



**September 21, 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 & where otherwise noted*

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 it be found on [our website](#).  
The **Sunday worship bulletin** is also posted to [our website](#).

### **Sun, Sept 24**

9 am - 12:15 pm OWL class, Library  
10 am Worship Service, Church School  
11:15 am Brief meeting with Dale if interested in joining BCCUCC, Library

### **Tues, Sept 26**

10 am Staff meeting, Dale's office

### **Wed, Sept 27**

7:30 pm Choir rehearsals resume, Vestry

### **Thurs, Sept 28**

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

### **Sat, Sept 30**

9:30 - 10 am Registration for Women's Retreat  
10 am - 3 pm SNEUCC Women's Retreat, BCCUCC

### **Sun, Oct 1**

8:45 am FFaYM meeting, Library  
10 am Worship Service with Communion, Church School  
Following Worship: Congregational meeting to vote on proposed organizational changes, Sanctuary

### **Mon, Oct 2**

11:30 am GMTF meeting, Library  
6 - 7 pm Youth Group, Fellowship Hall & Room 9

### **Tues, Oct 3**

10 am Staff meeting, Dale's office  
6:30 - 9 pm Knitting for Other Group meets in Library and over Zoom

### **Wed, Oct 4**

7 - 8:15 pm Bible Study with Dale, Library  
7:30 pm Choir rehearsal, Vestry

### **Thurs, Oct 5**

8:30 - 9:30 am Coffee Chat, Thrive Tribe Cafe  
12:30 pm Women of Faith Group meet for bag lunch & discussion, Library

### **Sun, Oct 8**

10 am All Ages Worship Service

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

## **Don't leave it too late!**

### **Last chance to join this year's OWL program (2023-2024)**

**Attention parents of 7th - 10th graders!** OWL classes start **this Sunday, September 24** so if you want your child to participate and haven't yet registered them with Andrea, you need to do so **a.s.a.p.** Contact her at [andrea@bccucc.org](mailto:andrea@bccucc.org) or (401) 474-4722.



BCCUCC's Faith Formation and Youth Ministry Team (FFaYM) is offering the **Our Whole Lives (OWL)** program in the 2023-2024 program year. **Youth in grades 7-10 are invited to register.** OWL is a series of comprehensive sexuality education resources written by human sexuality educators appropriate for use in a variety of congregational, school, and community settings. Core values of OWL include self-worth, sexual health, responsibility, justice, and inclusivity. More information about OWL is on our church website [at this link](#)

**OWL Sessions for the youth** will be held every few weeks **beginning Sun, Sept 24** from **9 am - 12:15 pm** in the library. For the full list of class dates, see page 12 of the [2023-2024 Guide to Faith Formation & Youth Ministry at BCCUCC](#)

### **Last chance to register for SNEUCC Fall Retreat for Women**

The SNEUCC Women's Connection Team is hosting a Fall day of rejuvenation and relaxation with an **Inspiration and Wellness Retreat** led by Rev. Racquel Ray and others including church member Laura Ward. There will be various activities centered around prayer, fellowship, embracing nature, small healing and wellness groups, and communion. Learn more about the [workshops and retreat leaders](#)



The retreat is being held at **Barrington Congregational Church, UCC** on **Saturday, September 30** from 10 am - 3 pm with registration from 9:30 am. Lunch will be included in the \$35 registration fee.

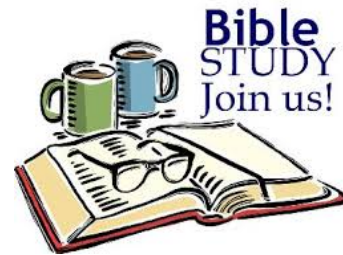
**Registration deadline has been extended to Saturday, Sept 23.** To register, send an email to Martha Lape at [mlape@aol.com](mailto:mlape@aol.com) with your name, address, phone

number, home church name and association - and also indicate if you need vegetarian and/or gluten free lunch options. Payment may be made via PayPal to [CTWUCC@gmail.com](mailto:CTWUCC@gmail.com), or you can pay by check, payable to 'CTWUCC', which you can bring to the retreat.

You are invited to this day "just for you" to meet new friends and connect with other folks from our conference churches.

## Exploring the Bible: Introduction to the New Testament

This fall, Rev. Dale Azevedo will be leading a six part Bible study from the Dickenson Series exploring the history and major themes of the New Testament. This is the third part of the series but one doesn't need to have attended the other parts to join in now. We have great conversation, ask deep questions, and share our own unique faith experiences. As folks in the group like to say, "This is the one place I can go to talk about these things with others!"



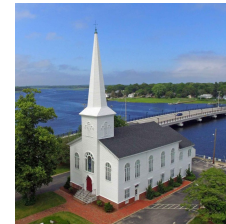
They will meet **every other Wednesday** from **October 4 through December 13**. Class begins at **7 p.m.** in the church library and runs until about 8:15. (The dates of the classes are: Oct 4, 18, Nov 1, 15, 29, & Dec 13)

Please register by **Wednesday, September 27** by contacting the church office [office@bccucc.org](mailto:office@bccucc.org) or 246-0111, or emailing Dale [dale@bccucc.org](mailto:dale@bccucc.org) so we can be sure to have enough supplies. And come join the journey!

## Sunday, September 24

### Interested in officially joining our church?

Whether you're new to BCCUCC, or you've been coming for some time, we invite you to learn more about us and also explore whether you'd like to become an official member. **This Sunday, September 24**, Dale will have a **very brief meeting** in Room 6 following worship, with those interested in possibly joining our church, to schedule a date and time for a New Member Class. All are welcome.



### Peace Flag making

After worship **this Sunday, September 24**, the Mission & Justice Team invites you to join them in making Peace Flags during coffee hour in Fellowship Hall.

The International Day of Peace (IDP) is observed around the world on September 21, and the UN General Assembly has declared this as a day devoted to strengthening the ideals of peace, through observing 24 hours of non-violence and cease-fire. Never has our world needed peace more.

This year's theme is **Actions for Peace: Our Ambition for the #GlobalGoals**. It is a call to action that recognizes our individual and collective responsibility to foster peace. Fostering peace contributes to the realization of the [Sustainable Development Goals \(SDGs\)](#) and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals will create a culture of peace for all. We hope you will join the United Nations' call to take action for peace: fight inequality, drive action on climate change, and promote and protect human rights.



## Neighbors in Need offering

BCCUCC collects four special mission offerings throughout the church year. These offerings are collected at UCC churches at both the conference and the national level. The first of these offerings is Neighbors in Need. It will be collected on World Communion Sunday, which is **Sunday, October 1**. The theme of this year's campaign is "Behold," which derives from Genesis 1:31 "God saw everything God made and behold, it was very good." The focus of this year's campaign is environmental justice and the need for all of us to be better stewards of our planet. One-third of the donations to Neighbors in Need supports the American Indian Ministry (CAIM) and two-thirds are used by Justice and Witness Ministries to provide grants to UCC churches and organizations, as well as to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects. To learn more about Neighbors in Need, visit the national UCC website at [www.ucc.org/NIN](http://www.ucc.org/NIN).

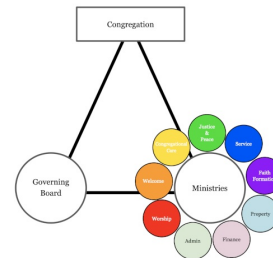
Envelopes for the Neighbors in Need offering will be included in the worship bulletin on October 1 for those who wish to put cash or a check in the offering plate. Please make checks payable to 'BCCUCC' with 'NIN' in the memo line. Online donations may be made at [www.bccucc.org/donation](http://www.bccucc.org/donation). Select the 'Neighbors in Need' option in the drop-down box on Tithe.ly. Donations may be made at any time and don't have to just be on October 1. Thank you.



## A New Governance Structure for Our Church?

The GMTF (Governance Ministry Task Force) is proposing some significant changes in the governance and ministry structure of BCCUCC that the membership will be voting on at a special congregational meeting being held on October 1. (see below).

Learn more at a [website dedicated to the new structure](#) that the GMTF created. It has the latest information as well as an [F.A.Q.](#) page.



## Special Congregational Meeting

On **Sunday, October 1** immediately following worship, a **special congregational meeting** will be held for the congregation to vote on the proposed changes to the church's organizational structure (see above). Below is the official warrant for the meeting. All church members are encouraged to attend.



### Warrant for a Special Congregational Meeting of Barrington Congregational Church, UCC, Barrington, Rhode Island; Sunday, October 1, 2023

This is a call to the congregation for a special meeting to take place in the Sanctuary following the 10 a.m. worship service on Sunday, October 1, 2023. The business to be transacted is as follows:

ARTICLE I: To call the meeting to order.

ARTICLE II: To vote on the proposed governance structure presented by the Governance Ministry Task Force.

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



## Children and Youth

### Have you registered your child/youth?

Our insurance requires EACH child and youth from infants through grade 12 be registered every year in order to participate in church programs including Church School, Youth Group, and OWL. If they were registered last year, see our Faith Formation Director, Andrea Bullard, so you can review last year's form, change the grade, make any necessary updates and initial it! If you haven't registered your child(ren) previously, please fill out a registration form (available from the narthex table or [download at this link](#)) and give it to Andrea. Questions? Speak with our Faith Formation Director, Andrea Bullard or contact her at [andrea@bccucc.org](mailto:andrea@bccucc.org) or (401) 246-0111 x 107.



### Youth Group

The Youth Group (for grades 5 - 8) gathers most weeks throughout the year on **Mondays** from **6 - 7pm**. Youth group meetings consist of fun and fellowship, simple dinner (usually pizza) and a closing prayer service. When the weather permits, they'll meet on the terrace, labyrinth, and playground. *Note: There is no youth group when Barrington Public Schools have a day off.*



Upcoming meetings are **Mondays, Oct 2, 16, 23, & 30**. All youth grades 5 - 8 are welcome to attend. (No meetings on 9/25 or 10/9). *Don't forget that youth participating in any programs at church must be registered. (see article above).*

### Additional volunteers sought for our children and youth programs

If you're interested in volunteering in Church School, or have questions, please contact our Faith Formation Director, Andrea Bullard, at [andrea@bccucc.org](mailto:andrea@bccucc.org) or 246-0111 x 107. For volunteering with Youth Group, please contact Rev. Racquel Ray at [racquel@bccucc.org](mailto:racquel@bccucc.org) or 246-0111 x 104. They look forward to hearing from you!



### Want to know more about our children and youth programs?

[The 2023-2024 Guide to Faith Formation and Youth Ministry at BCCUCC](#) has a lot of information about the various programs we offer for children and youth at BCCUCC including our Church School, Youth Group, and OWL programs.

Printed copies of the booklet are available for pick up from the narthex table in church, or from outside Andrea's office. If you have questions, please get in touch with our Faith Formation Director, Andrea Bullard at [andrea@bccucc.org](mailto:andrea@bccucc.org) or (401) 246-0111 x 107m who'll be happy to answer them.

A Guide to  
Faith Formation &  
Youth Ministry at BCCUCC  
2023-2024



# Happening in October

## Women of Faith Reading Group resumes

The group will meet for the first time this program year on **Thursday, October 5** at the earlier time of **12:30 pm** for a brown bag lunch in the church library, when they'll discuss possible reading choices for the coming months. The group is open to women of all ages and faith traditions - all are welcome. The group will resume meeting at their regular time of 1:30 - 3 pm on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month beginning Thurs, Oct 19. For more information contact Jane Tonn at 289-2349 or [jtonn2@cox.net](mailto:jtonn2@cox.net)



## 5th Annual Barrington Day of Caring

**Monday, October 9, 2023** (Indigenous Peoples Day)  
**Noon - 4 pm. VOLUNTEER!**

[Barrington Day of Caring](#) is a community-wide event for individuals, families, friends, or teams to come together as volunteers to help eligible residents in need through service projects. This event is a Town-supported program in connection with many community and faith organizations. No skill set is needed to volunteer. However, your expertise is welcomed. [Flier with photos](#)



**Register to volunteer:** Deadline for volunteer applications is **Thursday, October 5**. [Online Registration](#) OR [Download a registration form](#) or pick one up from the narthex table. Rev. Dale Azevedo is one of the organizers of the event and encourages volunteers from BCCUCC!

On the day of the event, volunteers should arrive between 11 and 11:45 am to check in and/or complete registration. Volunteers will be divided into groups and depart from the Town Hall at noon to go to the various work sites. [More information](#).

If you know of someone eligible for assistance, please be in touch with the organizers at [dayofcaringRI@gmail.com](mailto:dayofcaringRI@gmail.com) Site application deadline is *Friday, September 22*. [Site application form](#)

## Loaves and Fishes Backpack Program

BCCUCC continues the collection of food bags to be given to the families of 25 students at DelSesto 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 September's collection.



**Sign up to donate specific items** using this [SignUpGenius link](#) and be sure to include how many of the items you're able to donate. If you need help signing up please call the church office (401) 246-0111.

The deadline for food donations is **Sunday, October 15** and the **packing of the bags** will take place on **Wednesday, October 18** at **4 pm** in Fellowship Hall for anyone

## Ongoing events

### 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, October 3** 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](mailto:nancy.arena@outlook.com).

*For security reasons the zoom information isn't included here. It was in the newsletter email sent to the congregation.*



### Calling All Singers!

If you enjoy singing, why not join the church choir - no audition needed! Rehearsals are on **Wednesday evenings** from **7:30 - 9 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](mailto: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.



### 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. Upcoming dates are: **Mondays, Oct 16, Nov 13, & Dec 11**. For more information contact one of the facilitators, Betsy Brenner at [betsybrenner3@gmail.com](mailto:betsybrenner3@gmail.com) or 245-8031, or Aubrey Atwater at [aubreyfolk@aol.com](mailto:aubreyfolk@aol.com) or (401) 392-1909, or Rev. Racquel Ray at [racquel@bccucc.org](mailto:racquel@bccucc.org) (401) 246 0111 x 104.



### Book Group

The Book Group next meets on **Tuesday, October 17** at **10:30 am** in the church library. They will discuss *Jesse James: Last Rebel of the Civil War* by T. J. Stiles. [Book review](#). For more information about the group contact Helen Schall at [helenschall@hotmail.com](mailto:helenschall@hotmail.com) or 401 245-4724. All are welcome.



## "What We Can Learn from the Ukraine War: Past, Present and Future"

Join Barrington Public Library and [East Bay Citizens for Peace](#) for a special in-person lecture with [Chas Freeman](#) on **Tuesday, September 26** from 7 - 8:30 pm in the Salem Family Auditorium.

It is said that, in war, truth is the first casualty. It is typically accompanied by a fog of official lies. But no such fog has ever been as thick as in the Ukraine war. No one not on the front lines has any real idea of what has been happening there. Ambassador Freeman will discuss Ukraine – what has happened to it and why, how it is likely to emerge from the ordeal to which great power rivalry has subjected it, and what we can learn from this.

[Registration required](#). Free and open to all.



## Worth repeating

### The Pastors' Blog

The latest blog was written by Dale and titled ***Let's Get This Party Started!*** If you missed it earlier, you can [read it here](#).



## Sunday mornings at BCCUCC

### Services livestreamed to Facebook and YouTube

All are invited to join us for our **multi-platform worship service** at **10 a.m.** on Sunday mornings - either in person or online.



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 - at

- the church's Facebook page [www.facebook.com/bccucc](http://www.facebook.com/bccucc)
- or [our church's YouTube Channel](#)

**Please note** that the service can no longer be watched LIVE on our website. However a recording of the service can be watched once the service is over and it's been posted to the Livestream page of the church website <https://bccucc.org/live-stream-2/>

A link to the [Sunday bulletin](#) can be found on our livestream page.

### Nursery Care

The Nursery is available 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.



## From the church office

### Church office hours

The church office is open Monday - Friday, 9:30 am - 1:30 pm. Closed on Federal & State holidays.



### 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, Oct 4*. Send information to Christine at [office@bccucc.org](mailto:office@bccucc.org).



### Do you need a Name Tag?

If you would like a nametag please contact the church office at [office@bccucc.org](mailto: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](http://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](mailto: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.



## 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*

## Contact us

**Dale** [dale@bccucc.org](mailto:dale@bccucc.org) (401) 246-0111 x 103 *Senior Minister*

**Racquel** [racquel@bccucc.org](mailto:racquel@bccucc.org) (401) 246-0111 x 104 *Associate Minister for Congregational Life*

**Christine** [office@bccucc.org](mailto:office@bccucc.org) (401) 246-0111 x 101 (or just stay on the line) *Office Administrator*

**Pat** [pat@bccucc.org](mailto:pat@bccucc.org) (401) 246-0111 x 102 *Financial Secretary*

**Andrea** [andrea@bccucc.org](mailto:andrea@bccucc.org) (401) 246-0111 x 107 *Faith Formation Director*

**Matthew** [mmarion1811@gmail.com](mailto: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.

Connect with us



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# THE END !