

### May 6, 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 <u>View as Webpage</u> 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 6

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, May 8

9 am - 4 pm SNEUCC Annual Meeting held online

#### Sun, May 9 Mother's Day

10 am Live-streamed Worship Service (No in-person worship). Watch at <a href="https://www.facebook.com/bccucc">www.facebook.com/bccucc</a> or on our website <a href="https://www.facebook.com/bccucc">at this link</a>

#### Mon, May 10

3 pm Barrington Interfaith Partners meet via Zoom

#### Tues, May 11

8 am Peaceful Pause and Prayer, Livestreamed11:30 am Staff meeting via Zoom2 pm Worship Tech Team meet via Zoom7 pm Church Council meeting on Zoom

#### Thurs, May 13

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

#### Sat, May 15

10 am Building and Grounds meeting at the Carriage Sheds 10:15 m Jubilation Sunday prep and activities for Church School families, Terrace

#### **Sun, May 16 Confirmation Sunday**

10 am Live-streamed Worship Service with Confirmation (No in-person worship).

Watch at <a href="https://www.facebook.com/bccucc">www.facebook.com/bccucc</a> or on our website <a href="https://www.facebook.com/bccucc">at this link</a> 11:30 am In-Person, Outdoor Coffee Hour, location tha

#### Tues, May 18

8 am Peaceful Pause and Prayer, livestreamed 9:30 am Book Group meets via Zoom 11 am Staff meeting via Zoom 2 pm Worship Tech Team meet via Zoom 7 pm Deacons meeting on Zoom

#### Wed, May 19

Noon - Deadline for next eBridge

#### Thurs, May 20

8 am Peaceful Pause and Prayer, livestreamed1:30 pm Women of Faith meet3 pm Moving Forward Team meet via Zoom

#### Sun, May 23 Jubilation Sunday

10 am Live-streamed All Ages Worship Service (No in-person worship). Watch at <a href="https://www.facebook.com/bccucc">www.facebook.com/bccucc</a> or on our website <a href="https://www.facebook.com/bccucc">at this link</a>

1 - 2 pm Black Lives Matter Vigil, Barrington Town Hall lawn

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

# **Sundays at BCCUCC**

#### **Sunday morning worship**

Our **online only worship service** is at **10** am every Sunday morning and you can watch it live either on our Facebook page <a href="www.facebook.com/bccucc">www.facebook.com/bccucc</a> (click on the 'posts' or 'videos' link to find it) or on our website at this link <a href="https://bccucc.org/live-stream-2/">https://bccucc.org/live-stream-2/</a>. If you miss it live, a recording can be watched later at the same links.

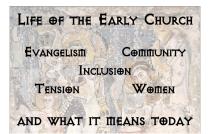


We include on the screen all of the information needed for participating in worship each week. *Please note that there will be no in-person worship until further notice.* 

#### Sermon Series ends on May 9th

The five-week sermon series on "Life of the Early Church: and what it means for us today" ends this Sunday, May 9th with a sermon on the role of women in the early church.

If you missed any of the earlier sermons or want to hear them again, recordings of past worship services can be found on the Livestream page of our church website <a href="https://bccucc.org/live-stream-2/">https://bccucc.org/live-stream-2/</a>



### **Confirmation Sunday is May 16th**

Please plan to join us for the 10 am worship service (online) on **Confirmation Sunday, May 16th** as we celebrate the Confirmation of five young people in our congregation who have been on a year-long examination of their faith. With words and music – and the traditional dove release (pre-recorded) – we will celebrate the Confirmation journey of Ava DiMatteo, Katie Dubel, Camden Siwik, Phineas Stabach, and Max Sylvester. During this



worship service, we will celebrate their journey and officially welcome them into membership with the Barrington Congregational Church!

#### Altar Flower dedications

#### On Sunday, May 9th:

One arrangement is given by Marina Zabinski in loving memory of her father, Alexander Krepkikh.

The other arrangement is given by George and Rose Marie Bolton in memory of loved ones.



#### On Sunday, May 16th:

Both arrangements are given by Rev. Linda Hartley in honor of our Confirmands - Ava, Katie, Cam, Finn, and Max. May your faith continue to strengthen and support you!

#### Birthdays being celebrated

**The week of May 9th:** Betsy Staples, Reese Humm, Ryan Kiley, Leo Drury, and Fiona Grace Henderson.



**The week of May 16th:** Grace Ackerman, Phyllis Buckley, John White, Trish Sylvester, Joan Miller, Marion Fodor, Kathy Sullivan, and Diane Mason.

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 <a href="mailto:dale@bccucc.org">dale@bccucc.org</a> or Linda <a href="mailto:linda@bccucc.org">linda@bccucc.org</a>. 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

#### **PPP Loan Forgiveness Plan**

An invitation from *Tom Strolla*, Moderator, & *Tom Colby*, Chair of Finance Team...

At the BCCUCC Annual Budget Meeting held in January, there was a great deal of discussion regarding the PPP loan and the amount of forgiveness the church would be asking for. Nothing was decided at that meeting, but what was agreed upon is that Church Council will vote on whatever recommendations Tom Colby and the Finance Team have. What was also decided was that any member of the congregation that would like to attend that meeting will receive an invite. The PPP forgiveness plan is on the agenda of the Church Council meeting on **Tuesday, May 11th** at 7 pm.

Below is the Zoom link if anyone would like to hear the recommendation and participate in the discussion.

Meeting ID: 303 086 348 Password: 292002

#### In-Person Outdoor Coffee Hour

Church members invite you to get together at an in-person, outdoor gathering after the on-line church service on **Sunday, May 16th** (at approx 11:30 am). Sign up by contacting Helen Schall (401-245-4724 o r <a href="mailto:helenschall@hotmail.com">helenschall@hotmail.com</a>) before 3 pm on Saturday, May 15th. She will let you know where to meet. Bring your own chair and a beverage. Hosts are Trinki Brueckner, Helen Schall and Laura Ward.



#### 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 <a href="https://bccucc.org/donation/">www.bccucc.org</a>, (or directly at <a href="https://bccucc.org/donation/">https://bccucc.org/donation/</a>) designating it to the carriage house. Thank you.

#### **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.



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

#### 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 <u>click here</u> 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, <a href="mailto:eazevedo17@gmail.com">eazevedo17@gmail.com</a>) directly for a packet. See more tiles created by our congregation on the <a href="mailto:virtual wall">virtual wall</a> at our website.

# 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 <a href="Choosing Safer Activities">Choosing Safer Activities</a>.

### **New from the Mission & Justice Team**

In mid-April a number of members of the M&J Team attended the annual conference of the RI Interfaith Coalition to Reduce Poverty (held online). There were presentations on a number of bills that are being discussed in the RI General Assembly. To follow what is happening visit the Coalition's Facebook page at: https://www.facebook.com/RIInterfaithCo



#### '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 21st 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 <u>rieea.org/faith-and-science</u>

#### May is Asian and Pacific Islander Heritage Month

With the recent spike in hate acts against the AAPI community, Pacific Islander and Asian American Ministries (PAAM), an officially recognized group within the UCC, presented a webinar with the UCC's Thursdays for the Soul regarding #StopTheHate and #StopAAPIHATE. If you missed it, you can watch the webinar here: youtube.com/watch?v=lKsiph3bnCM



# Ongoing happenings

#### 'Peaceful Pause and Prayer'

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



#### Women of Faith Reading Group

The Women of Faith Reading Group meet again on Thursday, May 6th at 1:30 pm on Zoom. They are reading and discussing Tomorrow Will Be Different by Sarah McBride. There are also scheduled to meet on Thursday, May 20th. New members are always



welcome. To learn more about the group contact Jane Tonn <a href="mailto:jtonn2@cox.net">jtonn2@cox.net</a> - who can also send you the zoom information needed.

#### **Book Group**

The Book Group will next meet virtually via Zoom on **Tuesday, May 18th** at **9:30 am**. to discuss *Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austen. For more information about the group, contact Helen Schall at <a href="mailto:helenschall@hotmail.com">helenschall@hotmail.com</a> or 401 245-4724. All are welcome to participate. The zoom information was included in the email sent to the congregation, but is not included here for security reasons.



# **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.

<u>Click on this link</u> to see the archive of all of the different SNEUCC newsletters - and subscribe to any that are of interest to you.

# In case you missed it

#### The Pastors' Blog

The latest blog was written by Linda and titled 'Abundance'. If you missed it earlier, you can <u>read it here</u>



#### Message from Church Council & the Moving Forward Team

An email was sent to the congregation on April 27th with an updated message from Church Council and the Moving Forward Team regarding the latest guidelines for reopening. In case you missed it, you can <u>read it here</u>.

### Reminders

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

One of the features of our new church website (<a href="www.bccucc.org">www.bccucc.org</a>) is the capability of accepting online donations. <a href="www.bccucc.org">Watch a brief video</a> (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 <a href="mailto:pat@bccucc.org">pat@bccucc.org</a> or (401) 246-0111 x 102. Visit the 'Giving to BCCUCC' page.

#### Keep yourself and others safe

The <u>BCCUCC Guidelines for Outdoor Gatherings</u> is a one page document that all are asked to read and observe when they attend any BCCUCC outdoor gathering. Thank you.







#### **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 <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

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

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