

# May 21, 2020

Latest information from Barrington Congregational Church, UCC

## Keeping you up-to-date

#### NEW in this email:

- Bulletin, Hymn Sheet, and Announcements for May 24th live-stream worship service
- When will we be able to worship in person again?
- Bible Study with Linda
- Knitting group
- Info and Warrant for our Annual Meeting
- Note of thanks received

#### **UPDATES:**

- BCCUCC Virtual Trivia Challenge deadline and more info
- Jubilation Sunday deadline for artwork
- Linda's Ordination more info

Previous emails have been posted to our website at this link.

# Calendar

#### Church Office is CLOSED until further notice

All in-person worship, meetings and activities at church are suspended or postponed until further notice. However, some things are happening virtually.

**Fri, May 22** Dale on call for pastoral emergencies Deadline for Baccalaureate Sunday RSVPs

Sat, May 23 9:30 am 'Llama Pajama Time with Andrea' (live-streamed) at www.facebook.com/bccucc or on our website <u>at this link</u>

Sun, May 24 Seniors, Elders, and Grandparents Sunday 10 am Live-streamed Worship Service ONLY at <u>www.facebook.com/bccucc</u> or on our

website <u>at this link (</u>No in-person worship) 10:45 am Coffee Hour via Zoom Deadline for graduate information for newsletter

Mon, May 25 Memorial Day Deadline for artwork for Jubilation Sunday **Tues, May 26** 11 am Staff meeting via Zoom 1:30 pm Worship Technology Team meeting via Zoom

Thurs, May 28 4:30 - 6 pm Happy Hour via Zoom

**Fri, May 29** Linda on call for pastoral emergencies Deadline to sign up for Virtual Trivia Challenge

Sat, May 30 9:30 am 'Llama Pajama Time with Andrea' (live-streamed) at www.facebook.com/bccucc or on our website <u>at this link</u>

#### Sun, May 31 Jubilation Sunday!

10 am Live-streamed Worship Service ONLY at <u>www.facebook.com/bccucc</u> or on our website <u>at this link (No in-person worship)</u>
10:45 am Coffee Hour via Zoom
12:30 - 2 pm BCCUCC Virtual Trivia Challenge
3 pm Linda's Ordination Service (livestreamed on Facebook only at <u>www.facebook.com/bccucc/videos/)</u>

For the complete church calendar visit <u>http://bccucc.view-events.com</u> *Please note that looking ahead, cancellations and suspensions of meetings may not yet be noted in the on-line calendar as we don't know what the future holds.* Send calendar information to <u>office@bccucc.org</u>

# Sunday, May 24th

Worship begins at 10:00 AM and can be found both on our Facebook page www.facebook.com/bccucc and website www.bccucc.org/live-stream-page/

We hope you can join us live, but if not, you can watch a recording later at the same links.

We apologize for not being able to bring you the

scheduled service last Sunday - it was due to a widespread Zoom outage beyond our control.

Resources for this week's worship service are at the following links:

Bulletin for Sunday 5/24/20

Hymn sheet for Sunday 5/24/20

<u>Announcements for Sunday 5/2420</u> (please note that these don't cover anything prior to Sunday)

## **Prayers of the People**

Deadline for submitting prayers to be included in worship is 8 am Sunday morning. Leave a message on the church's answering machine (401) 246-0111 or email to dale@bccucc.org or 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.

# An important message from Dale

#### When will we be able to worship in person again?

This is a question we've been asking ourselves lately. The good news is that last week the Church Council put together a team to begin discussing just that. The more challenging news is that this is a really difficult question to answer. The governor announced on Monday that starting May 30th houses of worship will be allowed to begin worshiping in person together again. However, she was also clear that there will be strict requirements for communities that wish to do so. We are awaiting the details of these restrictions. They likely will include a number of realities that would make worshiping together VERY different than what we are used to or expect. Our church team will consider these recommendations, as well as those from our denominational bodies and health organizations before making a recommendation to the council. We want to be safe, smart, and faithful. Word came out today about the Catoosa Baptist Tabernacle in Georgia that returned to in-person worship two weeks ago. They announced this morning they are closing their doors again as a number of their worshiping families contracted Covid-19. This is what we are trying to prevent. We are not planning to return to in person worship in the immediate future and will keep you posted as we move closer to a final decision.

Written 5/29/20 by Rev. Dale Azevedo, Senior Minister

# We apologize for technical difficulties....

#### ....but the problems have been resolved!

Unfortunately we were unable to broadcast our intended worship service last Sunday morning as Zoom had a widespread outage for several hours! However, Dale was able to broadcast an abbreviated service on Facebook Live that began about 20 minutes late. We apologize if you missed it.



We also had problems with the security certificate on our church's website earlier this week, making it impossible to access it. That issue was resolved by midday Wednesday. We apologize for any inconvenience.

# **Upcoming Services**

#### Jubilation Sunday - information and request for artwork

Join us for a special (virtual) Jubilation Sunday worship service on **Sunday, May 31st** at **10 am.** 

We will again have a number of intergenerational participants helping us lead worship as we celebrate the Holy Spirit on this special day (Pentecost). We also hope to have the Sing and Celebrate children's choir joining us, as well as a number of other special participants.



If you would like to help out **we are looking for artwork** from our youth and children of all ages. For more information please contact Andrea (<u>andrea@bccucc.org</u> or 246-

0111 x 107). *Deadline for receiving art is Monday, May 25th.* It should be a great service - we hope you'll tune in via Facebook or our website.

#### Linda Hartley's ordination service

Our Associate Minister, Linda Hartley, will be ordained in a virtual service on **Sunday**, **May 31st** at **3 pm**. The service will be livestreamed but only on Facebook (not on our church website). You can watch it at <u>www.facebook.com/bccucc/videos/</u> All are invited to (virtually) attend.

# Ordination Service

# New opportunities!

#### **Bible Study with Linda**

Linda Hartley will be offering a four-week Bible study on Monday evenings beginning **June 1st**. Each Monday we will be looking at one of the less-well-known figures in the Bible beginning with Rahab's story in the book of Joshua. Over the course of our four weeks together, we will look at four different individuals whose faith led them through life's challenges. Maybe their stories will inspire you and



your own journey of faith. Each session will focus on a different individual, so if you can't make it to all the sessions, that's okay. Join us for the sessions you can. We will meet via Zoom from **7:00 to 8:00 p.m**. on **June 1st, 8th, 15th and 22nd.** If you are interested in joining us for our first meeting on June 1st, you may want to prepare by reading Joshua chapters 1 and 2 prior to that evening.

For security reasons the Zoom information is not included in this version that appears on our website and Facebook. It was included in the email sent to the congregation.

#### Sign up for some fun with your church family. All ages welcome!

## **BCCUCC Virtual Trivia Challenge!!**

I think, therefore I wish I knew

## Sunday, May 31st 12:30 - 2 pm



Come join us via Zoom for a family friendly trivia game! Form a team with those people with whom you have been self-isolating, and get ready to have your knowledge tested! There will be a wide array of questions that will range from ones that kids can answer to a few very hard questions! (If you don't have a conveniently confined family unit, and don't want to be a one person show, let us know, and we will connect you with another team/person.) If you and your team are up for the challenge, email Kim Colby **to register by Friday**, **May 29th** at kcolby016@gmail.com</u>. Include your names, your team name, and whether you desire or are willing to be connected with someone else. We will send an email to confirm your registration, containing the rules and a bit of technological advice.

It may not be as good as the dunk tank, but we hope you'll have some fun anyway!

We thank the Colby family for organizing what should be a really fun event.

## Some reminders.....

## There are still some vacancies... could you fill one?

There are still some vacancies that need filling, to start in July. The teams still looking for additional members are Membership, Stewardship and Finance. If you're interested in serving on any of these teams or to learn more, please contact Elizabeth Azevedo at 860-301-2915 or <u>eazevedo17@gmail.com</u> a.s.a.p.

Thank you to everyone who has already volunteered to fill a position for next year.

#### **Baccalaureate Sunday**

**Baccalaureate Sunday:** BCCUCC's graduating high school seniors are reminded to RSVP to the church office *by Friday, May 22nd* (office@bccucc.org or 246-0111) if they wish to be recognized on Baccalaureate Sunday, June 7th. Dale will then reach out to you to gather all the necessary information to make this day a special one for our graduates.



#### Graduation information needed 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 <u>office@bccucc.org</u> by Sunday, May 24th. 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 - applications 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 31st* and the scholarship winners will be announced on Baccalaureate Sunday, June 7th. Applications forms are available <u>at this link</u>, or at <u>www.bccucc.org</u> under Get Involved > Information for Church Members.

#### Altar Flower donors needed in June

There are a number of openings on the Sundays in June for people to donate the cost of the altar flowers. Each arrangement costs \$30 and donors may choose to cover the cost of either one or both of the vases. The flowers can be dedicated in memory, celebration or honor of a person or a special event. If interested in any of the Sundays in June, please contact Jen Melker at (617) 877-1278 or jkmelker@gmail.com. Thank you.



## **Our church's annual meeting**

#### Annual Meeting is June 7th

Our church's Annual Meeting will take place on **Sunday, June 7th** immediately following the 10 am worship service. This year it will take place virtually

via Zoom (login information will be included later). In addition to the regular business of the meeting, we will be voting on a slate of nominees for a Search Committee for a new Associate Minister for Congregational Life. There will also be a report from the Vision 2020 and Beyond Team. All church members are encouraged to attend. 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 on **SUNDAY**, **JUNE 7th**, **2020** immediately after worship via Zoom. 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 a Search Committee to fill the position of Associate Minister for Congregational Life.

ARTICLE IV: To hear a report from the 'Vision 2020 and Beyond' Team.

ARTICLE V: To consider any other business that may properly come before the meeting.

ARTICLE VI: To adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted: Greg Voigt Clerk

# **Opportunities to get together (virtually)**

## After worship coffee hour on Sundays

We host a Zoom coffee hour after church each Sunday. Beginning shortly after the 'livestream' worship ends, **around 10:45 am**, all are invited to log onto zoom and chat with your fellow church members and friends. We hope to see you there - but you'll have you bring your own coffee!

For security reasons the Zoom information is not included in this version that appears on our website and Facebook. It was included in the email sent to the congregation.

## **BCCUCC Happy Hour on Thursdays**

All are invited to stop by the BCCUCC virtual Happy Hour with Dale every Thursday anytime from 4:30 - 6 pm via Zoom. So grab your favorite beverage sit down with your computer, tablet or smartphone, and hang out with your church friends for a while. You're welcome to drop by (virtually) for as long or short a time as you'd like – we miss you and hope you'll join us!



For security reasons the Zoom information is not included in this version that appears on our website and Facebook. It was included in the email sent to the congregation.

## **Knitting Group**

No longer able to get together in person, this group of knitters has been meeting virtually each month. Their next get-together is scheduled for **Tuesday, June 2nd** at 7 pm via Zoom. All knitters and crocheters are invited and new faces are very welcome – so do join in!





JOIN US ONLINE FOR



version that appears on our website and Facebook. It was included in the email sent to the congregation.

For more information on the group, contact Nancy Arena at 401 246-0212 or nancy.arena@outlook.com

If you're new to zoom, see below for instructions.

## 'Llama Pajama Time with Andrea'

'Llama Pajama Time with Andrea' is on **Saturdays at 9:30 am**. We invite both the young and young at heart to tune in to www.facebook.com/bccucc or <a href="https://www.bccucc.org/live-stream-page/">https://www.bccucc.org/live-stream-page/</a> as Andrea reads a story or two, shares a Psalm and talks with the children in this livestream.



If you're not able to watch live, you can always watch a recording later on the <u>live-stream page</u> of our website.

#### New to Zoom? Here's what you need to know

Zoom is pretty easy to set up and use. If you are using a tablet or smartphone (iPad or Android) there are apps to use. You should be able to find the app "Zoom" in your App Store.

If you are using your computer (ideally with a camera, like most laptops have) when you click on the link from your weekly church



email, it will take you to a website and ask to install Zoom on your computer. Say "yes". It is a very small and pretty quick download and install.

Once installed, whenever you click on a zoom link it will automatically launch zoom and log you into the meeting. If it doesn't log you into the meeting automatically, you can manually type in the meeting ID into the Zoom app (on computer, smartphone, or tablet) and then the password, and it will take you to the meeting.

## A note of thanks we received

#### "Appreciate the Ramadan sign!"

This was the subject line of an email we received in the office this week from a resident of East Providence. It read:

" Being a Muslim, I was very touched to see the Ramadan sign in front of your beautiful church. I will be recommending your church to my family and friends. Thanks for encouraging to love thy neighbor which is invaluable during these turbulent times.

Thanks again!"

# Reminders

#### **Building Safety**

Some of you have been hand delivering contributions to the office. While we appreciate your doing so, please do not enter the building, for your safety and for the safety of the limited staff that must work from the office. We encourage you to either mail your contributions to the church or leave them in the "church mailbox", located at the top of the steps leading to the office - on the wall on your left. The US mail and the church mailbox are checked daily by a staff member. Thank you.

#### Stay connected with each other - and call the ministers if needed

During this time of separation, we are all encouraged to keep in touch with each other. If there's someone in the church you'd like to reach out to - maybe someone living alone - but you don't have their contact information, please call the church office and leave a message (401 246-0111 x 101) or email <u>office@bccucc.org</u> Christine will then get their contact information to you.

If you're in the hospital, a nursing home or rehab, or you're simply staying home as required, but would like a visit with a minister,

please don't hesitate to call them and they'll be happy to visit with you over the phone during this time of restrictions. Their numbers are Dale (401) 246-0111 x 103; Linda (401) 246-0111 x 104. Leave a message and they'll get back to you.

## Church Offering - please continue to give if you are able

Thank you to those of you who have been mailing in your contributions to the church. If you are financially able to do so at this time, we encourage you to mail in your regular contributions or use online banking if that is available to you. This will allow our cash flow to remain stable and for the church to be able to pay its bills and meet payroll. We appreciate your efforts! If you have any

questions or concerns, please contact our Financial Secretary, Pat Stoddard, at <a href="mailto:pat@bccucc.org">pat@bccucc.org</a> or 246-0111 x 102. Thank you.

## Ways to watch our live-streams

We are doing our live-streams using Zoom and 'Facebook Live' and there are two places to watch it online:

- 1. On the church's Facebook page <u>www.facebook.com/bccucc</u>
- 2. On the church's webpage <u>www.bccucc.org</u> at the '<u>BCCUCC</u> <u>live-stream</u>' link from the home page, where the feed will be embedded.

For Facebook live, simply go to <u>www.facebook.com/bccucc</u> to watch. You don't need a Facebook account to see it. If you do have an account, search for the church's Facebook Page which is 'Barrington Congregational Church UCC'. If you 'Like' our page you should then get our news feeds, and also be able to comment on our posts and the live feeds.

If you're not able to watch live, you can watch a recording later, on the <u>live-stream page</u> of our website.

# The office is closed but you can still reach us

Following recommendations, the church office will be closed for the foreseeable future. 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 will be checked regularly. Our contact information is:

Dale <u>dale@bccucc.org</u> (401) 246-0111 x 103

Linda <u>linda@bccucc.org</u> (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









As Dale said in one of his blogs "*if you need support, strength, or help in these days, please don't wait for Linda, me, or someone else from the church to call you. Reach out to us. We're still here and we'll be there for you in the ways that we can!*"

