



May 20, 2021

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

If your email platform only lets you see part of this email, then click on the following link to [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

Church Office remains CLOSED until further notice.

There will be no in-person worship services at church until further notice

Thurs, May 20

8 am Peaceful Pause and Prayer, livestreamed
1:30 pm Women of Faith meet via Zoom
3 pm Moving Forward Team meet via Zoom

Sat, Jun 22

9 - 11 am Food Collection for Higher Ground International, Church parking lot

Sun, May 23 Jubilation Sunday

10 am Live-streamed All Ages Worship Service (No in-person worship). Watch at www.facebook.com/bccucc or on our website [at this link](#)
1 - 2:15 pm Black Lives Matter Community Gathering, Barrington Town Hall lawn

Mon, May 24

Deadline for Annual Reports

Tues, May 25

8 am Peaceful Pause and Prayer, Livestreamed
11:30 am Staff meeting via Zoom
2 pm Worship Tech Team meet via Zoom

Wed, May 26

7 pm Membership Team meeting via Zoom

Thurs, May 27

8 am Peaceful Pause and Prayer, Livestreamed
3 pm Moving Forward Team meet via Zoom

Sun, May 30

10 am In-person Outdoor Worship Service held behind the Education building (No online worship)

Mon, May 30 Memorial Day

Tues, June 1

8 am Peaceful Pause and Prayer, livestreamed
11 am Staff meeting via Zoom
2 pm Worship Tech Team meet via Zoom
7 pm Knitting for Others Group meet

Wed, June 2

Noon - *Deadline for next eBridge*

Thurs, Jun 3

8 am Peaceful Pause and Prayer, livestreamed
3 pm Moving Forward Team meet via Zoom

Sat, Jun 5

10 am - Noon: COVID Commemoration Tile Workshop, Terrace

Sun, Jun 6 Baccalaureate Sunday

10 am Live-streamed Worship Service with Communion and Celebration of our High School Graduates (No in-person worship). Watch at www.facebook.com/bccucc or on our website [at this link](#)

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

Happening this weekend (May 22 & 23)

Jubilation Sunday, May 23rd

During this all-ages virtual worship service on **May 23rd**, we will celebrate the Church School children and the fun events they took part in over the year. We hope you will join us for this special online worship service with the theme 'Ready When You Are'.



Strengthen the Church Offering

Strengthen The Church is a special offering to be taken on **Pentecost Sunday, May 23rd**, to support several Discipleship ministries of the Southern New England Conference of the United Church of Christ. These ministries are the Center for Transformational Leadership (new!); Outdoor Ministries (including Silver Lake Conference Center, Irons Homestead, and Edwards Retreat Center); and Faith Formation Ministries. 80% of your gift will be put to work in Southern New England, and 20% of your gift will support national ministries of the United Church of Christ.

There are several ways to make a donation: EITHER write a check payable to "BCCUCC" with "STC" in the memo line, and mail to Barrington Congregational Church UCC, 461 County Road, Barrington RI 02806 OR make an online donation at our church website www.bccucc.org designating it go to 'Strengthen the Church Offering'.

Learn more about STC [at this link](#) or at <https://www.sneucc.org/strengthen-the-church> where it's also possible to make an online donation.



Black Lives Matter Community Gathering

The Black Lives Matter community gathering for May is on **Sunday, May 23rd** from **1 - 2:15 pm**, and will be held on the lawn of Barrington Town Hall. To mark the one-year anniversary of George Floyd's murder by a Minnesota police officer, and twelve months since the interfaith community began holding silent monthly vigils in support of Black lives, this month's event will feature speakers including local clergy, community leaders, and representatives from Black Lives Matter Rhode Island. We will remember, mourn, and say the names of people killed because of racism and hatred. **We will also be collecting specific food items for Higher Ground International** (see below).



The gatherings are sponsored by Barrington Congregational Church, UCC; Barrington Interfaith Partners; Barrington Presbyterian Church; St. James Lutheran Church; Sts. Matthew and Mark Episcopal Church; St. John's Episcopal Church; Temple Habonim; & United Methodist Church of Barrington.

Food collection for Higher Ground International

Higher Ground International is a Providence-based social service agency that supports African immigrants and others struggling in poverty. A food collection will take place this weekend in Barrington and specific items have been requested - please bring only: **rice, oatmeal, cream of wheat, cooking oil, and root vegetables**. Items will be collected at the Black Lives Matter gathering on **Sunday, May 23rd** (see above). They can also be dropped off on **Saturday, May 22nd** from **9 - 11 am** in front of our church's education building.



Major changes in worship at BCCUCC!

Online Sunday worship ONLY on May 23rd, June 6th, 13th & 20th

Our worship service will be **online only** on the following Sundays at 10 am: **May 23, June 6, 13 & 20**. You can watch it live either on our Facebook page www.facebook.com/bccucc (click on the 'posts' or 'videos' link to find it) or on our website at this link <https://bccucc.org/live-stream-2/>. If you miss it live, a recording can be watched later at the same links.



We include on the screen all of the information needed for participating in worship each week.

In Person, Outdoor Worship ONLY on May 30th!

We are excited to announce our first full in-person worship service for **Sunday, May 30th**. This service will take place at **10 am** along the river walk (behind the Education Building) and will be in lieu of our virtual service. **We will only have one service on that day.**



Please be advised of the following requirements for all attendees based on the latest CDC guidelines:

- All attendees are required to visit the welcome table upon arrival in order to sign in. Hand sanitizer will also be available.
- Non-vaccinated attendees are required to wear masks at all times.
- Vaccinated attendees are required to wear masks when you arrive, leave, and any time that you are not seated socially distanced from others.

- To maintain social distance, please ensure that you (and your family pod) are 3 feet from other family pods. If you bring chairs, please set these up with this 3-foot distance in mind.
- We will not be singing. Humming is suggested.

Please be sure to bring your own chair and anything else you feel you will need. The buildings will not be accessible on this morning.

Finally, this plan is weather permitting. If the weather is borderline or nice, we will be outside, in-person. If it is raining hard, we will move to online worship. Please check our Facebook page www.facebook.com/bccucc or the church website www.bccucc.org for last minute information on this possibility.

Multi-platform / Hybrid Worship to start June 27th

June 27th is the start of our summer schedule when the service begins at **9:30 am**. That date also marks the beginning of a **return to in-person worship** in the sanctuary. For those who aren't yet ready to attend in-person, the service will also be simultaneously livestreamed so it can be watched online at home on our usual links. People may choose to **either attend in-person or watch the service online**. More details including health guidelines for those attending, will be available later.



Sundays at BCCUCC

Altar Flower dedications

On Sunday, May 23rd:

One arrangement is given by David and Audrey Rogers in celebration of their 65th wedding anniversary, and in celebration of the 63rd birthday of their daughter, Lesley Muir.

The other arrangement is given by Barbara Wuth in loving memory of her mother, Helen Wuth.



On Sunday, May 30th:

One arrangement is given by Joe and Joanne Judge in loving memory of their fathers and all veterans who have served our country.

The other arrangement is given by Pat Stoddard in loving memory of her father, Cmdr. Laurent N. Dion, and the countless other service men and women that have given their lives for our country.

Birthdays being celebrated

The week of May 23rd: Fred Rocco, Greg Voigt, Ann Doran, Matthew Brenner, Alexis Brenner, William Buckley, and Lily Sylvester.

The week of May 30th: Eva Brieger, Luc Brieger, Liza DeWitt, Abby Voigt, Brittany Muth, Cam Siwik, Max Sylvester, and Jackson Gorman.



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

Prayer requests

Deadline for submitting prayers to be included in worship is **8 am Sunday morning**. You can either leave a message on the church's answering machine (401) 246-0111, or email Dale

dale@bccucc.org or Linda linda@bccucc.org. Please be sure that the person you are lifting up is comfortable with them reading your prayer to the whole community, and consider using first names only.



Deacons

Amy Barkat (chair), Nancy Arena, Steve Fodor, Lory McCoy, Pat Stoddard, Carol Strakosch, Jeff Stumpff, and Jane Tonn. In a pastoral emergency if you cannot reach either of our ministers, please reach out to one of our deacons.

New in this eBridge

Vacancies on the Associate Minister Search Committee

As BCCUCC continues to move forward, Church Council approved at its May meeting to reconvene the search for a permanent associate minister. This search was put on pause earlier this year and during that time we lost a couple of members of the search team. Rather than have Church Council go out and seek those replacements, we thought there may be some people who would like to nominate themselves. A search committee is a great way to get involved in the life of the church. While it is a commitment, it is a commitment that ends when the new associate minister is called to our church. It is an extremely rewarding and satisfying feeling when that happens. We are currently looking for **1 or 2 adult members of the church** to help join the search team. We are also looking for **1 confirmed youth member** of the church. It is a great resume builder and looks great on college applications.



The church council will receive all nominations and choose members from among those nominations for approval by the membership at the annual meeting on June 13th. If you are interested in being on the search committee, please contact Tom Strolla, Moderator at 401-533-7081 or email ostrolla@cox.net. **Deadline for nominations is June 1st.**

BCCUCC Annual Meeting is June 13th

Our church's Annual Meeting will take place on **Sunday, June 13th** following the 10 am worship service (at approx. 11 am). All church members are encouraged to attend (virtually) as we need a quorum. The warrant with the agenda is below.



Warrant for the ANNUAL Meeting of Barrington Congregational Church, Barrington, Rhode Island

The annual meeting of the Barrington Congregational Church, UCC, Barrington RI, is hereby called to take place virtually via Zoom on **SUNDAY, JUNE 13th, 2021** following worship. The business to be transacted is as follows:

- ARTICLE I: To call the meeting to order.
- ARTICLE II: To receive and vote on the slate of nominees for officers, ministry teams, and delegates.
- ARTICLE III: To receive and vote on the slate of nominees for the vacancies on the Search Committee to fill the position of Associate Minister for Congregational Life.
- ARTICLE IV: To consider any other business that may properly come before the meeting.
- ARTICLE V: To adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted: *Greg Voigt* Clerk

The zoom information needed is not included here for security reasons. It was in the version that was emailed out.

Would you like to join the church's softball team?

The Barrington Houses of Worship Softball League is in the process of resuming this summer. There are several protocols that need to be met and those are changing all the time. As of this writing, the teams feel they can meet the protocols (masking if not vaccinated, no use of the benches, wiping off shared equipment to name of few) and that the league will be a go. So, any interested men aged 30+ or women aged 16+ who would enjoy playing for BCCUCC are invited to contact Tom Strolla at ostrolla@cox.net or (401) 533 - 7081. Games are usually played Mondays, Tuesdays or Thursdays starting late June beginning at 6 pm at Bicknell Field, located at the end of Walnut Road off Lincoln. It's fun and new players are always most welcome.



National Gun Violence Awareness - Wear Orange

In recognition and support, the front of our church will once again be lit up in orange from **Friday, June 4th thru Sunday, June 6th**. One of the many hard facts of this challenging year is that gun violence is one of the few aspects of American life that the pandemic did not slow down, so the work at Everytown to end gun violence has only intensified.



Supporters are encouraged to wear orange to remind everyone of the need for legislation on gun safety, background checks, and the banning of assault weapons. Learn more about **7th National Gun Violence Awareness Day** (June 4th), and **Wear Orange Weekend** (June 5th & 6th) at <https://everytownsupportfund.org/how-to-participate-in-wear-orange> including ways you can show your support, and virtual events being held.

Reminders with imminent deadlines!

Annual Reports

The clergy, church officers and team leaders are reminded to submit their individual reports to the church office **by Monday, May 24th** for inclusion in our church's 2021 Annual Report. (You should have received an email request sent 5/3 – if you didn't, please reach out to Christine.) The reports should cover the period June 2020 – May 2021. Reports should be emailed to Christine at office@bccucc.org or mailed to the office. Thank you.

Our Annual Meeting is scheduled for after worship on Sunday, June 13th.



Baccalaureate Sunday

Are you a graduating high school senior? Do you have one in your family? If so, this announcement is for you! These are difficult times and they have really disrupted our graduating seniors' lives. As a result, we really want to be sure to do something special for them in church. We will be hosting our annual **Baccalaureate Sunday on June 6th** to honor these students and their accomplishments. Of course we will be doing this virtually, so we need your help. If you know of a high school senior that is associated with BCCUCC we need you to RSVP to the church office **by Wednesday, May 26th** (office@bccucc.org or 246-0111). Following that, Dale will reach out to you to gather all the necessary information to make this day a special one for our graduates. Thank you, and Congratulations!



Graduation Information requested for newsletter

We like to recognize those in our church family who are graduating from high school, college, graduate school etc, by publishing the names and graduation information in our newsletter. If you or a family member is graduating this spring, please send the information to the church office at office@bccucc.org by **Wednesday, May 26th**. Information needed is name of graduate, high school or college from which they're graduating, what college or further education they will be attending, or what degree they are getting, and any future plans if appropriate.

Kathleen Lynne Fodor Scholarships - application forms available

Two scholarships are awarded each year - one to a high school graduate going on to further education, and one to a student already in college. Graduating high school seniors and college students who have been confirmed and are members of this church are eligible to apply. **Application deadline is Sunday, May 30th** and the scholarship winners will be announced on Baccalaureate Sunday, June 6th.

[Download an application form](#). More information and a form can also be downloaded from our church website at this link <https://bccucc.org/church-scholarship/>. We thank the family and friends of Kate Fodor for their support of this scholarship fund created in her memory.



Opportunities

Sign up for a COVID Commemoration Tile Workshop!

We are hoping to wrap up our COVID project by the end of June 2021. We continue to reach out via text, email or phone call as we look forward to displaying our COVID art. If you want to decorate a tile and have not had the chance, please consider signing up for one of our outdoor workshops at church being held **Saturday, June 5th**, 10 am - noon, and **Saturday June 12th**, noon - 2 pm.

Just like other events at church, you must pre-register. You can [click here](#) to sign up using SignUpGenius, or you can call Elizabeth Azevedo directly (see below) to sign up.

If you are unable to attend either workshop but would still like to decorate a tile, contact Elizabeth Azevedo (860-301-2915, eazevedo17@gmail.com) directly for a packet.

See more tiles created by our congregation on the [virtual wall](#) at our website.

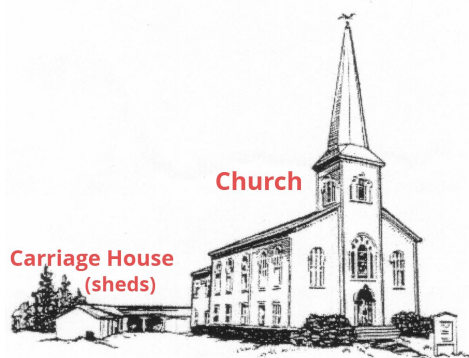


Let's Save the Carriage House!

Two generous donors have pledged \$13,000 toward repairing the carriage house. With about \$13,000 more, we will have enough to do just that! We have also just received a generous offer of a **1 to 1 match!** This means that until we reach our goal, any additional donations to the carriage house fund will be matched 1 to 1!

Please donate and help preserve this cherished historic feature of our church!

Checks may be written to BCCUCC with "carriage house" in the memo line and mailed



to Barrington Congregational Church UCC, 461 County Road, Barrington RI 02806 OR you can make an online donation at our church website www.bccucc.org, (or directly at <https://bccucc.org/donation/>) designating it to the Carriage House Fund. (That option is now available). Thank you.

Appreciating the Gift of God's Creation - an invitation to use the church grounds

Our church sits on a uniquely beautiful piece of property. Now that the weather is getting warmer we welcome you to come enjoy the sunshine, the carpets of green grass, and the views of the water. Bring your own chairs and gather with friends, have a picnic and watch the changing tide, experience walking the labyrinth as a meditative path of prayer. Information about walking the labyrinth is again available in the box next to the walkway.



We are a congregation that cares for others. For the safety of everyone we ask that all follow the RI Dept. of Health updated outdoor mask guidance:

- If you meet the criteria of being fully vaccinated you are no longer required to wear a mask outdoors when you are at least three feet apart from others. "Fully vaccinated means you've gotten all recommended doses of a COVID-19 vaccine authorized by the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) or World Health Organization (WHO) and more than 14 days have passed since the final dose."
- If you are partially vaccinated or not vaccinated, you're more likely to get and spread COVID-19 so wearing a well fitted mask and distancing 6 feet apart from those you don't live with is still recommended.

The goal is to provide a safe environment for all visitors and to keep the outdoor environment tidy.

- Safety levels assume the recommended prevention measures are followed.
- A tidy environment assumes that what you bring in you also take out. Please do not leave any trash behind, including pet waste.

The following link provides more information from the CDC regarding the choices you make for yourself [Choosing Safer Activities](#).

From the Mission & Justice Team

Climate action needed!

The **Act On Climate** bill has passed, but Climate Action Rhode Island (CARI)'s other [endorsed bills](#) at the State House need your help to move forward!

Two bills of note this week — can you take either or both of these quick actions?

1. The **Climate Literacy Act** (S464/H5625) would give students and teachers the resources they need for our kids to be educated about climate change. Please take part in the RI Environmental Education Association's [postcard campaign](#) — just sign up on the website and postcards will be delivered to your door!



Climate Action Rhode Island

2. The **TEAM Act (Transportation Emission And Mobile Community Act**, S872/H6310) would enter Rhode Island into the regional Transportation Climate Initiative. Hank Webster spoke to CARI about its benefits last month (catch the [video recap](#) and [slide deck](#) if you missed it), and DEM has produced a [factsheet](#). Stay tuned for an upcoming action on behalf of the **100% Renewable Electricity Standard** (S629/H5762), which will be CARI's top legislative priority for the remainder of the session!

Community Choice Aggregation

Barrington's Resiliency and Energy Committee recently reported that Barrington's Community Aggregation plan is currently under review by the Public Utilities Commission (PUC).

What is Community Choice Aggregation?

[Watch the video](#) of CARI's May 2021 Community Meeting that featured a panel presentation on how Rhode Island towns and cities can get cheaper, more renewable electricity power for all their residents. It's surprisingly easy!



'Faith & Science: This Fragile Earth, Our Island Home'

A **panel discussion** about the often missed connections between the faith-based and environmental communities.

This FREE event is being held online on **Thursday, May 20th** at 7 pm, and is suitable for people of all faiths and people of no faith. Panelists are: Gina DeMarco, District Manager, Northern RI Conservation District; Jeremy Goodman, DVM, Executive Director, RI Zoological Society; and The Rt. Rev. W. Nicholas Knisley, SOSc, Bishop, Episcopal Diocese of RI.

More information and registration at riea.org/faith-and-science

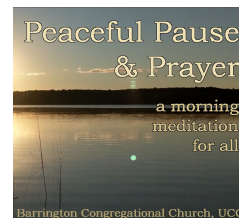


Ongoing Happenings

'Peaceful Pause and Prayer' is ongoing

Dale continues to lead these morning meditations at **8 am** on **Tuesday & Thursday** mornings. Each meditation provides moments for reflection, music, scripture, and silence.

They can be watched on our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/bccucc or on the livestream page of our new website at <https://bccucc.org/live-stream-2/> and will remain available for later viewing on both platforms if you can't watch live.



Knitting for Others Group to meet via zoom or in person (tbd)

The Knitting for Others Group has been meeting virtually each month and next meets on **Tuesday, June 1st** either at 7 pm via Zoom or in person at a time and location tbd. All knitters and crocheters are invited and new faces are very welcome. For more information on the group and the June meeting, contact Nancy Arena at 401 246-0212 or nancy.arena@outlook.com



Book Group to meet in person (weather permitting!)

The Book Group will next meet on **Tuesday, June 15th** at **9:30 am.** at the **Cafe Water Street**, 279 Water Street, Warren if the weather is pleasant. If it is a rainy day, we will meet at the same time via Zoom. They will be discussing *Interior Chinatown* by Charles Yu. For more information about the group, contact Helen Schall at helenschall@hotmail.com or 401 245-4724. All are welcome to participate. *The zoom information is not included here for security reasons. It was in the version emailed out.*



Conference Happenings

Installation Service of Rev. Darrell Goodwin as SNEUCC Conference Minister

All are invited to the virtual installation of Rev. Darrell Goodwin as the first Executive Conference Minister of the Southern New England Conference UCC. His service of installation will take place online on **Saturday, June 19th** at **1 pm.** The Rev. Traci Blackmon, Associate General Minister for Justice and Local Church Ministries for the UCC, will preach at this service. Rev. Goodwin has his ministerial standing in RI, with Newman Congregational Church as his home church. He would love to have a strong Rhode Island presence at his installation. Register at <https://www.sneucc.org/eventdetail/rev-darrell-goodwin-virtual-installation-15220830>



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

In case you missed it

The Pastors' Blog

The latest blog was written by Dale and titled 'Coming Back from COVID'. If you missed it earlier, you can [read it here](#)



Latest message from Church Council & the Moving Forward Team

Another email was sent to the congregation on May 12th from Church Council and the Moving Forward Team regarding the return to in-person worship. In case you missed it, click on the following link [Major News for BCCUCC Worship!](#)

Reminders

Online donations to the church are possible - watch video on how

One of the features of our new church website (www.bccucc.org) is the capability of accepting online donations. [Watch a brief video](#) (30 secs) on how to do this, or read the instructions below.



There's a red 'DONATE' button on the right side of the black menu bar near the top of each page. Clicking on it will take you to the 'Giving to BCCUCC' page. In the middle is a link to **Tithe.ly** through which you can make a donation to the church either using a credit card or directly from your bank. (No need to set up an account). You are also able to designate where you would like your donation to go (pledge, gift, memorial gift, Deacons' Fund, etc). Questions? Contact Pat Stoddard, Financial Secretary at pat@bccucc.org or (401) 246-0111 x 102. [Visit the 'Giving to BCCUCC' page.](#)

Building Safety

A reminder that the church buildings are still closed until further notice. If you need to drop something off, or have asked to pick something up, the items can be deposited or retrieved from the white wooden "Church Mailbox" that's located at the top of the stairs by the office entrance, next to the boiler room door. We ask that people not enter the building. Thank you.

The office is closed but you can still reach us

Until further notice, the church office will remain closed. However you can still be in touch with the ministers and staff. You can either send an email or leave a message on the answering machine at the person's extension. Both emails and voice mail messages are checked regularly. Our contact information is:



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

Linda linda@bccucc.org (401) 246-0111 x 104

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

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

Andrea andrea@bccucc.org (401) 246-0111 x 107

Clergy Days off each week: Linda is off on Mondays and Dale is off on Fridays.

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