



September 26, 2024

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

Calendar

*Office Hours: Open Mon - Fri, 9:30 am - 1:30 pm.
Closed on Federal and State Holidays & where otherwise noted*

Sun, Sep 29

10 am Worship Service, Church School
After Worship: Fall Congregational Meeting, Sanctuary

Mon, Sep 30

6 - 7 pm Youth Group, Fellowship Hall & Room 9

Tues, Oct 1

10 am Staff meeting, Dale's office
6:30 - 9 pm Knitting for Others Group, Library and via Zoom

Wed, Oct 2

7:30 pm Choir rehearsal, Vestry

Thurs, Oct 3

8:30 - 9:30 am Coffee Chat, Plant City in Barrington Center
1:30 - 3 pm Women of Faith Reading Group, Library

Sat, Oct 5

10 am - 10 pm Outside use of Fellowship Hall, Kitchen & Classroom

Sun, Oct 6 *Neighbors in Need Offering*

10 am - 8 pm Outside use of Fellowship Hall, Kitchen & Classroom
10 am Worship Service with Communion, Church School
After worship - Coffee Hour in the Vestry

Mon, Oct 7

6 - 7 pm Youth Group, Fellowship Hall & Room 9

Tues, Oct 8

10 am Staff meeting, Dale's office

Wed, Oct 9

Noon: *Deadline for eBridge*
7:30 pm Choir rehearsal, Vestry

Thurs, Oct 10

8:30 - 9:30 am Coffee Chat, Plant City in Barrington Center
3:30 - 5 pm Governing Board meeting, Library
6:30 - 8:30 pm Hameho Garden Club meeting, Fellowship Hall

Sun, Oct 13 *Royalties for Negro Spirituals*

10 am All Ages Worship Service with guest storyteller, Nursery Care only

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

If you can't be with us in person, we invite you to worship with us online

Our **Sunday morning services** are **livestreamed** for those unable to attend in person. They can be viewed on [our Facebook page](#) or on [our YouTube channel](#) - either live or watched later.

Only once the service is over, can a recording of the service be found on [our website](#). The **Sunday worship bulletin** is also posted to [our website](#).



Sunday, September 29

Summer sermon requests continue

There were too many sermon topic suggestions during the grab-bag summer sermon series for them all to get picked, so Racquel and Dale are using the un-picked suggestions to populate their sermons this fall. Here's what's coming up next:

September 29 – *The Challenge of Forgiveness.*

October 6 - *Finding Peace Amid Chaos.*

Don't miss out on these great sermons!!



SERMONS

Fall Congregational Meeting

A meeting of our church membership will be held **this Sunday, September 29** in the sanctuary following the worship service. The agenda items are listed in the warrant below. The minutes for approval can be read at the link in Article II, and the nominations for the unfilled positions will be presented at the meeting. In addition, the Governing Board will present their vision for the 2024-2025 church year. We encourage everyone to attend. Child care will be provided.



Warrant

Warrant for 2024 FALL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING of Barrington Congregational Church, Barrington, Rhode Island Sunday, September 29, 2024



A Fall Congregational Meeting of the Barrington Congregational Church, UCC, Barrington RI, is hereby called to take place on **Sunday, September 29, 2024** in the sanctuary immediately following the regular 10 a.m. worship service. The business to be transacted is as follows:

ARTICLE I: To call the meeting to order.

ARTICLE II: To approve the [minutes of the 2024 Annual Meeting](#) held June 9, 2024.

ARTICLE III: To approve nominations for unfilled positions.

ARTICLE IV: To receive a report on the sale of the 4 Nathaniel Road parsonage.

ARTICLE V: To consider the Governing Board's "Year of Engagement" vision for church year 2024 - 2025

ARTICLE VI: To consider any other business that may properly come before the meeting.
ARTICLE VII: To adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted: Greg Voigt, Clerk

Sunday, October 6

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 6**. The theme of this year's campaign is "**Mental Health Justice For All!**" In 2015, the General Synod of the United Church of Christ passed a resolution to become WISE (Welcoming, Inclusive, Supportive, and Engaged) for mental health. A just world for all is a world where the human rights and well-being of people with mental health challenges are respected, no matter who you are or where you are in life's mental health journey.



The Neighbors in Need offering supports the UCC's ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. Two-thirds of the offering is used by the UCC's Love of Church Unit to fund a wide array of local and national justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects. Through the national Love of Church Unit, <https://tinyurl.com/2bfyatb>, you can find resources, news updates, and action alerts on a broad spectrum of justice issues. Working with members of the UCC Justice and Peace Action Network (a network of thousands of UCC justice and peace advocates), the Love of Church Unit continues its strong policy advocacy work on issues such as the federal budget, voting rights, immigration, health care, hate crimes, civil liberties, and environmental justice. Neighbors in Need also supports our American Indian neighbors in the UCC with one-third going to UCC's Council for American Indian Ministries (CAIM). Historically, forebears of the UCC established churches and worked with Lakota, Dakota, Nakota, Mandan, Hidatsa, Arickara, and Hocak in North and South Dakota, Wisconsin, and northern Nebraska. Today there are 20 UCC congregations on reservations and one urban, multi-tribal UCC congregation in Minneapolis, Minnesota. These churches and their pastors are supported by CAIM. CAIM is also an invaluable resource for more than 1,000 individuals from dozens of other tribes and nations who are members of other UCC congregations in the U.S.

To learn more about Neighbors in Need, visit the national UCC website at www.ucc.org/NIN. Envelopes for the Neighbors in Need offering will be included in the worship bulletin on October 6 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. 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 6. Thank you.

Sunday, October 13

A special All Ages Worship Service

On **Sunday, October 13**, acclaimed local storyteller **Valerie Tutson** will offer a very special sermon during our **all ages worship service**. On that day, the congregation is invited to support our **Royalties for Negro Spirituals Initiative** that was started two years ago. As we honor the many contributions of Afro-descended people to our collective culture, we recognize that the original creators of so many of these songs and stories were never compensated for their work. To right this injustice, although in a small way, we hope you will consider a donation to



Community Music Works in Providence. This organization's mission is to create a cohesive urban community through music education and performance that transforms the lives of children, families and musicians. Learn more at <https://communitymusicworks.org>

A special offering envelope will be included in the bulletin on Sunday, October 13 with details on how to donate, including making an online donation from our website. You can also make a donation by sending in a check payable to 'BCCUCC' with 'Royalties' in the memo line. Online donations may be made via Tithely at <https://bccucc.org/donation/> and selecting 'Royalties for Negro Spirituals' in the drop down box. Thank you for donating.

Christine's retirement

As we approach the end of September we are aware that Christine's retirement is quickly approaching. Her last week in the office will be the week of October 7-11. Christine will be joining us in worship on **Sunday, October 13**, where we will recognize her ministry with us for 26 years!

Following the service, we will have a **special coffee hour** where people can offer their words of thanks and take the time to say "goodbye" to our beloved office administrator. Please join us if you are able!



Also in October.....

What a joy!

BCCUCC has the privilege of hosting an annual Durga Puja Festival for our regional Hindu population. They are renting our fellowship hall the **weekend of October 5-6**. This impacts us in a few ways:

1. Our older church school class will get the chance to meet them and talk with them as a part of their "World Religions" course.
2. We are moving coffee hour to the vestry on October 6. This requires some flexibility on our part, but I think we can manage it!
3. If you are in the habit of walking through the Education Building on your way into church on Sunday mornings, please be mindful and welcoming to our guests. We want them to know and feel God's love while in our house!



In case you don't know, the Durga Puja Festival is a celebration of good triumphing over evil and an honoring of life and creation.

Come learn about rain gardens!

BCCUCC members are invited to attend **Hameho Garden Club's** meeting on **Thursday, October 10** at **6:30 pm** in our Fellowship Hall. Kate Venturini Hardesty, Program Administrator and Extension Educator from the University of Rhode Island will present a program on rain gardens. Rain gardens keep storm water runoff generated by rooftops and paved surfaces out of the storm drain system and waterways. Our church has a rain garden for this purpose between the church and education building (see photo).

Come learn how to site, size, build, plant, and maintain a rain garden to protect water quality and add beauty and purpose to the landscape. All are welcome.

Questions? Contact Eileen Dennis at efdennis@gmail.com



Barrington Day of Caring

Monday, October 14, 2024 (Indigenous Peoples Day)

Noon - 4 pm.

Join us as a **VOLUNTEER!**

Barrington Day of Caring is a community-wide event with volunteers consisting of individuals, families, friends, or teams who are mobilized to work with the residents of Barrington to provide much-needed support and assistance.

Local civic and town leaders partner together to organize the event. Along the way, relationships are built as volunteers work together by getting to know one another and the neighbors they serve.

No skill set is needed to volunteer. However your expertise is welcomed.

Visit the Day of Caring webpage for more information:

<https://barrington.ri.gov/326/Day-of-Caring>

Volunteer applications *due by Thursday, October 12:*

[Online volunteer registration](#)

[Volunteer Registration Form](#) - downloadable PDF for printing.

Questions or concerns? Email dayofcaringRI@gmail.com

BCCUCC Day of Caring Team?

If anyone is interested in organizing or being part of a **Day of Caring Team** from our church, please contact Rev. Dale Azevedo who is one of the event organizers at dale@bccucc.org or (401) 246-0111 x 103.

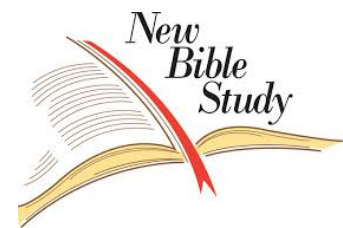


New Adult Bible Study - Paul the Progressive

Contrary to popular opinion, the Apostle Paul is not Progressive Christianity's Enemy #1.

The Apostle Paul wrote most of the New Testament. He was the most prolific evangelist of the early church. And he is often deeply disliked because his writings come across as misogynistic, homophobic, and unjust. In this **5-week Bible study**, Rev. Dale will explore many of Paul's most controversial writings along with their cultural context in order to better understand who Paul was and what he truly believed. This class is open all who are interested and will take place on **Wednesday evenings at 7:00 pm beginning on October 16**. There are no prerequisites to this course other than curiosity and an open mind.

Please register with Dale (dale@bccucc.org) or the church office (office@bccucc.org) **by October 9** if you are interested.



Trunk or Treat Team needs volunteers!

Our annual Trunk or Treat is scheduled for after worship on **Sunday, October 27** in the parking lot in front of the education building. However, we need volunteers to put it together. If you'd like to be part of the **Trunk or Treat Team**, please contact our Welcome Ministry Coordinator, Barbara Lee at barbaralee957@hotmail.com or (401) 835-8160. We have one volunteer already but definitely need more to make it happen! Barbara looks forward to hearing from you soon.



An opportunity to donate fresh fruit to TAPIN for Thanksgiving

For several years in the past BCCUCC held a citrus fruit sale to raise money for mission trips. We partnered with the Providence Singers who have been running this sale as a fundraiser for their organization for more than 20 years! In addition to ordering fruit for themselves, the congregation was invited to order cases of fruit for delivery to TAPIN so it could be given away with the Thanksgiving Food Bags and Gift Cards to those in need in the East Bay. Church member Beth Zarlengo is once again running the Fruit Sale Fundraiser for the Providence Singers and invites the congregation to also order fruit for delivery to TAPIN. Many



of the Singers also purchase cases of fruit for delivery to TAPIN and they donate over 500 lbs each year! To order fruit for donation to TAPIN please visit <https://ifundraise.com/723608> and choose 'Ship to Organization' then contact Beth at zarlengo@cox.net or (401) 447-6331 to let her know that your order is for TAPIN.

If you're interested in ordering fruit for yourself or for delivery to someone else, please contact Beth and she'll be happy to help you with your order. Orders must be placed **by Tuesday, October 29**, and will be delivered the week before Thanksgiving. Thank you.

Thank you

BCCUCC Peace Flags displayed at the Barrington Public Library

During coffee hour on September 15 & 22, congregation members made Peace Flags in recognition of the [International Day of Peace](#) (Sep 21) and in support of the American Library Association's [Banned Books Week](#) (Sep 22-28). The flags were given to Barrington Public Library who hung them up then posted some photos and a thank you to our church on their Facebook page (which has since been shared to our [BCCUCC Facebook page](#)). They wrote:

"Thank you to the members of the Barrington Congregational Church for creating and donating these flags to help celebrate Banned Books Week! They are a great addition to our Banned Books Week display on the first floor of the library. The flags will remain up to remind us that fighting censorship and book bans is an around the year job. Check out the flags next time you are in the library!"

Thank you to everyone who created a Peace Flag in support of peace and '**Freedom to Read**'.



2024 BCCUCC Softball Team

Thank you to all of the players on our co-ed softball team this summer, with special thanks to Tom Kiley for leading them. Even though they didn't win as many games as they would have liked, they played some really well together, had some close games, and also had a lot of fun! Thanks also to 'the cheerleaders' who showed up to cheer them on. Below is the 2024 Team photo in their new team t-shirts.



Worth repeating

Sign up to help with Coffee Hour

Coffee Hour with coffee has returned and volunteers are needed to run it. Von Ray and Frank Lee have signed up for several weeks between now and Christmas. Volunteers are asked to sign up for the remaining weeks. Choose either a leaf from the Congregational Life Bulletin Board (outside of Racquel's office) or see the **sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall** during Coffee Hour. And please consider staying a few extra minutes to help clean up - many hands make light work for all.



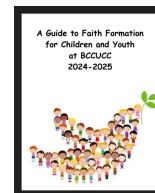
Don't forget to register your child(ren) and youth!

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, Confirmation and Youth Group. If they were registered last year, see Andrea 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 **2024-2025 registration form** (copies available from the narthex table or outside Andrea's office), and return it to Andrea. Questions? Speak with our Faith Formation Director, Andrea Bullard or contact her at andrea@bccucc.org or (401) 246-0111 x 107.



Want to know more about our children and youth programs?

[A Guide to Faith Formation for Children and Youth at BCCUCC 2024-2025](#) can be read at the link, and we encourage everyone - especially parents - to read about the various programs available for children and youth at BCCUCC. It covers everything from Nursery Care for our littlest ones up through opportunities for our high schoolers. Please share the information with other families you know with children and youth who may be interested. A link to the information is also on the Church School page of the church website at www.bccucc.org/children-youth/. Printed copies of the booklet are available for pick up at church - from the narthex table, or outside Andrea's office.



'From the River's Edge' blog

The latest blog '*What's NOT in the Obituary*' was written by Racquel. [Read it here](#)



Ongoing groups

Bereavement Group

This support group is open to anyone (not just church members) who has lost a loved one at any time and new members are always welcome. The group meets once a month from **10 - 11 am** in the church library and will meet again on **Monday, October 21**. For more information contact one of the facilitators, Betsy Brenner at betsybrenner3@gmail.com or 245-8031, or Aubrey Atwater at aubreyfolk@aol.com or (401) 392-1909, or Rev. Racquel Ray at racquel@bccucc.org (401) 246 0111 x 104.



Book Group

The Book Group next meets on **Tuesday, October 15** at **10:30 am** in the church library. They will discuss *The Rabbit Hutch* by Tess Gunty. [Book review](#). For more information about the group contact Helen Schall at helenschall@hotmail.com or 401 245-4724. All are welcome.



Choir Rehearsals

If you enjoy singing, why not join the church choir - no audition needed! Rehearsals are on **Wednesday evenings** from **7:30 pm** in the Vestry for an hour or so. To learn more, speak with our music director Matthew Marion after church or at (401) 954-7107 or mmarion1811@gmail.com. Or speak with any choir member - they'd love to welcome some new faces and voices! Come make a joyful noise to the Lord!



Coffee Chat

The Thursday Morning Coffee Chat now meets at **Plant City** in the Barrington Shopping Center (188 County Road). Please join Rev. Racquel and others on **Thursday mornings 8:30 - 9:30 am** for conversation and companionship. Contact Rev. Racquel with any questions racquel@bccucc.org



Calling All Singers!

If you enjoy singing, why not join the church choir - no audition needed! Rehearsals are on **Wednesday evenings** from **7:30 pm** for an hour or so in the Vestry. To learn more, speak with our music director Matthew Marion after church or at (401) 954-7107 or mmarion1811@gmail.com. Or speak with any choir member - they'd love to have you join them. Come make a joyful noise to the Lord!



Knitting for Others Group - in person and via Zoom

The Knitting for Others Group will resume meeting both in person and via zoom on the first Tuesday of each month beginning **Tuesday, October 1** 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. *Zoom info needed to participate is not included here for security reasons. It was in the email sent to the congregation.*



Women of Faith Reading Group

The group welcomes women of all ages from BCCUCC as well as other churches and faith traditions. They meet for discussions on books, faith and life on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month from **1:30 - 3 pm** in the church library and invite new women to join them. They start meeting again in October and will meet **Thursdays, October 3 & 17**. Information on the book they'll be reading is tbd. For more information contact Jane Tonn at 289-2349 or jtonn2@cox.net



Youth Group

All youth in **grades 5 - 9** are welcome to join us on **Monday nights** from **6 - 7 pm**. We're looking forward to Games and Crafts nights, Youth Group Soup, a trip to La Salette, a Quiet Retreat, community service work, and exploring a mission trip. Parents, we'll need some help with Youth Group Soup nights! Please email racquel@bcc.org to learn more. Remaining September & October Youth Group dates are **Mondays, Sept 30, and Oct 7 & 21**. *Note: There is no youth group when Barrington Public Schools have a day off and on a few other Mondays.* For the full year's calendar see page 13 of the [Faith Formation Guide](#). Don't forget that youth participating in any programs at church must be registered. **2024-2025**



Miscellaneous

Do you need a name tag?

If you would like a nametag please contact the church office at office@bccucc.org or call (401) 246-0111 and let us know what name you'd like on the nametag plus 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.



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 the next eBridge newsletter is **Wednesday, October 9**. Send information to Christine at office@bccucc.org.



2024-2025 Church Calendar

Our church calendar can be viewed at <http://bccucc.view-events.com> or from the calendar page on our church website <https://bccucc.org/calendar/>. Please notify the office at office@bccucc.org or 246-0111 with information about meetings/events etc. so the calendar can always be kept up to date. Thank you.



Online Giving

It's easy to make a donation online! Simply go to the donation page on our website at www.bccucc.org/donation/ and click on 'Donate Now' under the Tithe.ly option. Be sure to click on the drop-down box in Tithe.ly to choose where you'd like your donation to go - options include Deacons Fund, Memorial Gift, Pledge, Gift etc. Thank you for your financial support of BCCUCC.



News from the Conference

Keep up to date with our Conference - SNEUCC

The Southern New England Conference, UCC (SNEUCC), publishes several newsletters - one of which comes out weekly and is titled '**5 Things to Know and Share**'. Read the latest edition [at this link](#) and sign up to subscribe and get it sent to your inbox. [Click on this link](#) to see the archive of all of the different SNEUCC newsletters - and subscribe to any that are of interest to you.



Connect with Us

Rev. Dale Azevedo Senior Minister dale@bccucc.org (401) 246-0111 x 103

Rev. Racquel Ray Associate Minister for Congregational Life racquel@bccucc.org (401) 246-0111 x 104

Christine Wallis Office Administrator office@bccucc.org (401) 246-0111 x 101 (or just stay on

the line)

Pat Stoddard *Financial Secretary* pat@bccucc.org (401) 246-0111 x 102

Andrea Bullard *Faith Formation Director* andrea@bccucc.org (401) 246-0111 x 107

Matthew Marion *Music Director* mmarion1811@gmail.com *Music Director*

Church Summer Office Hours: Open Monday –Thursday, 9:30 am – 1 pm.
Closed on Fridays plus Federal and State holidays.

Building Security: The Education building remains locked at all times, even when the office is open. Please ring the bell for entry and we'll be happy to let you in - or use the code on the keypad if you have it.



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