



March 30, 2023

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

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

For those unable to attend worship in person, our Sunday service is also livestreamed and can be watched at the following links on [our Facebook page](#), on [our website](#), and on [our YouTube channel](#) - either live or viewed later.

The Sunday worship bulletin is also posted to [our website](#) to make it easier to follow the service when watching online.

Sun, Apr 2 Palm Sunday

8:45 am Faith Formation and Youth Ministry (FFAYM) meeting, Library
9:30 am Sing and Celebrate Choir rehearsal, Room 6
10 am Worship Service (in-person and online) with Communion, Sing and Celebrate Choir, and guest musicians Greenwich Bay Brass
During Church School Time: Lenten Lollapalooza, Fellowship Hall

Mon, Apr 3

7 am Holy Week Morning Meditation, Library
2 pm Royalties for Spirituals meeting, Library
6 - 7 pm Youth Group, Fellowship Hall and Room 9

Tues, Apr 4

7 am Holy Week Morning Meditation, Library
10 am Staff meeting, Dale's office
3 pm Governance/Ministry Task Force (GMTF) meeting, Library
6:30 - 9 pm Knitting for Others group, Library and on Zoom

Wed, Apr 5

7 am Holy Week Morning Meditation, Library

Thurs, Apr 6 Maundy Thursday

7 am Holy Week Morning Meditation, Library
8:30 - 9:30 am Coffee Chat, Thrive Tribe Café
1:30 - 3 pm Women of Faith Reading Group, Library

7 pm Maundy Thursday service of Communion and Tenebrae, Sanctuary
7:45 pm Choir rehearsal, Vestry

Fri, Apr 7 Good Friday

7 am Holy Week Morning Meditation, Library
Sunrise to Sunset; Walk the Labyrinth at any time, Grassy area beyond the terrace
Noon: Prayers at the Labyrinth with Rev. Racquel Ray

Sun, Apr 9 Easter Sunday

6 am Easter Sunrise Ecumenical Service with Communion, Osamequin Point
10 am Worship Service (in-person and online), Nursery Care only
After worship: Easter Egg Hunt and Coffee Hour

Mon, Apr 10

Office Closed
5 - 6 pm Barrington Interfaith Partners meeting
6:30 pm Buildings and Grounds meeting, Vestry

Tues, Apr 11

10 am Staff meeting, Dale's office
7 pm Church Council meeting

Wed, Apr 12

7:30 pm Choir rehearsal, Vestry

Thurs, Apr 13

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

Sat, Apr 15

Evening: Outside rental of Fellowship Hall

Sun, Apr 16

10 am Worship Service (in person and online), Church School
After Church School: Sing and Celebrate Choir rehearsal, Room 6
11:30 am - 1 pm Confirmation Class, Room 9

Mon, Apr 17

10 - 11 am Bereavement Group, Library
11 am Lay Visitation meeting, Room 6
6 - 7 pm Youth Group, Fellowship Hall and Room 9

Tue, Apr 18

10 am Staff meeting, Dale's office
10:30 am Book Group, Library
7 pm Deacons Meeting, Library

Wed, Apr 19

10 am Prayer Service, Sanctuary
Noon Deadline for eBridge
7 pm Mission and Justice team meeting
7:30 pm Choir rehearsal, Vestry

Thurs, Apr 20

8:30 - 9:30 am Coffee Chat, Thrive Tribe Cafe
9:30 - 11 am Day of Caring Meeting, Library
1:30 - 3 pm Women of Faith Reading Group meet, Library

Sun, Apr 23

10 am Worship Service (in person and online), Church School
11:20 am Sing and Celebrate Choir rehearsal, Room 6
11:30 am New Member Class, Library

Palm Sunday, April 2

This Sunday is Palm Sunday and there's a lot happening!

“Open for us the gates of righteousness, that we may enter and give thanks...Bind the festal offerings with branches and palms!” *Psalm 118*

“Hosanna! Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Holy One! Hosanna in the highest!” *Matthew 21*



Join us **this Sunday, April 2** at **10 am** for the festal service of **Palm Sunday** with Communion and Procession to the Prayer Garden. This year's service will commemorate Jesus' triumphal entry to Jerusalem and usher us into Holy Week. Both straight palms and the green eco-palms will be available for pick up on the way into worship. Music will be offered by the Adult Choir and the Sing and Celebrate Children's Choir led by Matthew Marion and Kate Colby. We will also be joined by guest musicians Greenwich Bay Brass ensemble (see below). The service will culminate with a dismissal and procession to the Prayer Garden to plant our Lenten Seed Paper Prayers. This service invites the congregation into Holy Week marking seven holy days until Easter and all are welcome.

Guest Musicians - Greenwich Bay Brass

On **Palm Sunday**, we will welcome Greenwich Bay Brass to our worship service, a group of musicians who have been together since 2006. It is an all-volunteer, British style brass ensemble with unique instrumentation played by RI-based brass instrumentalists. Since its establishment, the group has performed throughout New England – in venues such as the RI Music Educators' Association benefit concert, Newport Christmas at The Breakers, and a variety of denominational churches in Southeastern New England. The band includes church member Greg Voigt. We look forward to hearing them!



Lenten Lollapalooza for our church school children

On **Palm Sunday, April 2** our Faith Formation Director and the FFaYM team will be hosting a Lenten Lollapalooza for the children during church school time in Fellowship Hall. There will be a special craft that the children will be sharing with the congregation on Easter Sunday as well as palm cross making and treats! All children are welcome! We hope that families are able to come to church on Sunday so that the children can participate in this fun event.



Holy Week and Easter

Holy Week Morning Meditations

Once again, Rev. Dale Azevedo will be hosting weekday morning meditations during holy week. These meditations will take place in the church library from **Monday, April 3 through Friday, April 7**, beginning at **7 am**. Each morning will consist of a few brief prayers, a Bible reading, some

silence, and perhaps a short reflection. They will last approximately 20-25 minutes. If you are looking for a special meaningful way to begin each day during Holy Week, consider joining Dale and others in this Lenten practice.



Maundy Thursday Tenebrae service

The Deacons invite the congregation to attend the upcoming Tenebrae Service at **7 pm** on **Thursday, April 6**. 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

The church labyrinth will be open from **sunrise to sunset** on **Good Friday, April 7** 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 which is located behind the education building, just below the terrace. All are welcome.



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 am** on **Easter Sunday, April 9** 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, April 9**. 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).



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.



New in this eBridge

Office closings and staff vacations

The church office will be closed on **Good Friday, April 7** and on **Monday, April 10**. Associate Minister Rev. Racquel Ray will be on vacation from April 10-14, and Office Administrator Christine Wallis will be on vacation from April 10-17.

Change in publication date

Because of staff vacation there will be no eBridge or blog emailed out on Thursday, April 13. The next blogs will be published on April 6 & 27, and the next eBridge on April 20.

There will still be a weekly Announcements with a deadline of Wednesdays at Noon. Send info to office@bccucc.org.



Prayer Service resumes

The Wednesday morning prayer service that's been on hiatus during Lent, will resume on **Wednesday, April 19**. All are invited to join Rev. Racquel on **Wednesday mornings at 10 am** for a brief prayer service to pray for the congregation and clergy, the community, family and friends, and themselves.



Food donations needed for Backpack Program

Thank you to the families that helped fill our 25 monthly bags of food in March that went to students at the DeSesto Middle School in Providence.

Our next collection deadline is **Sunday, April 23**. 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 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**. Please use [this sign-up genius link](#) to mark which items you plan to bring or call the church office to sign up (401) 246-0111. Please be sure to indicate the number of items you are signing up to donate.



Packing of the bags will take place on **Wednesday, April 26 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

Interested in joining the church?

After worship on **Sunday, April 23 at 11:30 am** in the library, Rev. Dale will offer a New Member Class for anyone interested in learning more about officially joining BCCUCC. Childcare can be provided if requested ahead of time.

Please RSVP.....If 1) you plan to attend - and let us know if you need childcare or not; **....OR 2)** you're interested in joining but can't make that date. RSVP to Dale at dale@bccucc.org, or the church office at office@bccucc.org or 246-0111.

Whether you've been attending for only a few weeks or you've been coming for years but never joined, you're welcome to attend the class. Participation does not require you



become a member, but for those who choose to, they'll be able to join during the worship service on New Member Sunday which is scheduled for May 7. Questions? Please contact Dale who will be happy to answer them for you.

Death of a former member

We recently learned that Edwin (Ed) McKinlay passed away peacefully on March 13 aged 90. He'd not attended church for some years but used to be an active member, was chair of the deacons, and a regular usher. His obituary was in the March 19 Providence Journal, and can also be found at [this link](#) on legacy.com.



From the Mission and Justice Team

Rev. John Dorhauer blasts DeSantis appointees at New College of Florida

Following the appointment by Gov. Ron DeSantis of new hand-picked trustees to the board of New College of Florida, the UCC General Minister and President, Rev. John Dorhauer joined students in a rally to protest the 'authoritarian' changes. The students were also joined by hundreds of UCC members from local churches. They protested cuts to DEI (diversity, equity and inclusion) programs, and other ominous changes proposed or already enacted by the new board. [Learn more](#)



From the Green Team

Two Conferences call for Synod response to 'plastic pandemic'

The [2023 General Synod](#) of the United Church of Christ will consider 17 resolutions and several bylaw changes when it meets June 30-July 4 in Indianapolis. (Rev. Dale will be attending Synod as a delegate). Two of the resolutions going before General Synod aim to curb the growing amount of plastic waste that is collecting in landfills, oceans and ecosystems. [Learn more.](#)



Eco palms

Since 2008, Barrington Congregational Church, UCC has been promoting environmental and social justice by using eco palms for Palm Sunday. Purchasing these Fair Trade palms improves the income and living conditions of the communities gathering the palms, and also protects the palms and the important forests from which they are gathered through sustainable harvest programs. Learn more at <https://ecopalms.org>.

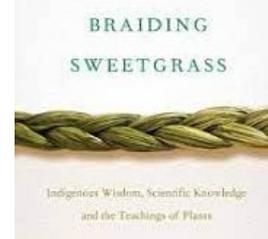


'Braiding Sweetgrass' online book study - presented by SNEUCC

An online book study of *Braiding Sweetgrass* by Robin Wall Kimmerer will be offered on **Tuesdays at 6:30 pm, April 11 to May 9**, led by Environmental Justice Intern Lillian Steinmayer. Each week a different section of this book will be discussed in

the context of environment, gratitude, and our role as Earth's children.

For the first meeting, participants will talk about the first section of the book - "Planting Sweetgrass" - focusing on the chapters titled "Skywoman Falling" and "An Offering." [Sign up here](#)



Ongoing groups / 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. They next meet on **Monday, April 17**. For more information contact either of the facilitators, Betsy Brenner at betsybrenner3@gmail.com or 245-8031, or Aubrey Atwater at aubreyfolk@aol.com or (401) 392-1909.



Book Group

The Book Group next meets on **Tuesday, April 18** at **10:30 am** in the church library. They will discuss *The Last Thing He Told Me* by Laura Dave. [Book Review](#)
For more information about the group contact Helen Schall at helenschall@hotmail.com or 401 245-4724. All are welcome.



Choir rehearsals

Why not join the BCCUCC church choir? No audition is needed and all voice parts are welcome. Rehearsals are **Wednesday evenings** at 7:30 pm for an hour or so, in the vestry (the room below the sanctuary). To learn more speak with our music director Matthew Marion on a Sunday or contact him at mmarion1811@gmail.com. You're also very welcome to speak with any of our current choir members - or just come along to a Wednesday evening rehearsal. They'd love to have you join them!



Note: There's no choir rehearsal on Wed, Apr 5. Instead it will be held on Thurs, Apr 6 at approx 7:45 pm following the Maundy Thursday service.

Coffee Chats with Racquel

Rev. Racquel invites you to join her at Thrive Tribe Café, 60 Maple Avenue, Barrington from **8:30 am – 9:30 am** on **Thursday Mornings** for Coffee Chats. She will be there every Thursday morning unless otherwise noted, and hopes to see you there any time you can make it! All are welcome.



Knitting for Others Group meets in person and online

These knitters get together on the first Tuesday to knit items to be donated - prayer shawls, baby hats, etc. They next meet on **Tuesday, April 4** from **6:30 – 9 pm** and participants have the option to either meet in person in the church library or meet over zoom. Feel free to stop by the library or join the call at any time and stay as long as you like. They use the church's new video conferencing equipment at their



gathering which makes it easier to have conversations between those participating online and those in the room. 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 log-in info is not included here for security reasons. It was in the email sent to the congregation.

Prayer Service resumes

The Wednesday morning prayer service that's been on hiatus during Lent, will resume on **Wednesday, April 19**. All are invited to join Rev. Racquel on **Wednesday mornings at 10 am** for a brief prayer service to pray for the congregation and clergy, the community, family and friends, and themselves.



Women of Faith Reading Group

The group meets 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. They welcome women of all ages from BCCUCC as well as other churches and faith traditions. Upcoming meetings are on **Thursdays, April 6 and 20**.



For more information contact Jane Tonn at 289-2349 or jtonn2@cox.net

Youth Group

The Youth Group is led by Rev. Racquel and welcomes all in Grades 5 - 8. They gather most weeks throughout the year on **Mondays from 6 - 7 pm** for fun and fellowship, a simple dinner (usually pizza) and a closing prayer service.

Youth Group meets in April on **Mondays, April 3 & 17**. For more information, including the complete schedule see page 12 of the [2022-23 Guide to Faith Formation](#) or contact Rev. Racquel at racquel@bccucc.org or (401) 246-0111 x104. Note: Youth participating in programs at church must be [registered](#).



Worth repeating....

The Pastors' Blog

The latest blog was written by Dale and titled *I Am Troubled*. If you missed it earlier, you can [read it here](#).



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.

[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.



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

Camp registration is open - with discounts through 3/31

Funds are available for camp scholarships and Silver Lake summer camp registration is open with **discounts through the end of March!**

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.

[Learn more about summer camp at Silver Lake](#)

[View the summer programs](#)



2023 Spring Programs at Silver Lake Camp and Retreat Center

Spring Action Weekend: April 28-30.

Give something back to Silver Lake! Help prepare the SNEUCC camp and retreat center for the coming season. Open to youth in grades 9-12 and adults.



Women's Yoga and Music Spirit Retreat: May 5-7

Whether you're a yoga devotee or a novice, a seasoned singer or shy about your voice, there is a special place for you at this retreat.

Come for the entire weekend or just for the day on Saturday.

Open House: Sunday, May 21, 1-5 pm

A visit to Silver Lake before camp is the best way for a first time camper to know what to expect.

Learn more and register for these programs at the [Retreats/Weekend Programs page](#) of their website www.silverlakeect.org. Once on the weekend programs page, scroll down to 'Upcoming Events' to find the links to register for each of these events.

Community News

Film Screening and Discussion

There will be two screenings of 'The Last Days' an Oscar-winning documentary produced by Steve Spielberg, on **Sunday, April 16 at 1 pm** and on **Wednesday, April 19 at 6:30 pm** in the Salem Family Auditorium of the Barrington Public Library.

The documentary focuses on the plight of five Hungarian Jews who survived imprisonment in Auschwitz and recount the horrors they witnessed and endured as a result of the Nazis' "Final Solution".

The event is Free and open to all. Registration recommended. More info at these registration links on the library website:

[Register for Sun, Apr 16](#) OR [Register for Wed, Apr 19](#)

Sponsored by the Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Committee of Barrington.



Sunday mornings at BCCUCC

Services livestreamed to Facebook, website and YouTube

All are invited to join us for our **multi-platform worship service** at **10 am**. Masks are optional but we do ask that if you're feeling unwell or have symptoms, that you please stay home and watch online. We continue to run large HEPA air filters in the sanctuary and also have HEPA air filters in most spaces in our Education building.



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

There's also a link to the [Sunday bulletin](#) on our livestream page.

*Occasionally, Facebook doesn't allow us to stream to their platform, and on those occasions it's not possible to watch the service on Facebook. However, you should still be able to find the service on YouTube and on our church website at the links above.

Please leave the back center pew empty

By leaving the back center pew empty, it allows access from one side of the sanctuary to the other when needed - before during and after worship. This avoids worship leaders and others having to either walk across in front of the altar or having to leave the sanctuary at the back and traversing the stairs before coming back in to the sanctuary on the other side!



Nursery Care

The **Nursery** is open 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.



Church School classes

Children from PreK through grade 8 attend the first part of worship service in the sanctuary with their families, then after the children's message (or communion on the first Sunday) they leave to go to their Church School classes in the Education building. Their teachers will accompany them. More information about the different church school classes are on pages 9 & 10 of the [2022-2023 Guide to Faith Formation](#). On All Ages Worship Sundays, the children remain in the sanctuary for the entire time and the service is more child friendly.



Deadlines for Announcements and eBridge

The deadline for receiving information for inclusion in the eBridge and the Sunday Announcements is **Noon on the Wednesday prior to publication.**

Deadline for next eBridge is **Wed, April 19** (a week later than usual). Send information to Christine at office@bccucc.org.



Do you need a Name Tag?

We encourage the congregation to wear nametags to help get to know each other. If you would like a nametag please contact the church office at office@bccucc.org or call (401) 246-0111 and let us know what name you'd like on the nametag and your preference for a clip, pin or string holder. Nametags are stored on the rack in the vestry hallway, or you can keep it in your car or purse where you can easily find it on a Sunday morning.



Online donations to the church through our website

Our church website (www.bccucc.org) is capable of accepting online donations. [Watch a brief video](#) (30 secs) on how to do this, or read the following instructions: There's a red 'DONATE' button on the right side of the black menu bar near the top of each page of the website. 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 pat@bccucc.org or (401) 246-0111 x 102.

[Visit the 'Giving to BCCUCC' page.](#) OR you can use this QR code to take you directly to our giving page.



Contact us

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

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

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

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

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

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.

Connect with us



[Visit our website](#)

[Join Our Email List](#)

THE END !