



April 25, 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*

Sun, Apr 28

'Royalties for Negro Spirituals' offering

8:45 am Church School Team meeting, Room 9

9 am - 12:15 pm OWL class, Library

10 am Worship Service, Church School

Immediately after worship: Special Congregational Meeting, Sanctuary

Mon, Apr 29

11 am Lay Visitation meeting, Library

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

7 pm Bible Study with Dale, Library

Tues, Apr 30

10 am Staff meeting, Dale's office

Wed, May 1

7:30 pm Choir rehearsal, Vestry

Thurs, May 2

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

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

Sat, May 4

10 am Memorial Service for Janet Morrison, Sanctuary

After service: Reception in Fellowship Hall

Sun, May 5

10 am Worship Service with Communion, Church School

Mon, May 6

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

7 pm Bible Study with Dale, Library

Tues, May 7

10 am Staff meeting, Dale's office

1:30 - 3 pm Governing Board meets, Library

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

Wed, May 8

Noon *Deadline for eBridge*

7:30 pm Choir rehearsal, Vestry

Thurs, May 9

Sun, May 12 Mothers Day

10 am Worship Service, Church School

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](#).



Special Congregational Meeting after worship this Sunday, April 28

A recommendation to sell our second parsonage

A year ago the question was raised as to what BCCUCC ought to do with our second parsonage which is currently vacant. At the time, it was being rented by a congregation member who had suffered a housefire and was awaiting repairs. Last fall a team was put together to explore various options for the house (leave vacant, rent, or sell). The team came back with a recommendation to sell the parsonage.

Recently, the Governing Board met with Tom Colby (Finance Coordinator) and Dale Azevedo (Sr. Minister), as required by the by-laws, to discuss the recommendation. That group agreed with the recommendation and is calling for a **congregational meeting to vote on the recommendation**. If the congregation approves the recommendation, a second congregational meeting will be called to vote a second time on the recommendation. The by-laws require two consecutive votes by the congregation before moving forward with any "significant financial transaction".

Please see below for the warrant for this important congregational meeting to be held in the sanctuary immediately after worship **this Sunday, April 28**. Church members are asked to make every effort to attend as we need a quorum for the meeting and the vote to take place. Thank you. **Childcare** will be provided.



Warrant

Warrant for a SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL Meeting Barrington Congregational Church, Barrington, Rhode Island Sunday, April 28, 2024

A Special Congregational Meeting of the Barrington Congregational Church, UCC, is hereby called to take place in the sanctuary following the regular 10:00 a.m. worship service on **Sunday, April 28, 2024**.



The business to be transacted is as follows:

- ARTICLE I: To call the meeting to order.
- ARTICLE II: To review and vote on the recommendation to sell the parsonage at 4 Nathaniel Road, Barrington.
- ARTICLE III: To consider any other business that may properly come before the meeting.
- ARTICLE IV: To adjourn the meeting.

Also this Sunday, April 28

Royalties for Negro Spirituals offering

On **Sunday, April 28**, the congregation is being asked to support our Royalties for Negro Spirituals Initiative that was started a year ago. As we sing the Negro spirituals during the service, we recognize that the original creators of this music were never compensated for their work. To right this injustice, although in a small way, we hope you will consider a donation to Community Music Works in Providence. This organization's mission is to create a cohesive urban community through music education and performance that transforms the lives of children, families and musicians. Learn more at <https://communitymusicworks.org>. A special offering envelope will be included in this Sunday's bulletin with details on how to donate, including making an online donation from our website. You can also make a donation by sending in a check payable to 'BCCUCC' with 'Royalties' in the memo line. Online donations may be made via Tithe.ly at <https://bccucc.org/donation/> and selecting 'Royalties' for Negro Spirituals in the drop down box. Thank you for donating.



RI Association Spring Gathering

The Spring Meeting of the Rhode Island Association will be held at **Peace Dale Congregational Church, UCC**, 261 Columbia St, South Kingtown, RI 02879 on **Sunday, April 28th, 2024** at **2:00 PM** in the afternoon. All RI Association clergy, delegates and church members are invited to attend.



This afternoon will consist of:

- A time of worship
- A half session (1.5 hrs) of Racial Justice Training* led by Rev. Noah Brewer-Wallin, Assistant Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion for SNEUCC
- A (short) business meeting

Worship will start at 2:00 PM, then we will move into the training and then business portion of the afternoon.

So, come catch up with old friends, make new friends, and be part of the movement of God's spirit among us. [Learn more and Register](#) for the RI Association Spring Gathering

Happening soon

Are you interested in joining BCCUCC? Then let us know by May 1st!

Do you have questions about what it means or how to go about joining our church? We usually have a brief new members class each fall and spring with a special Sunday to welcome everyone in. If you have questions or are interested, please reach out to Dale

(dale@bccucc.org), Racquel (racquel@bccucc.org) or the church office (office@bccucc.org) **by May 1**. We'd love to get back to you and talk about the options available.



Combating Antisemitism in the East Bay and Beyond

Thursday, May 2, from 6:30 – 8 pm at **Barrington Public Library**, 281 County Rd, Barrington.

All are invited to this public event, organized by Temple Habonim, to learn about antisemitism, its history and current manifestations, recent experiences of your neighbors, and how to be supportive allies of East Bay's Jewish population. The event will begin with a presentation about antisemitism, delivered by guests from the Sandra Bornstein Holocaust Education Center and the Jewish Alliance of Greater Rhode Island. The program continues with a moderated discussion and Q&A session. The panel will feature institutional and individual leaders, both allies and Jewish. Panelists include Rabbi Howard Voss-Altman (Temple Habonim), Colonel Michael E. Correia (Barrington Chief of Police), a School Committee member from the Bristol Warren Regional School District, a Barrington High School student, and others. There is no cost to attend, but **advance registration is required**. To register, use the form at this address: www.cutt.ly/CAEBB.



Memorial Service for Janet Morrison

A Memorial Service for long-time church member Janet Morrison who passed away in December, will be held on **Saturday, May 4** at **10 am** in the sanctuary. A reception will follow in Fellowship Hall. Janet's family, including her daughter, church member Ann Doran, look forward to welcoming all who would like to join them in remembering and celebrating Janet's life.



New in this eBridge

Altar flower donors needed

There are openings for donors to pay for altar flowers on **Sundays, May 5 & 19**. Donors may choose to pay for one or both vases and each vase costs \$30. The arrangements are delivered each week from a local florist (The Greenery in Warren). 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 the flowers on either of these dates, please contact Chancel Team member Cheryl Muth at jccbmuth@aol.com.



Coffee Hour Sign Ups

There's a fresh sign-up sheet in the kitchen for Coffee Hour volunteers. Please sign up for a Sunday between now and September. With four weeks left until Jubilation Sunday, it's already time to plan ahead to summer. To be on the Coffee Hour team, email racquel@bccucc.org or call her at (401) 246-0111 x104.



Youth Group resumes

After a break of several weeks (due to Rev. Racquel's knee surgery) Youth Group will resume on **Monday, April 29** from **6 – 7 pm**. Weather permitting, they'll be outside – so please bring a hoodie because it gets cold sometimes. If the weather doesn't cooperate, youth group will meet in Fellowship Hall and Room 9. Their last few meetings for the year will be **Mondays May 6, 13, 20 and June 3 & 10**. All in grades 5 – 8 are welcome to attend. For more information contact Rev. Racquel at racquel@bccucc.org or (401) 246-0111 x104.



Youth group meetings consist of fun and fellowship, simple dinner (usually pizza) and a closing prayer service. *Note: There is no youth group when Barrington Public Schools have a day off.*

Youth Group Campfires

It's getting warmer and lighter during Youth Group. We could use some volunteers to provide **ingredients for s'mores** – including sticks, marshmallows, chocolate, and graham crackers. Contact Rev. Racquel at racquel@bccucc.org if you can help. Thanks.



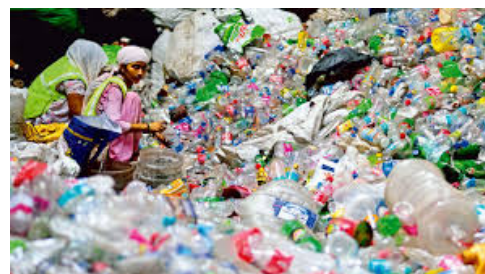
Volunteer needed to refill basketballs and football for Youth Group

We have 5 basketballs and one football that need pumping up with more air! You'll need to bring a needle and pump, and the balls are in Rev. Racquel's office. Please contact Rev. Racquel at racquel@bccucc.org if you can help!



Take Action to Stop the Plastic Crisis

Last Sunday, April 21st, we celebrated Creation Care Sunday and Monday, April 22nd was Earth Day. Let us now be faithful stewards of the world that God lovingly created and left in our care, by taking action! Using the links below, learn how pervasive plastic is in our lives and how it is wreaking havoc in our ecosystems and bodies. Then urge Congress to stop the plastic pollution crisis by passing the [Break Free from Plastic Pollution Act of 2023 \(S. 3127/ H.R. 6053\)](#). You can call on your elected officials to take action to stop the plastic crises by going to this UCC link: <https://p2a.co/ZZdpUyr>



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, May 13**. 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, May 21 at 10:30 am** in the church library. They will discuss *All Sinners Bleed* by S.A. Cosby. [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, May 7** 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.



The zoom information needed isn't included here for security reasons but was 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 DeSesto 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 April's collection.



The May SignUpGenius will soon be available, 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 May food donations is **Sunday, May 19**. The **packing of the bags** will take place on **Wednesday, May 22** at **4 pm** in Fellowship Hall for anyone interested in helping put the bags together. Contact Jay Buckley jbuckley6@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.



Their next meetings are on **Thursdays, May 2 & 16** and they're starting a new book *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus. Copies of the book are available to borrow (courtesy of Barrington Public Library's 'Book Club in a Bag' program) and can be picked up from the church office. Please be sure to sign for the #copy that you borrow. For more information contact Jane Tonn at 289-2349 or jtonn2@cox.net

Youth Group

See the three articles about Youth Group in the 'New in this eBridge' section for the latest information. Open to all youth in Grades 5-8.

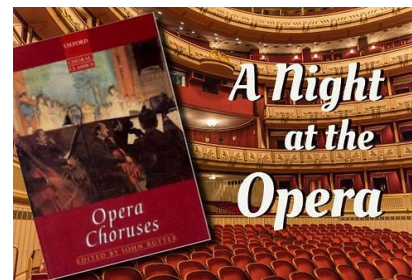
All youth participating in any programs at church must be registered. [Registration form](#)



Community News

Providence Singers Concert

'A Night at the Opera'
Saturday, May 11, 7 pm
McVinney Auditorium, Providence



Join the Providence Singers for a festive evening of favorite opera choruses by Verdi, Puccini, Donizetti, and more. The program includes the Anvil Chorus from *Il Trovatore*, the March of the Toreadors from Bizet's *Carmen*, and, of course, *Va Pensiero*. The Providence Singers will share the stage with guest soprano [Chelsea Basler](#), whose appearances include the Boston Lyric Opera and the Metropolitan Opera. For more information, a full program list, and to purchase tickets, please visit the [Providence Singers website](#). Tickets will also be available at the door.

Community Sing: Mozart's Requiem

Tuesday, May 14, 7 pm
Carter Center,
RI Philharmonic Orchestra and Music School
667 Waterman Ave, East Providence RI 02914



Join the [Providence Singers](#) and guest conductor [Dr. Anthony Trecek-King](#) for an evening of singing and sociability. We will read through **Mozart's Requiem**, performed with soloists and piano accompaniment, at the [Carter Center](#) in East Providence. Bring your own score or borrow one for the evening.

Dr. Trecek-King is an acclaimed conductor, speaker, and educator. He is also the current host of the classical radio show "The Silent Canon" which airs on KNVO 90.7, and can be seen on-air and online on the Emmy nominated WGBH television series *Sing That Thing*.

FREE TICKETS are available through Eventbrite. [Sign up now](#) to reserve your place, as **space will be limited**. There is no charge for this event, but if you wish to do so, you can add an optional donation.

Miscellaneous

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 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 "Why do you come to church?". You can [read it here](#).



News from the Conference

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, UCC5th Annual Meeting

Registration is now open! Learn more and register at this link:

[Annual Meeting Registration Now Open! - Southern New England Conference of the UCC \(sneucc.org\)](#)



Silver Lake Camp and 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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