



April 20, 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 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

Tues, Apr 25

10 am Staff meeting, Dale's office

Wed, Apr 26

10 am Wednesday Prayer Service, Sanctuary
4 pm Pack bags for Loaves and Fishes Backpack program, Fellowship Hall
7:30 pm Choir rehearsal, Vestry

Thurs, Apr 27

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

Sat, Apr 29

11 am Memorial Service for Sim Hawes, Sanctuary.
Reception following in Fellowship Hall

Sun, Apr 30 Celebration of Negro Spirituals

9:30 am Sing and Celebrate Choir rehearsal, Sanctuary
10 am Worship Service with Sing & Celebrate Choir (in person and online), Church School

Mon, May 1

6 - 7 pm Youth Group, Fellowship Hall and Room 9

Tue, May 2

10 am Staff meeting, Dale's office

6:30 - 9 pm Knitting for Others Group, Library and via Zoom

Wed, May 3

10 am Wednesday Prayer Service, Sanctuary

Noon Deadline for eBridge

7:30 pm Choir rehearsal, Vestry

Thurs, May 4

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

1:30 - 3 pm Women of Faith Reading Group meet, Library

6:30 pm Green Team meeting

Sun, May 7 UCC Sunday

8:45 am FFAYM (Faith Formation & Youth Ministry) meeting, Library

10 am Worship Service with Communion (in person and online), Church School

11:20 am Sing and Celebrate Choir rehearsal, Room 6

11:30 am - 1 pm Confirmation Class, Room 9

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

Send calendar information to office@bccucc.org

Saturday, April 22 is Earth Day!

*The following messages are brought to you by
your Mission and Justice Team and your Green Team*

UCC's First Earth Day Summit

This Earth Day, the United Church of Christ is planting seeds that will take root as an annual summit for environmental justice.

[The first annual Earth Day Summit](#) is on **Saturday, April 22, 2023**. The virtual event includes some other "firsts," one of them the presentation of the first Dollie Burwell Prophetic Leadership Award.



Learn about Dollie Burwell and the three UCC congregations that are the finalists for the award [here](#)

Thinking of Spring Cleaning?

Here are some ideas from Katharine Hayhoe, Climate Scientist:

- The Cool Down has put together a comprehensive [guide](#) that goes room by room with many tips that are good for people and for your pocketbook.
- Have socks with holes? [SmartWool](#) will take them and turn them into dog beds!
- Have old electronics? Use Best Buy's [trade-in calculator](#) to see how much they're worth in gift cards.
- Have empty or old beauty products? Check to see if your local [Nordstrom](#) and Sephora have drop-off boxes to recycle them!

EARTH DAY!



Also, from our Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corporation:

- Mark your calendars for **Target's annual car seat trade-in event!** From **April 16-29**, guests can bring any expired or unwanted car seats in to Target stores for recycling and receive 20 percent off one car seat, stroller or select baby gear. [Learn more.](#)

Sunday, April 23

Interested in joining the church?

After worship **this 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 BCCUCC - who we are, what we believe, and how to officially join our church. Childcare will be provided.

Please RSVP to Dale at dale@bccucc.org**If 1)** you plan to attend - and let us know if you need childcare (so we have sufficient coverage) ...**OR 2)** you're interested in joining but can't make this Sunday's class.

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 should you choose not to.

Questions? Please contact Dale who will be happy to answer them for you.



Food donations deadline 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 DelSesto Middle School in Providence.

Our next collection deadline is **this 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 **4pm** 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

New in this eBridge

Celebration of the Life of Sim Hawes

On **Saturday, April 29** at **11 am** a Service of Celebration for the Life of Simeon Hawes will be held in the BCCUCC sanctuary, followed by a reception in Fellowship Hall. All are welcome.

Condolence cards may be sent to Sim's widow, Bernie Hawes at 19 Elisha Drive, Middleboro MA 02346.

[More information and obituary](#)

For those unable to attend in person, the service will be livestreamed at the usual links on [our website](#), on [Facebook](#), and on our [YouTube channel](#).



Royalties for Negro Spirituals

On **Sunday, April 30** at the 10 am worship service there will be a **Celebration of Negro Spirituals** and a new faith-based racial justice initiative will be introduced to the BCCUCC congregation. This initiative is called **Royalties for Negro Spirituals** and it recognizes the deep biblical connection between justice and worship, and acknowledges that congregations have been blessed by hearing and singing Negro Spirituals for centuries. The original creators of this music were never compensated for their work, and the initiatives seek to right this injustice, albeit in a small way, by paying this debt forward to local organizations that support musicians and artists of color. Accordingly, a voluntary offering will be collected periodically, when BCCUCC sings Negro Spirituals.



Though this is a national movement, it is being introduced to local houses of worship through the leadership of Barrington Interfaith Partners. Our church's Mission and Justice Team recommended that our church participate in this initiative, and with the support of Dale and Racquel, as well as Church Council, we are the first house of worship to devote a service to Negro Spirituals. Other houses of worship in the East Bay and in Providence plan to follow suit over the coming months.

Two additional points of clarification are necessary. First off, the use of the term Negro Spiritual requires some explanation. Why not African American Spirituals? Though the use of the term Negro is sometimes used in a derogatory sense, in this context it is appropriate and is the term preferred by Black churches. The people who wrote the spirituals were enslaved and were not considered to be Americans. In fact, they were considered property and the spirituals were created to express pain and suffering, as well as hope for freedom. Spirituals also carried hidden messages between enslaved people and helped them carry out the horrific work they were forced to do.

The second point of clarification is the organization to receive the royalties collected from the congregation. The organization is Community Music Works. Please use this link to learn about their work <https://communitymusicworks.org>. It is important to note that the royalties are paid with no strings attached and are to be dispensed at the sole discretion of Community Music Works.

Find ways for BCCUCC to support the LGBTQ+ community.

Join our new Open and Affirming Team today!

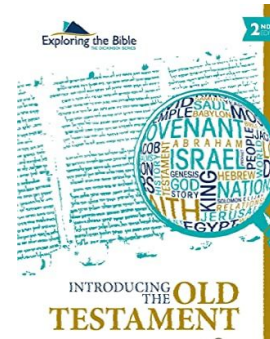
You may recall from [Dale's blog](#) three weeks ago that he is going to be starting up a new ONA Team that will be looking for creative and meaningful ways that we can live out our ONA stance more fully. Are you interested in joining with him and others in this? If so, please reach out to Dale (dale@bccucc.org) and let him know. Once we have a handful of people, we'll find a date and time to get together and begin working!



Introducing a new Bible Study at BCCUCC!

Rev. Dale will be leading a six session Bible Study called ***Exploring the Bible: Introducing the Old Testament***. This is a sequel study to a class Dale held just before the pandemic hit in 2020 and is published by the Massachusetts Bible Society. There is no need to have participated in the first study to jump in now. This study will meet **every other Wednesday** at 7pm, **beginning on May 17**. This will be an interactive exploration of major themes in the Old Testament, what the writings meant to it's contemporary audience, and what impact it can have for us today.

Reach out to Dale if you have any questions or if you would like to participate (dale@bccucc.org or 401 246-0111 x 103). This'll be fun and informative!



SNEUCC Sending Youth to General Synod

The Southern New England Conference is accepting applications from youth who want to take part in **Youth @ Synod**, the national gathering for young leaders ages 14 to 18 who want to connect with teens from around the country while experiencing the vibrant diversity of the wider church. The event is part of the United Church of Christ General Synod, taking place in Indianapolis, IN, **June 30 to July 4**. Significant scholarship support is available.

[Learn more](#)

Rev. Dale Azevedo will be attending Synod as a delegate. If any youth is interested and has questions, please contact Dale at dale@bccucc.org or (401) 246-0111 x 103.



East Bay Kids Clothes Swap - rescheduled to June

Due to a conflict, the next East Bay Kids Clothes Swap has been rescheduled to **Saturday, June 10** from 9 am - Noon in Fellowship Hall. It's a place to trade in clean (non-stained) clothes and shoes and get clothes the next size up! Ages newborn to 12 years old. Give what you can, take what you need! Toys can also be swapped. The swaps are now held seasonally so you don't want to miss it! \$5 donation at the door but no one turned away. More info <https://www.facebook.com/EastBayKidsClothesSwap> To volunteer with the swap, email RIkidswap@gmail.com



From the church mailbox

A letter of thanks

Hello, all.

I have been meaning to thank everyone for their kindness, for so many things. As you can imagine, losing my brother Jeff [Stumpff] was a shock, and it has taken me a while to come to terms with it. I still miss him terribly.

The Barrington Congregational /UCC was and continues to be the wonderful, supportive community on which my family has counted, on many occasions. In this instance, I needed your support especially and you did not disappoint. Jeff's memorial service was lovely and meaningful. There, I appreciated seeing people who knew and cared for Jeff, people who expressed their loss as well, which was profoundly touching

to me. Dale, of course, was considerate and perceptive while we planned the service and stellar throughout. The office staff were lovely. I *must* acknowledge Pat Stoddard for her quiet help setting up for the reception, and then sticking around to help afterwards as well. *I thank you all.*

I am also grateful for BCC UCC members' thoughtful cards. People talked of Jeff as being "kind," "gentle," and "genuine," and having "quiet strength". I got a kick out of someone calling him "charming". As I mentioned during the service, this is when I learned that Jeff had been a deacon. (No, he wasn't a sharer.) Of course many of you knew my mother and some talked of Jeff's bringing her, Harold, and Flo to church for so long. That is how he started attending BCC UCC... but then he kept coming and the church came to mean so much to him. So, thank you for that.

I also need to thank the deacons for the Christmas and Easter plants. How nice to know that my family is still in your thoughts. I appreciate these gestures more than you know. A shout-out to Nancy Arena for stopping by for a chat in the process. Because of her, I got to catch up with some of your shenanigans.

Much love and appreciation,
Margo Williams and family

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, May 15**. 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, May 16** at **10:30 am** in the church library. They will discuss *To The Lighthouse* by Virginia Woolf [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!



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 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, May 2** 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 information is not included here for security reasons. It was in the email version sent to the congregation.



Weekly Prayer Service

All are invited to join Rev. Racquel on **Wednesday mornings** at **10 am** in the sanctuary 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, May 4 & 18** 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 next meets on **Mondays, May 1, 8, 15 & 22**. 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 Racquel and titled *The Body of Christ*. 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

Registration is now open for SNEUCC Annual Meeting

Registration is NOW OPEN for the 4th Annual Meeting of the Southern New England Conference, to be held **Saturday, June 17** at the DCU Center in Worcester. An online option is also available.

The meeting will include messages by UCC General Minister and President Nominee Rev. Karen Georgia Thompson and SNEUCC Executive Conference Minister the Rev. Darrell Goodwin; engaging worship; and two sets of breakout sessions, one on "Mapping Your Church's Path Forward" and one on "Diversity, Equity and Inclusion." There will also be a Children's Program, a Marketplace and some pre-meeting events.

[Watch a video invitation to attend](#) by Rev. Chris Davies

Details and register at sneucc.org/2023AM

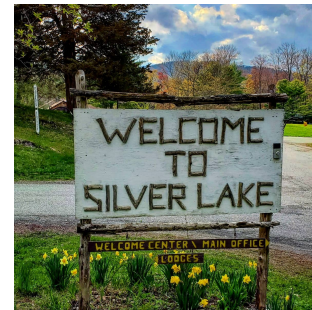


Camp registration is open

Funds are available for camp scholarships and Silver Lake summer camp registration is open. 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.

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.



From the church office

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, May 3**. 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*

Matthew 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 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 !