infants and children with them in the sanctuary if they wish. For those who would prefer to worship without distraction, we provide these other options.



Easter Egg Hunt

Our annual Easter Egg Hunt for children in the lower elementary grades will take place **after the 10 am Easter Service**. Children are asked to gather in Fellowship Hall following the service from where they will be sent out by age (youngest first) to hunt for eggs outside. Bring a basket! -All are welcome.

There will also be **coffee hour** in Fellowship Hall following the service.



Our Prayer Garden

Each Sunday during Lent we've been building a prayer garden in the sanctuary. One element was added each week beginning with dirt, then seeds, rocks, water, three crosses, and a sepulchre. On Easter Sunday during the 10 am service the garden will spring to life and the stone will be rolled away!

We hope that the creation of this prayer garden during the season of Lent has reminded each of us to create sacred spaces in our own lives and invite God in.



Thank you for the Easter Flowers!

We would like to thank everyone who made a donation to the **Chancel Fund** this Easter. Your donations have made possible the beautiful spring flowers that will adorn the sanctuary on Easter morning, as well as the plants that have been delivered by the deacons to our homebound, sick or

recently bereaved. The donors and dedications will be listed in Sunday's bulletin and can also be [found here](#). Additional thanks go to the members of the Chancel Team for decorating the sanctuary, and to our deacons for delivering their Easter plants.



New in this eBridge

Racquel to have knee surgery

Rev. Racquel will be having knee surgery to repair injury which occurred during a church softball league game last summer. Orthoscopic surgery is scheduled for Thursday, April 4 with several weeks of recovery and physical therapy following.

She will be out of the office from April 4 until April 13 and hopes to return to worship on April 14. Your prayers and well wishes are greatly appreciated!



Hymn Sing on Sunday, April 7 What is your favorite hymn?

In Dale's latest blog he asked the question "What is your favorite hymn? He's planning a special **Hymn Sing** at the worship service on **Sunday, April 7** and writes: "Between now and then, I am inviting everyone who wants to, to pick out one of your favorite hymns that you would like to share that Sunday. You will be given the choice to announce which hymn you have chosen and share briefly about why it is so meaningful to you.....There can be any number of reasons why that hymn may be so meaningful. Your reason doesn't need to be revolutionary or entirely profound. It means something to you, and that is good enough for us." Read more of what Dale wrote - including some of his favorite hymns and why - in Dale's latest blog ["What is Your Favorite Hymn?"](#)

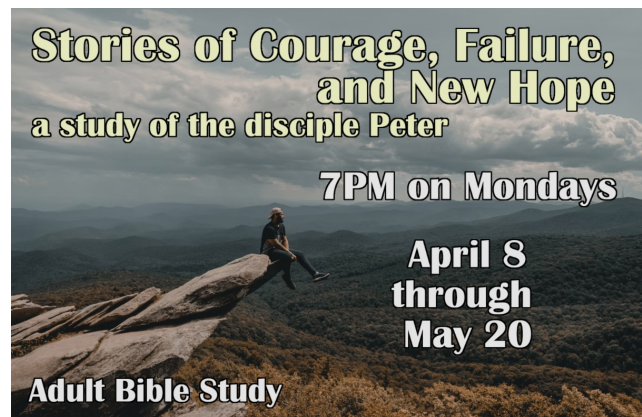


Not everyone needs to **reserve their spot** ahead of time, but if you want to make sure you get a chance to share and have your favorite hymn sung, send Dale an email at dale@bccucc.org or call him up at (401) 246-0111 ext 103 and he'll make sure time is saved for you.

New Adult Bible Study!

Stories of Courage, Failure, and New Hope: a study of the disciple Peter will be offered by Rev. Dale beginning on April 8 and continue for six Mondays concluding on May 20 (*no class on April 22*). This study will involve a small amount of reading between classes and consist mostly of group conversation and discussion each week. No prior knowledge of the Bible is necessary, and everyone is welcome. We regularly have a fun time exploring our faith and questions together.

Class will be held in the church library at **7 pm**. It is not mandatory that you make every class. Please **RSVP** to Dale (dale@bccucc.org) if you plan to attend.



Altar flower donor needed

There is an opening for a donor to pay for one vase of altar flowers on **Sunday, April 14**. The arrangements are delivered each week from a local florist (The Greenery in Warren), and one vase costs \$30. The flowers can be given in memory, celebration or honor of a person or special event (anniversary, birthday etc) and your dedication will be included in the bulletin and also read during the service. If you're interested in paying for one arrangement on that Sunday, please contact Beth Buckley at (401) 247-0324 or elizabethbuckley21@msn.com



Interesting in possibly joining our church?

If the answer is yes, then plan to stay after church on **Sunday, April 14** for a very brief meeting with Dale and others interested, to schedule a New Members Class. Whether you've been coming for only a few weeks or for much longer, all are welcome to learn more about joining and becoming an official member of BCCUCC.

If you have questions or would like to let Dale know ahead of time that you're interested in joining, contact him at dale@bccucc.org or 246-0111 x 103.



Vote for Climate Hope Art Contest!

The UCC is conducting a Vote for Climate Hope Art Contest.

UCC children and youth are invited to draw, paint, or color about the world and the environment in which they want to live. What are their hopes for the world? What is it that they value and want to have protected? What is it that adults should remember and take to heart when they vote this year?

Art submissions will be accepted through **April 16**. An online award ceremony for finalists will be held on May 4, and the winning art will be featured on "Climate Hope Voter Pledge Cards" that church members throughout the UCC will collect during the summer and fall before Election Day.

Learn more and register at: <https://www.ucc.org/vote-for-climate-hope-2024-art-contest/>

Registrants will receive:

- A printable "Vote for Climate Hope" [art template](#).
- A link to a video promoting the art contest.
- Regular updates and resources about the "Vote for Climate Hope" campaign.

Questions? Email the Rev. Dr. Brooks Berndt berndtb@ucc.org or Rev. Racquel at racquel@bccucc.org



Worth repeating!

BHS students host Sapling Sale for community tree planting

The [Barrington Environmental Establishment \(BEE\)](#) is hosting a sapling sale to help offset the amount of paper Barrington schools use in a year. BEE is a student led organization at Barrington High School that focuses on spreading awareness about climate change and is hosting this community tree-planting as part of the nationwide ['Tree-Plenish' program](#).

BEE's goal is to sell 143 saplings (equal to 171 tons of carbon replaced) to reach a total of 1,000 saplings sold by BEE overall.

Saplings cost \$5 each and there are 3 types - Eastern Redbud, Red Maple, and Yellow Poplar. Pickup is on May 18 (more details from them on pick up closer to the date). Orders must be



placed **by April 18**. Use the following links to [Order a Sapling](#), see [photos of the three tree types](#) being offered, learn about [planting and taking care of the saplings](#), and learn [Why We Need Trees](#) (scroll down that linked page to find it!)

Ongoing groups and activities (listed alphabetically)

Bereavement Group

This support group is open to anyone (not just church members) who has lost a loved one at any time and new members are always welcome. The group meets once a month from **10 - 11 am** in the church library and next meets on **Monday, April 8**. For more information contact one of the facilitators, Betsy Brenner at betsybrenner3@gmail.com or 245-8031, or Aubrey Atwater at aubreyfolk@aol.com or (401) 392-1909, or Rev. Racquel Ray at racquel@bccucc.org (401) 246 0111 x 104.



Book Group

The Book Group next meets on **Tuesday, April 16 at 10:30 am** in the church library. They will discuss *Hang the Moon* by Jeannette Walls. [Book review](#). For more information about the group contact Helen Schall at helenschall@hotmail.com or 401 245-4724. All are welcome.



Choir rehearsals

If you enjoy singing, why not join the church choir - no audition needed! Rehearsals are on **Wednesday evenings at 7:30 pm** in the Vestry. To learn more, speak with our music director Matthew Marion after church or at (401) 954-7107 or mmarion1811@gmail.com. Or speak with any choir member - they'd love to have you join them. Come make a joyful noise to the Lord!



Coffee chats with Racquel - and others!

On **Thursday mornings** Rev. Racquel and others meet at [Thrive Tribe Café](#), 60 Maple Ave, Barrington from **8:30 – 9:30 am** for coffee and conversation. All are welcome to join them any time they can make it. Note: they still meet even when Racquel is away.



Knitting for Others Group - in person and via Zoom

The Knitting for Others Group meets both in person and via zoom on the first Tuesday of each month, and next meets on **Tuesday, April 2** from **6:30 - 9 pm**. Feel free to stop into the library or join the call at any time and stay as long as you 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. *Zoom info needed is not included here for security reasons but is in the email sent to the congregation.*



Loaves and Fishes Backpack Program

BCCUCC continues the collection of food bags to be given to the families of 25 students at DelSesto Middle School in Providence who are experiencing food insecurity. We continue to partner with *We Share Hope* (<https://wesharehope.org>) to provide food to those in need & also with *Books are Wings* who donate free books for the students. (<https://www.booksarewings.org>).

BCCUCC supplements the food donations to fill the bags. We collect the following items in the box in the narthex as you go up the stairs to church: **peanut butter, bread, jelly, oatmeal, canned tuna, rice and beans, pasta and sauce, fruit cups, granola bars and shelf stable pudding.** Thank you to those who supported February's collection.



There's an [April SignUpGenius](#) where you can sign up to donate specific items - and please remember to indicate how many of the items you can donate. If you need help signing up please call the church office (401) 246-0111.



The **deadline** for April food donations is **Sunday, April 21**. The **packing of the bags** will take place on **Wednesday, April 24** at **4 pm** in Fellowship Hall for anyone interested in helping put the bags together. Contact Jay Buckley pbuckley6@cox.net or 578-6533 if you can help, or with any questions.

Women of Faith Reading Group



The group welcomes women of all ages from BCCUCC as well as other churches and faith traditions. They meet for discussions on books, faith and life on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month from **1:30 - 3 pm** in the church library. Upcoming meetings are on **Thursdays, April 4 and 18**. For more information - including what they're currently reading - contact Jane Tonn at 289-2349 or jtonn2@cox.net

Youth Group



The Youth Group (for grades 5 - 8) gathers most weeks throughout the year on **Mondays** from **6 - 7 pm** in Fellowship Hall and Room 9. Youth group meetings consist of fun and fellowship, simple dinner (usually pizza) and a closing prayer service. When the weather permits, they'll meet on the terrace, labyrinth, and playground. *Note: There is no youth group when Barrington Public Schools have a day off.*

Youth Group is taking a break for several weeks and won't meet again until **Monday, Apr 29**. All youth grades 5 - 8 are welcome to attend when they resume. For more information, contact Rev. Racquel Ray at racquel@bccucc.org or (401) 246-0111 x 104. *Don't forget that youth participating in any programs at church must be registered. [Registration form](#)*

Miscellaneous

Office closings

The church office will be closed on **Good Friday, March 29** and on **Easter Monday, April 1**.

Online Giving

It's easy to make a donation online! Simply go to the donation page on our website at www.bccucc.org/donation/ and click on 'Donate Now' under the Tithe.ly option. Be sure to click on the drop-down box in Tithe.ly to choose where you'd like your donation to go - options include Easter Offering, Chancel Fund, Deacons Fund, Memorial Gift, Pledge, Gift etc. Thank you for your financial support of BCCUCC.



A message from our Property Coordinator

During the transition to our new organizational structure, our Property Coordinator, Paul Dennis, asks that church members who would like to bring buildings or grounds issues up for consideration should contact him at wrbtwks@aol.com or cell phone if necessary 401-243-3493.



The Pastors' Blog

If you missed it earlier, the latest blog was written by Dale and titled "What is your favorite hymn?" You can [read it here](#).



News from the Conference

Keep up to date with our Conference - SNEUCC



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

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.

Silver Lake Camp and Retreat Center

SILVER LAKE
Camp & Retreat Center

Silver Lake Camp and Retreat Center is an outdoor ministries site of the Southern New England Conference, UCC that strives to create an intentional, welcoming, Christian community accessible to all. The camp provides a traditional outdoor camp experience for those entering grades 4-12 within the open and affirming setting. The staff and SNEUCC believe that exposure to diverse expressions of humanity is beneficial to all God's children. Silver Lake welcomes and affirms campers, staff, volunteers, and guests of all races, ethnicities, gender identities and expressions, and sexual orientations.

Silver Lake is not just for youth! Adults and families can be engaged in this ministry, from Family Camp to volunteer opportunities to coming on retreat and Spring weekend programs.

2024 Registration is open. They're still accepting applications for summer staff, as well as volunteers. Learn more at www.silverlakeect.org

Some eBridge articles have been moved!

In an effort to reduce the length of this newsletter but not cut back on material that might be of interest to some folks - in particular anyone new to our church - some of the material that was repeated in each edition of the eBridge has been moved to a separate page. To learn more about any of the subjects listed below please [click on this link](#)



Sunday mornings at BCCUCC:

- Services livestreamed to Facebook and YouTube.
- Nursery Care.
- Church School Classes.
- Learn more about Church School and our other programs for children and youth.
- In the event of bad weather.

From the Church Office:

- Do you need a nametag?
- Deadlines for Announcements and eBridge.

- Online donations to the church through our website.

Connect with Us

Rev. Dale Azevedo Senior Minister dale@bccucc.org (401) 246-0111 x 103

Rev. Racquel Ray Associate Minister for Congregational Life racquel@bccucc.org (401) 246-0111 x 104

Christine Wallis Office Administrator office@bccucc.org (401) 246-0111 x 101 (or just stay on the line)

Pat Stoddard Financial Secretary pat@bccucc.org (401) 246-0111 x 102

Andrea Bullard Faith Formation Director andrea@bccucc.org (401) 246-0111 x 107

Matthew Marion Music Director mmarion1811@gmail.com Music Director

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

Building Security: The Education building remains 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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