

September 9, 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

New Church Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 9:30 am - 1:30 pm.

Thurs, Sept 9

7 pm Search Committee meeting, Room 6

Fri, Sept 10

1:30 pm Memorial Service for Tom Cole, Sanctuary

Sun, Sept 12 Open doors Sunday & Linda's last Sunday

8:30 am CEYM meeting, Library

10 am All Ages Worship Service (in-person or online).

Watch at www.facebook.com/bccucc or on our website at this link

Mon, Sept 13

11 am Bereavement Group meets, Terrace

3 pm Barrington Interfaith Partner meet via Zoom

6 pm Softball Playoff Game 1; BCCUCC vs St. Luke's, Vets Field

7 pm Softball Playoff Game 2, Vets Field

7 pm Buildings and Grounds meeting

Tues, Sept 14

8 am Peaceful Pause and Prayer, Livestreamed

11 am Staff meeting, Dale's office

6 pm Softball Playoff Game 3, Vets Field

7 pm Softball Playoff Game 4, Vets Field

7 - 9 pm Knitting Group meets via Zoom

Wed, Sept 15

11 am Lay Visitation Meeting via Zoom

7 pm Mission and Justice Team meeting 7:30 - 9 pm Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary

Thurs, Sept 16

8 am A Peaceful Pause and Prayer, Livestreamed

6 pm Softball Final, Vets Field

Sat. Sept 18

9 am - 11 am Kids Clothes Swap, Outside if weather permits, or in Fellowship Hall

Sun, Sept 19

10 am Worship Service (in-person or online), Church School. Watch at www.facebook.com/bccucc or on our website at this link

Tues, Sept 21

8 am Peaceful Pause and Prayer, Livestreamed9:30 am Book Group meets at Cafe Water St in Warren11 am Staff Meeting7 pm Deacons Meeting

Thurs, Sept 23

8 am Peaceful Pause and Prayer, Livestreamed

Sat, Sept 25

9:30 am Church School Family Event - Peace Flag making, Terrace

Sun, Sept 26

10 am Worship Service (in-person or online), Church School. 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

Our program year is starting!

A summary of this Sunday, September 12th when.....

....we will return to our regular worship time of 10 amwe will celebrate Open Doors Sunday and the start of our new church program year.

....we will say **goodbye to Linda** as it'll be her last Sunday with us. before she begins her ministry at Slatersville Congregational Church, UCC.

-Nursery care returns for children 0 3 yrs old
- Church School Registration happens

....and finally after worship we will gather on the terrace behind Fellowship Hall, and there will be **FREE ice cream** for all from an **ice cream truck!**

You won't want to miss it!

Read on for more details of these and much more as we kick off our program year.

Worship returns to 10 am

Don't forget that worship returns to **10 am** this **Sunday**, **September 12th** which is 'Open Doors Sunday' and also Linda's last Sunday with us. Worship with us in person or online!



Come home again for Open Doors Sunday!

We invite you to join us for worship this **Sunday**, **September 12th** for Open Doors Sunday.



Traditionally it's the day that so many of our members return from summer resting and travels to reunite with friends and loved ones within our sacred walls. This year's celebration may be slightly muted due to COVID's persistence, but we will still share in the joy of returning home and seeing past friends.

At this Sunday's service, you can look forward to an **all-ages worship** with our children helping to lead much of our activities. The choir will be back



singing in the sanctuary, and we will **dedicate our church school volunteers**, **preach the gospel in an engaging inclusive way**, and, of course, have a **visit from the ice cream truck** (free for all) after church!

Remember, too, that we will be **saying "farewell" to Linda** on this Sunday. It is a day to celebrate our whole family and to thank Linda for being a part of it!

Please join us this Sunday, September 12th at 10 a.m. for Open Doors Sunday!

Church School, Nursery, Registration and more.....

A Message from our Christian Education Coordinator, Andrea Terni Bullard...

"Can you believe the start of church school is right around the corner? I've been getting the classrooms ready and can't wait to get started!



This year **new registration forms are required for each child.** There is a new check box on the bottom that parents must mark if they want their child to attend church school. We will also have a parent sign-in station located as you go up the stairs to the sanctuary that has ONE master COVID question form posted and parents each week will sign next to their child's/children's name to say their child is following the COVID precautions listed on it.

You can register your child/children at the registration table at church on Sunday, or you can complete the <u>registration forms</u> (one for each child) ahead of time and bring them with you. Church School classes will begin September 19th.

The **nursery** will be reopening this Sunday September 12th and be available every week. The door at the north end of the education building (by the church office) will be unlocked for families who want to drop off their 3 year-olds and younger in the nursery prior to the start of service. All nursery personnel will be fully vaccinated.

As always on Sundays when there is **Church School**, the children will gather in the vestry after the "time for children" and be escorted to their classrooms. When the service is over, one parent if possible, may enter the education building to pick their child up. MASKS ARE REQUIRED BY EVERYONE ENTERING THE EDUCATION BUILDING (unless they are younger than 2 or have a medical reason not to). All teachers will be fully vaccinated.

Please send your child with a water bottle since the water fountain is closed. I will provide a pre-packaged snack for the Godly Play feast, but if you are uncomfortable with that please send your own.

Please contact me (andrea@bccucc.org) if you have any questions or concerns."

Church School Family Event - making Peace Flags

The first church school family event will be on **Saturday September 25th** at 9:30 am on the terrace. The Mission and Justice team and the CEYM team invite families to make new

Peace Flags to hang around the BCCUCC campus.

The 2021 theme for the International Day of Peace is "Recovering better for an equitable and sustainable world". We invite you to join the efforts of the United Nations family as we focus on recovering



better for a more equitable and peaceful world. Celebrate peace by standing up against acts of hate online and offline, and by spreading compassion, kindness, and hope in the face of the pandemic, and as we recover.

We will gather on the terrace, but to come inside masks are required. Each family will have their own table with hand sanitizer. Materials and ideas will be provided.

Please RSVP to Andrea at andrea@bccucc.org by Wed, Sept 22nd.

Knitting for Others Group

After a brief break over the summer, the Knitting Group will meet again on **Tuesday**, **September 14th** at 7 pm over Zoom. All knitters and crocheters are invited to attend and new faces are very welcome. For more information on the group, contact Nancy Arena at 401 246-0212 or nancy.arena@outlook.com.



For security reasons, Zoom info is not included in this version, but was in the email sent to the congregation.

Bereavement Group to meet

The group is resuming meeting and has scheduled getting together on **Mondays**, **September 13th** and **27th** at 11 a.m. outside on the terrace behind Fellowship Hall - weather permitting. The group is open to anyone (not just church members) who has lost a loved one at any time.



New members are welcome. For more information, contact the facilitator, Betsy Brenner at jsbeeb@aol.com or 245-8031.

East Bay Kids Clothes Swap resumes

After a hiatus during the pandemic, the East Bay Kids Clothes Swap is returning on **Saturday, September 18th** from 9 am - 11 am. Weather permitting, they will hold the swap outside in our parking lot, or be inside in Fellowship Hall. Either way, masks are required. Please bring items to be swapped in clean and good condition. Trade in clothes, shoes or



gently used toys, and get new (to you) items. Size newborn to age 12. There's a \$5 donation at the door, but no-one is turned away. More info

Memorial Garden Project completed

After several months of planning and a couple of weeks of work, this landscaping project is now complete and the Riverwalk entrance from the church area is now much more attractive, welcoming and inviting with water gardens, shade trees and a variety of plantings. This Memorial Garden was made possible by gifts from several donors and his family given in memory of Fred MacDonald, and a gift given in memory of their son Mark by Barbara and Dick McWhirter. We are grateful to all the donors for



their generosity. There are also plans in the works to replace the broken railings along the waterfront with something more attractive.

Carriage Sheds Update

The money needed to repair the carriage sheds was raised earlier this summer. We're now experiencing a delay while the contractors hired to do the work try to fit us into their very busy schedules! We appreciate your patience and are looking forward to getting the work underway as soon as possible.

Ongoing happenings

Barrington Houses of Worship Softball

The BCCUCC co-ed softball team has a playoff game against St. Luke's scheduled for **Monday**, **September 13th** at 6 pm at Vets Field (next to Bayside Y on West Street). The outcome of this game will determine if they play any additional games. Spectators are welcome to attend and cheer them on! (Game has been rescheduled from today 9/9/21 due to the rain).



Book Group for September

The Book Group will next meet **Tuesday, September 21st** at **9:30** am. at the **Cafe Water Street**, 279 Water Street, Warren if the weather is pleasant. If it is a rainy day, they will meet at the same time via Zoom. They will be discussing *Florence Gordon* by Brian Morton. For more information about the group, contact Helen Schall at helenschall@hotmail.com or 401 245-4724. All are welcome to participate. *For security reasons, Zoom info is not included in this version, but was in the email sent to the congregation.*

'Peaceful Pause and Prayer'

Dale leads these online 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 website at https://bccucc.org/live-stream-2/ and will



remain available for later viewing on both platforms if you can't watch live.

Upcoming Sundays at BCCUCC

Multi-platform Worship - Sundays 10 am

All are invited to join us for our multi-platform worship service at 10 a.m.



For those attending in person, we are now **requiring masks** be worn in worship (with exemptions for those

under 2 or for medical reasons). We continue to take precautions to provide the safest conditions possible for everyone, and have <u>new updated guidelines</u> in place. If you plan to worship with us in person in the sanctuary we ask that you read them ahead of time.

For those who are not yet ready to return to our sanctuary, or are not able to, the services are livestreamed so they can be watched online at the same links as before:

<u>www.facebook.com/bccucc</u> or <u>https://bccucc.org/live-stream-2/</u>. If you miss the service live, you can watch it later at the same links.

We invite you to join us for worship - whether in person or online.

Altar Flower dedications

On Sunday, September 12th

One arrangement has been given by Miriam and Steve Duvel in memory of Miriam's father, Joseph Ryan.

The other arrangement is given by Beth and William Buckley in memory of Bill Buckley on the occasion of his birthday.



On Sunday, September 19th:

One arrangement is given by Bernie and Sim Hawes in celebration of their 37th wedding anniversary, and in celebration of Sim's birthday. The other arrangement is TBD.

Birthdays being celebrated

The week of September 12th: Jennifer Geary, Connor Helm, Sim Hawes, Marion Willey, Carey Bowman, Moyne Cubbage, Lucy McMillan, Peggy Matteson, Charlotte McGarry, Marcus Nicholson. Gabriel De La Torre, Judy Miesner, and Susan Rotblat-Walker.



The week of September 19th: Renee Lemos, Lauren Bendheim, Susan Roach, Bill DeWitt, Evy Drury, Chris Brady, John Muth, Thales Antone, Anne Danzberger, Bobby Dubel, Gloria Hwang-Forzano, and Clyde Slicker.

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.

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.

From the Mission and Justice Team

Help needed for Haiti

The Haiti Task Force from the Southern New England Conference, UCC, has started up a GoFundMe page for relief for the people of Haiti following the devastating earthquake that struck the island on August 14. This small nation has faced challenge after challenge for decades. Between regular natural disasters and ongoing political strife these resilient folks need all the support we can offer! https://gofund.me/db948e2f

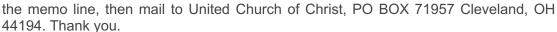


How to help those affected by Hurricane Ida

More than 20 U.S. states from the South to the Northeast are reeling from the impact of Hurricane Ida and its sizeable remnants with catastrophic water and

wind damage, including significant power outages. The UCC has launched a <u>Severe Storms 2021</u> appeal to receive donations for Hurricane Ida relief. Please visit <u>here</u> to make a gift. You may also text SevereStorm2021 to 41444 to make a donation.

If you prefer to write a check, please make it payable to 'United Church of Christ' with '2021 severe Storms' in





Our Faith, Our Vote in the United Church of Christ isn't just about participating in the election cycle. It's also about taking action to protect that right to vote. Learn how some are continuing that work in our nation's capital and add your voice at this link



From Climate Action RI

Bill McKibben, prolific climate writer and founder of 350.org, will speak live at Brown on Friday afternoon, **September 17** at 3:30 pm. The event is free and open to the public for both in-person and live-streamed attendance. Register here.

Bill's latest writings may be found on Substack.



Reminder of upcoming webinars on the environment:

Climate-Crisis Preaching: A Conversation with Jim Antal and Margaret Bullitt-Jonas

Thursday, September 16 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM

Preaching on climate change is more important than ever. Please join this informal (virtual) hour-long conversation with two religious climate leaders who between them have preached on climate change more than 500 times. There will be opportunities for questions and discussion. <u>Learn more and register</u>

Indigenous Plant Knowledge, Justice, and Sustainability: An evening with Stephanie Morningstar and the Tomaquag Museum.

Tuesday, September 14 6:00pm to 7:30pm

This webinar will be an opportunity to explore complex systems of knowing plants through indigenous perspectives, while drawing attention to the powerful work and mission of the Tomaquag Museum as they embark on a capital campaign to build a permanent home for their collection on the URI campus. Learn more and register

In case you missed it earlier

Masks now required in both the education and church buildings

Masks are now required for all participants in worship

- with the following exclusions:
 - anyone with a medical reason why they can't wear a mask
 - children under the age of 2
 - while leading worship

We appreciate your co-operation with this. Church Council made this decision at their meeting on August 31, 2021. Previously mask wearing had only been requested.



Education building has reopened with some important requirements

The education building re-opened on Sept 1st for church and public use with the following **requirements**:

- All visitors attending meetings or events shall wear appropriate masks at all times (Note: Visitors includes both church people and outside groups)
- Hand sanitizer shall be made readily available for all attendees (this is the responsibility of the organization/individual holding the event)
- An accurate copy of attendees and contact information shall be kept (this is the responsibility of the organization/individual holding the event)
- Weather permitting, doors and windows are to be propped open
- Any room or venue utilized by a group shall remain vacant for at least 20 hours before being utilized by a separate group

These requirements were approved by Church Council on 8/12/21.

The Moving Forward Team recommended the requirements to council with full knowledge that they will need to be modified (strengthened or relaxed) throughout the fall as our experience of COVID-19 variants and guidance from the CDC and RIDOH change. We will keep you notified of any changes.

The Pastors' Blog

The latest blog was written by Dale. Titled 'I Wish I Knew' you can read it here if you missed it earlier.



Save the date!

Plans are being made for this year's

Barrington Day of Caring

which will take place on Indigenous Peoples' Day,

Monday, October 11th 2021.

Save the date and watch for details coming later on how you can participate.



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.

From the church office

Change of email address

Church member Marion Fodor has asked that we let the congregation know she has a new email address marionfodor12@gmail.com. Steve's email address remains the same smfodor@gmail.com.

New Church Office Hours

Open Monday – Friday, 9:30 am – 1:30 pm
Closed on Federal and State holidays.

Masks are required in the education building at all times for all activities and meetings. Thank you for your cooperation.



Building security increased - but all are still welcome

The Education building will remain 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. It is now common practice for churches to keep their buildings locked at all times, especially if they have a preschool in the building which we do. At this time it also helps reduce concerns about the spread of COVID.

Please remember to wear your mask at all times in either of the church buildings.

Don't forget to reserve a room for your meeting!

The <u>approved recommendations</u> for COVID safety state that for the education building:

"Any room or venue utilized by a group shall remain vacant for at least 20 hours before being utilized by a separate group."

In order to adhere to this requirement, all groups meeting at the church need to reserve rooms ahead of time. We also have some outside groups using the building that you don't see on the calendar, so you can't assume the space is available if there's nothing showing.



If your meeting isn't already on the calendar please contact Christine in the the church office at office@bccucc.org or (401) 246-0111 to reserve a room. She will then check the availability including the requisite 20 hours between uses, and reserve the room for your use or let you know what other space may be available. Thank you for your cooperation with this.

2021-2022 Church Calendar

The church calendar for the 2021-2022 program year is available for viewing at http://bccucc.view-events.com If you have any additions, updates or corrections at any time please let Christine know by emailing her at office@bccucc.org. We



can only keep the online calendar current with your input and it's especially important that we do so with our new COVID safety requirements (see earlier).

Online donations to the church

<u>Watch a brief video</u> (30 secs) on how to make an online donation to the church through our website (<u>www.bccucc.org</u>) 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.

Contact us

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.

Connect with us





Visit our website

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THE END!