

June 2007

THE WHITE CHURCH



BRIDGE

Dear Friends,

This Bridge lists summer events and summer worship times...wow! Are we at that point already?!

Having been a New England Congregationalist all my life I know that summer means low church attendance rates. And, I must be honest, I understand completely. We all need a break from the routines in our lives from time to time, even those routines that are important. When Kathleen and I go to Maine we often choose a walk on the beach on Sunday mornings – and feel so decadent doing it! J

But we are here each week and hope you will join us from time to time. I make summer worship simpler (please dress casually – you won't see a robe on me!), lighter, and shorter. In fact, I aim for 45 minute services. We will gather at 9:00 AM instead of the regular 10:00, from June 24 thru Labor Day, so that more of the day stretches out for you and your family.

If you attend church elsewhere during your travels please bring me a copy of their bulletins or newsletters as I love seeing what is going on in other churches. Be attentive to what is happening in those places so you can bring back ideas to keep us fresh, relevant and welcoming.

And whether you are here physically or not, please keep your church family in your prayers for the challenges that people face and the opportunities for doing God's work never go on vacation and knowing you are with us spiritually means a great deal.

Be warm, healthy, safe...and faithful. Peace to you all,





Sunday Services for June, July and August 2007

June 3	10 a.m.	Worship Service with Communion, Church School during entire service for preK - Grade 8
June 10	10 a.m.	Worship Service with Bells, Church School during entire service for preK - Grade 8
June 17	10 a.m.	<i>Church School Celebration Sunday</i> (see page 8) Worship Service led by Church School Classes, with the Sing and Celebrate Choir, Nursery Care, No Church School All Church Picnic following service (see page 8)
June 24	9 a.m.	Worship Service, Nursery Care (see page 9)
July 1	9 a.m.	Worship Service with Communion, Nursery Care
July 8, 15, 22 and 29		
	9 a.m.	Worship Service, Nursery Care
August 5	9 a.m.	Worship Service with Communion, Nursery Care
August 12, 19 and 26		
	9 a.m.	Worship Service, Nursery Care
September 2	9 a.m.	Worship Service with Communion, Nursery Care

Nursery Care Available *Handicapped Accessible*



Please note that this year our Summer Worship Services will take place at the slightly earlier time of **9:00 a.m.** each week from **June 24—September 2**. The summer services will also be simpler and shorter than normal (see Jeff's letter on previous page) which will allow you a little extra time for your day's activities.

We hope to see you in church some Sundays when you're in town.

Jeff's vacation

Our Senior Minister, the Rev. Jeff Larsen, will be on vacation July 19—29 and August 20—September 3.

Emergency Pastoral Coverage:

During Jeff's absence, emergency pastoral coverage will be provided by other U.C.C. clergy. You may also contact a deacon (see below). The contact information in case of a pastoral emergency will be available from the church office and will also be on the answering machine when the office is closed.



Guest Ministers:

Below is the schedule of guest ministers who will lead worship and preach on those Sundays when Jeff is away. Also listed is the "Duty Deacon" who will be available to assist both the guest minister as well as congregation members as needed.

Sunday	Minister	Duty Deacon
May 27	The Rev. David Proctor	Achina Stein
July 22	The Rev. Charles Smith	Van Edwards
July 29	The Rev. James Keller	Beverly Travers
August 26	The Rev. Larry Washburn	
September 2	Ellen Brady*	Chris Brady

* Jeff and the Deacons have given Ellen the authority to serve communion at this worship service.

DEACONS FOR JUNE

Lois McCartney (star deacon), Van Edwards, Lorraine Keeney, Jim McCartney, Doug Roach, and Mary Lou Slicker.

*If you cannot reach Jeff (401 247-1787 home)
please call on one of the deacons.*

In addition to those listed above, the following deacons may also be called upon if needed during the summer months:

Chris Brady, Bill DeWitt, Marshall Hoyer, Susan Seader, Achina Stein, and Beverly Travers.



JUNE 25 - SEPT 7

Mon – Thurs
9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Fridays - Closed

Except when he is on vacation, Jeff will be available as usual during the summer.



A Note from Jeff about Announcements in Church

It would be very nice if people giving announcements on Sunday, including myself, would try not to repeat those announcements that are already printed in the bulletin, would keep their comments concise, and would keep them devoid of political commentary – all out of respect for the diversity of our congregation. Thank you very much.

Who Stole the Amens? by Jeff Larsen

A number of people have asked me why there are no “Amens” in the New Century Hymnal. I did a little research and thought I would pass along what I learned (mostly from an article in “A Cappella” magazine, 1995)

While some would credit the Anglicans about 1920, it is generally thought that the “Amens” started disappearing in 1958 with the publication of a new hymnal from the Lutherans with the explanation that they would only be used on hymns “which end in prayer or praise.” Since that time the trend has continued to the point today where they are hard to find in any new hymnal, no matter what denomination.

But when did “Amens” start – for there lay the root of the issue and the rebuttal to those who claim the new hymnals are doing something radical (and by inference, awful). Martin Luther, Isaac Watts, John Wesley, and other composers of the huge number of hymns in the Pilgrim Hymnal, many of which are called “old chestnuts,” never originally put “Amen” to their hymns. It was the Oxford Movement in England, around 1820 that began using them. By the early twentieth century the practice had come to America and almost all hymns were adding it to the end almost indiscriminately.

Sometimes “new” isn’t new at all.

Amen!



HANDICAPPED PARKING SPACES NEAR THE CHURCH

We ask your cooperation in using these spaces only if you need one. There are only 5 such spaces, and on a recent Sunday a church member who was in need could not find an available space.

Because there are so few handicapped spaces. if you are able, we urge you to park in the main parking lot and leave the row of spaces in front of the Education Building for those who need to park closer to the church building.

Cottage Meeting Update

A complete report of the Cottage Meetings was in the annual report (available online) but before we break for the summer we wanted to give you the latest developments. Several of the top priorities established thru these meetings have been incorporated into the Associate Minister Search Committee charge to find a full-time person to work in the areas of Education and Youth Ministry. This includes life-long learning (children and adults), creative small-group opportunities, Pilgrim Fellowship groups and new worship experiences.

Some items have been addressed: the Fire Code issues are moving forward with decisions made at the annual meeting to pursue the final stages of the master plan; improving email communications is pending feedback from a survey put out by the church office.

Other items have been assigned to the appropriate Ministry Teams:

- Growing membership (#2 priority) – Membership Team, already working on it;
- More quiet, led, prayer time in worship – to Deacons
- Ministry by congregation to each other – to Deacons;
- Alternative worship service times, format – to Deacons.

There is still much to do and you will be updated as we move along. Again, thank you to the more than 140 people who participated in this important process this past winter. If you have any questions please feel free to contact Helen Schall (245-4724 helenschall@hotmail.com) or Jeff Larsen (246-0111 jeffbuccucc@fullchannel.net)

May We Help You?



If you are wheelchair bound or have difficulty walking and would like assistance getting to coffee hour, please notify an usher. He or she will then make arrangements for you to be transported to Fellowship Hall.



Those who need it are invited to use the elevette to get upstairs to the sanctuary. An elevette operator is on duty every Sunday to assist.

Large print copies of the bulletin and hymns are also available every Sunday morning from the ushers. Be sure to ask for one if you need it.



Hearing assists are also available for those who need them at every worship service. Just ask an usher.

Please let us know of any other way in which we may be of assistance to you.



Calling all Musicians!

Would you like the opportunity to express your faith through music to a very appreciative congregation? You are invited to sing or play an instrument, either alone or with a small ensemble, one Sunday this summer. Please note that Jeff must approve all music used in the worship services.

If you would like to volunteer or have questions please call Marina Zabinski (726-5118). It is also important that you sign up for the date you would like to sing/play on the sheet on the music bulletin board in the vestry—this will avoid conflicts on the calendar. Once your participation has been confirmed by both Marina and Jeff, please call the church office with the music *no later than the Tuesday* before the Sunday you plan to play/sing so that the information can be included in the bulletin.

Summer services are held at 9:00 a.m. from June 24 through September 2.



THE
PROVIDENCE
SINGERS
Conductor: Andrew Clark

Eternal Light

celebrate the rich
celestial sounds of
English cathedral music!

Vaughan Williams
Mass in G minor

Herbert Howells
Requiem

Tarik O'Regan
Magnificat & Nunc Dimittis

Saturday, June 2 8 p.m.
St. Joseph's Church,
Providence

Sunday, June 3 4 p.m.
St. Mary's Church, Bristol

Tickets available from
www.ArtTixRI.com
(401) 621-6123
or at the door



Do Handbells Fascinate You?



If so, we can suggest several possibilities:

Barbara Ward is available this summer for individual or small group exploration of bell ringing. Times would be at *your* convenience.

There will be **no** pressure to become part of the choir. Just come to see how much fun it is. MEN and women are invited. Just talk to Barbara or call 245-7183.

We are thinking about starting a beginning handbell choir in the fall. Please contact either Barbara or Pat Stoddard (pstoddard55@yahoo.com, 245-7449) if you might be interested in this possibility. Young people and/or adults would be welcome.

Anyone who reads music and would like to try ringing in the White Church Ringers is invited to talk with us. We are seeking one or two new ringers for the group so that it is completely filled out for the fall.

Come to the festival concert (see related article below).

Area I Handbell Festival/Conference '07

The Area I (New England and Eastern Canada) Handbell Festival Conference will be held from June 28-July 1 in the Ryan Center at URI. At least 800 ringers are expected to participate! A final concert that is free and open to the public will take place at **3 PM** on **Sunday, July 1st**. It is an unbelievable visual and auditory experience.

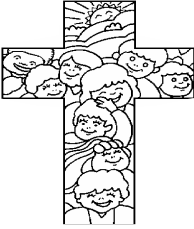
About half of the program will be massed ringing with all 800-900 people playing together. The rest will feature three distinct groups. Tins will be relatively new and smaller choirs. Coppers will be the largest group – 3-5 octave choirs ringing more difficult music. Bronze will be the 4-6 octave choirs with the most difficult music. The White Church Ringers will be in the Coppers, although we could ring the Bronze music.



This concert is a wonderful opportunity to see something not seen or heard every day, and to support the White Church Ringers in their participation. The next festival, in two years, will be much farther away (could be in northern Maine or in western Vermont near the Canadian border), so why not take advantage of the short commute and come down to Kingston for an enjoyable experience.

Please help us with our efforts to recycle by putting paper, plastic and cans in the appropriate recycling bins—making sure not to put non-recyclable materials in with them. Thank you.





Church School Celebration Sunday

Sunday, June 17th 10 a.m.

Worship Service led by the Church School children
with the Sing and Celebrate choir

*Children in pre K through 8th grade and their teachers are asked to meet in their classrooms **no later than 9:30 a.m.** All children will sit with their class during the worship service.*

Nursery care is provided for infants and toddlers in the nursery of the education building. All other children remain in the sanctuary for the entire service.

Following the service the Christian Education
and Youth Ministries Team invites everyone to
the ALL CHURCH PICNIC



Preparing for Church School Celebration Sunday

During the month of June all grades are working on Church School Celebration Sunday. The theme is "Opening Ourselves to God". The teachers/disciples are: Kelly Servant, Kristen Westmoreland, Leslie Peck, Bill Dewitt, Camilla Hemingway, Carol Strakosch, and Nancy Speed

On Sundays June 3rd and 10th all children in grades preK– 8th grade are asked to spend the entire worship service in church school preparing for the June 17th service.

On June 3rd the children are welcome to join their families to share communion at the service, but the children will not come over to church in the usual manner. Instead, parents should come and pick up their child and return to church with them if they want them to participate in communion.

Pilgrim Fellowship

Junior PF will meet on Sunday, June 3rd at church at 4 p.m. and travel to Bristol to hunt for a letter box. Pizza party to follow.

Senior PF will meet for an end of year potluck at a time and place to be determined.

T-shirt Logo Design Contest Calling Students Grades K-12!

Design this year's t-shirt for the 2007 "A Great Day of Service"!
sponsored by Beyond Our Walls.

For details see page 22.

Deadline for entries is June 15.

Nursery Care Only this summer

There will be child care for infants and toddlers in the air-conditioned nursery during the summer months, but there will NOT be any Summer Church School.



Anyone willing to assist Helen Ward or Ann Wood in the nursery some Sunday this summer should contact Andrea Bullard at 247-9050.



Thank you to the outgoing CEYM team members, Bill Dewitt, Chris Atkinson, & Allie Jean. Your time, energy and dedication were greatly appreciated.

Kathleen Lynne Fodor (KLF) MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

The deadline for applications for these scholarships is **June 3rd, 2007**. Graduating seniors, as well as those students presently attending a secondary or graduate school, who have completed the confirmation process, and are currently a member of Barrington Congregational Church, U.C.C., may apply. Two \$400 scholarships will be awarded this year. Selection will be made by random drawing, and announced on Celebration Sunday, June 17th. Students who applied previously are welcome to apply again. Applications may be found on the table in the church vestry, or from the rack outside the church office. All who are eligible are encouraged to apply. Questions? Call Andrea Bullard at (401) 247-9050.

These scholarships are made possible through donations by family and friends of Kate. We thank them greatly.

Congratulations to our 2007 Graduates!



Matt Buckley - son of Phyllis and Jay Buckley - graduates from St. Andrew's School and will attend Plymouth State University

Toby Comer - son of Beth and Michael Comer - graduates from Barrington High School and will attend Bucknell College in Pennsylvania

Sam Hearn - son of Joy and Frank Hearn - graduates from Barrington High School and will attend Plymouth State in New Hampshire

Alex Hoy - son of Jon and Lynn Hoy - graduates from Barrington High School and will attend Quinnipiac University in Connecticut

Alli Jean - daughter of Maureen Jean - graduates from Barrington High School and will attend Salve Regina University

Caitlin McCormick - daughter of Linda and Tony McCormick - graduates from Barrington High School and will attend University of Massachusetts, Amherst

Philip McCoy - son of Lory and Charles McCoy - graduates from Barrington High School and will attend Carleton College, Northfield, Minnesota

Ashley Schneck - granddaughter of Jan Cornish and Dick Almquist - graduates from Prout High School and will attend Bryant College

Bryan House - son of Louise and Ron House - graduates from Berklee College of Music with a degree in Music Performance

Amy Simpson - daughter of Sue and Rich Simpson - graduates from Brown University with an Sc. B. in Computer Science. She will be moving to Seattle at the end of the summer to assume a full-time position as a Software Design Engineer with Microsoft's Office Division

Elizabeth Wallis - daughter of Christine and Philip Wallis - graduates from Brown Medical School with an M.D. and will do a pediatric residency at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia / University of Pennsylvania

Meghan Kiley - church member, husband of Brian, and daughter of Jeff and Kathleen Larsen - graduates from Rhode Island College with an M.A. in Counseling

Fire Safety Update

At the Annual Meeting on May 20th, the congregation, after a thoughtful and energetic discussion, approved construction of the inside stairway emergency exit option at a cost of \$85,000. The stairway plus required new handrails at most exits and the already completed alarm system and classroom walls upgrade brings total fire safety project cost to about \$156,000, far less that we thought a year ago.

At the time of the Annual Meeting donations totaled \$64,000. Since the meeting we are pleased to report that members have pledged or given an additional \$40,000, making total donations \$104,000, leaving \$52,000 to go! We are grateful for the generosity of all who have donated or pledged to the program.

Given this strong response, our desire to improve the emergency exit as soon as possible, a competitive market condition and our preference to do the work in the summer, Building and Grounds (B&G) will proceed with the project immediately. The remainder of the project cost will be “borrowed” from other BCCUCC funds and paid back as a fundraising program progresses (also approved by the congregation at the Annual Meeting). This program will be kicked off via letter to the congregation in early June.

B&G will also meet with the Fire Chief to be sure the work outlined above totally satisfies Fire Code requirements.

*The Fire Safety Sub-Committee: Paul Dennis, Dick McWhirter,
Caroline Halliwell, Lee Miller, Pat Stoddard.*

Please pick up your dishes from the kitchen . . .

Following a number of recent church events, there is quite a collection of platters and serving dishes in the kitchen that belong to church members. Please check on top of the microwave and pick yours up. Those unclaimed will eventually be disposed of. Thank you.

Lost in kitchen on Confirmation Sunday

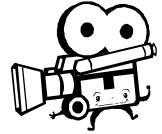
One dark blue plastic snap-on lid for 9x13” pyrex casserole dish – part of an insulated canvas carry tote that is useless without its lid! It appears the lid may have been thrown away in error so it’s owner wondered if anyone happens to have a spare lid she could have (maybe their pyrex dish got broken!). If so, please call Jeanne Fulford at (508) 678-3881. Thank you.

MOVIE NIGHT !!

Learn about the origin of the Reformation! Learn about Martin Luther, the father of the Lutheran Church and founder of the Protestant Reformation.

On **Tuesday, June 12th** at **7:00 p.m.** in the **library**

Jeff Larsen and Van Edwards will host a showing of the classic movie



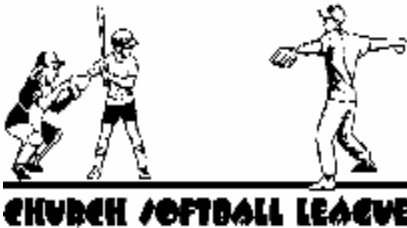
MARTIN LUTHER.

This 1953 black and white film (105 minutes) received two Academy Award nominations. The film “captures the life and times of the greatest figure of the Protestant Reformation with depth and clarity, while giving a glimpse at the private man at the eye of the storm. Luther's protest against the established order of the Church opened up a debate that still goes on today and gave birth to one of the largest religious movements in history. One man's conscience truly changed the course of human events.”

Van Edwards remembers that this is the first movie his parents took him to see in a movie theater. He enjoyed it in 1953 and still enjoys it today.

Popcorn will be served.

COME FOR A LITTLE FELLOWSHIP AND EDUCATION!!



Get out your gloves and dust off those cleats, the 2007 softball season is nearly upon us!

Any interested men aged 30+ or women aged 16+ who would enjoy playing should contact Mike Servant at 401-245-5281 or kservant@cox.net

Games are played once a week starting late June, and are held on a weekday evening beginning at 6 p.m. on a Barrington athletic field.

A great time will be had by all as we defend our back to back '05 and '06 championships and go for our 5th title in 6 years.

Supporters are always welcome to come and cheer on the team. Copies of the schedule will be put on the vestry table and also posted on the church website, once it is made available.





“Women in the Bible”

will meet for the last time before the summer break on
Thursday, June 7
from **10:30 a.m.—Noon** in **Room 6**
followed by **lunch** at a local restaurant.*



* *If you plan to go to the lunch, please contact Carol Louttit 245-2299) by Tuesday, June 5th.*

The group is open to any woman who wants to learn more about the women in the Bible and how God works through them. The group welcome new participants and you needn't be a member of this church to attend so feel free to invite friends.



Spiritual Cycling?

Anyone interested in bringing in the new day by exercising the body physically and the mind spiritually consider the following:

Once a week cycling to Colt State Park via Barrington Bike Path at 5 a.m., watching the sunrise over Narragansett Bay and reflecting/discussing a Biblical topic of the week. Cyclists would return to Barrington no later than 6:30 a.m.

Dates to be determined based on weather. If interested, call Lynn Blanchard-Caesar 245-5494 or e-mail her at LBCaesar1@aol.com



The deadline for submission of articles to be included in the September *Bridge* will be

Wednesday, August 22nd.

Please be sure to submit information about upcoming fall activities so that it can be included. The *Bridge* will be mailed out on August 30 so everyone should receive it before Labor Day.



The **Third Friday Bridge Group** will not meet again until October.

2

The **Dine Out Group** will not meet over the summer.



Are there activities you'd like to see happen at BCCUCC?

Then be sure to let us know!

(see page 15)



Adult Reading Circle

will meet at 7:30 p.m.

at The Coffee Depot, 501 Main Street, Warren,
on the following dates this summer to discuss the books listed.

Tuesday, June 19th **The Beautiful and the Damned** by F. Scott Fitzgerald

Fitzgerald's second novel is a dazzling portrait of love and life among the beautiful people. Through the story of two newlyweds, Anthony Patch of New York and Gloria Gilbert of Kansas City, Fitzgerald flawlessly captures the heady atmosphere and jaded values of the Jazz Age.

Tuesday, July 17th **In Cold Blood** by Truman Capote

As Truman Capote reconstructs the murder of four members of the Clutter family of Holcomb, Kansas, and the investigation that led to the capture, trial, and execution of the killers, he generates both mesmerizing suspense and astonishing empathy. *In Cold Blood* is a work that transcends its moment, yielding poignant insights into the nature of American violence.

Tuesday, August 21st **The Pursuit of Love** by Nancy Mitford

Few aristocratic English families of the twentieth century enjoyed the glamorous notoriety of the infamous Mitford sisters. Nancy Mitford's most famous novels, *The Pursuit of Love* and *Love in a Cold Climate*, satirize British aristocracy in the twenties and thirties through the amorous adventures of the Radletts, an exuberantly unconventional family closely modeled on Mitford's own.

Tuesday, September 18th **The Inheritance of Loss** by Kiran Desai

In her second novel, Desai is even more perceptive and bewitching. Set in India in a small Himalayan community along the border with Nepal, its center is the once grand, now decaying home of a melancholy retired judge, his valiant cook, and beloved dog.

***Why not take some time this summer to read one or more of the books listed
and then join the book group for their discussions at The Coffee Depot.***

All are welcome!

For questions or for more information, please call Helen Schall at 245-4724



2007-2008 CALENDAR PLANNING RETREAT

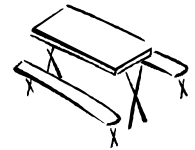
What would you like to see happen at BCCUCC ?

On Wednesday, June 13th, some of the church staff and lay leaders will retreat for the day to plan the church calendar for 2007-2008. **If you have interests, concerns, or desires for what you'd like to see on the calendar, please speak to the Rev. Jeff Larsen, moderator Tom Strolla, or call the church office (246-0111) beforehand so that they can be considered.**

Ministry Team leaders should have received the forms for submitting their proposed plans for 2007-2008. **Completed forms** need to be returned to the church office by **Wednesday, June 6th** so that the information can be included on the draft calendar.

Volunteer Cookout

All office volunteers, *Bridge* volunteers, counters, clergy and church staff are invited to a cook-out on **Thursday, June 14 at Noon** on the **Terrace**. Invitations will be sent out shortly, but if you've volunteered in any of these capacities and don't receive one, please accept our apologies and give the office a call.



We ask all those invited to please R.S.V.P. to the church office (246-0111) by Monday, June 11 so we know how many to cater for.

CHURCH ATTENDANCE

April 22 – 109

April 29 – 289

May 6 – 158

May 13 – 169

May 20 – 188



Burrington Congregational Church
United Church of Christ

YOUR
NAME

Please remember to wear your nametag on Sundays. It's especially important during the summer months when we get a number of visitors "church-shopping". Our wearing of nametags helps them feel more welcome.

To encourage you to wear your nametag for worship **AND** for coffee hour, there are baskets near the exits from Fellowship Hall for you to drop your nametag in when you leave. They will be returned to the rack in the vestry for the next Sunday!

If you need a nametag, please contact the church office and we'll be happy to make one for you.

The calendar for June 2007 as it appeared on page 16 and 17 of the newsletter can be found in a separate document on the calendar page of the website.

In addition, there is a new, on-line calendar that is constantly updated. It is accessible either through the home page of the website or from the calendar page.



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From your Social Action and Justice Ministry Team....



How to Bring Sustainable Practices to Your Community

A workshop for local officials, planners, and citizens from RI and SE Mass is being held on

Friday, June 8th from 9am – 2pm

at Johnson & Wales Inn,

213 Taunton Avenue (Rte. 44), Seekonk, MA.

On hand will be Swedish planner and economist, Torbjorn Lahti, and Sarah James, co-author of the American Planning Association's Planning for Sustainability policy guide.

For details and to download a registration form, go to www.theworldhouse.org/dsfflier.pdf or pick up a copy from the vestry table. For more information, call (401) 724-7700, Ext. 6. Deadline for registration is June 1st.

A Viewing Opportunity

On Monday, June 4, the leading Democratic presidential contenders Hillary Clinton, Barack Obama, and John Edwards will join Jim Wallis, President and Executive Director of Sojourners/Call to Renewal, for a **conversation on faith, values, and poverty**. This will be broadcast live on CNN. Sojourners invites all people of faith to join together to watch this presentation.

Though candidates aren't doing debates across party lines at this point, Sojourners is planning to invite Republican candidates to a similar event later this year. For more information visit their website at www.sojo.net.

National Hunger Awareness Day

Tuesday, June 5, 2007, 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Bank of America City Center, Downtown Providence

On Tuesday, June 5th, join the Rhode Island Community Food Bank for lunch at "One Big Table" to mark National Hunger Awareness Day at the Bank of America City Center in Downtown Providence.

National Hunger Awareness Day is a public awareness initiative led by America's Second Harvest, The Nation's Food Bank Network. The goal of the day is to remind people throughout the country that hunger is a serious, but solvable problem.

The Rhode Island Community Food Bank will be serving a brown bag lunch, provided by Whole Foods Market. For a \$10 contribution, you can pick-up a delicious lunch and beverage. Sit and eat at "One Big Table" or grab and go. Rain date is June 6th.

The Peace Bubble is coming...

Jerry Leggett, the Seawall Singer, will be arriving on June 9th, and will be with us for worship on the 10th. He will be bringing his songs of peace and stories of his travels across the country. He has spent quite a bit of time along the border and also made a trip to the UCC Church in Blacksburg, VA following the tragedy there. He will be "singing out for peace" following worship on the 10th (see article below for more details).

.....and you are invited to make a Tibetan Peace flag

To prepare for Jerry's challenge to imagine what peace would look like, we invite you to join us in **Fellowship Hall** after worship on **June 3rd** to draw or write your vision on a Tibetan "Peace" flag, which we will display on the 10th.

Jerry has been traveling since January and has scheduled stops into December, including at General Synod in Hartford, CT.



Jerry Leggett and The Peace Bubble

Singer-songwriter and United Church of Christ minister Jerry Leggett, also known as "The Sea Wall Singer," will be with us on **Sunday, June 10th** as part of his 2007 "Sing Out for Peace at Noon" Tour. The tour is a non-sectarian, non-partisan effort to celebrate the ideals of peace with stops across the US at public parks, schools, churches, synagogues, mosques, military bases and city halls. As part of the 50th anniversary of the UCC he will be stopping at 50 different UCC congregations, of which we are one.

Following worship Jerry will give a rousing, live music performance from an intimate sound stage, a converted tear-shaped vintage RV, that has been christened "The Peace Bubble". The performance will take place **outside at 11:30 a.m.** The musical menu will include classic peace standards from artists like the Beatles, Bob Dylan and Tracy Chapman and a mix of soul-stirring Leggett originals. For more information check out www.peacebubble.org

So plan to stay after worship on the 10th and enjoy an outdoor concert from Jerry Leggett and his Peace Bubble. Jerry will also be with us during worship that day.

A TOWN MEETING ABOUT IRAQ AND AFGHANISTAN with Senator Sheldon Whitehouse will be held on Sunday, June 10th at 7 p.m. at Woodridge Congregational UCC, 546 Budlong Rd Cranston. All are invited to attend and it is hoped that each RICUCC Church will be well represented at the meeting and will ask a question. Contact Helen Schall at helenschall@hotmail.com or 245-4724 for more information.

News from BorderLinks and Delle

Many of us were touched by the stories that Delle McCormick shared with us back in February. Delle is now asking us to share her journey into the desert with her. Below is an extract from what she recently wrote to us. For the complete letter, go to our website www.bccucc.org and click on the 'Take Action on Social Justice Issues' page, or see the notice board outside the church office.

Hi all,

On Memorial Day, May 28, I will again participate in the 7-day, 75 mile Migrant Trail Walk from Sasabe, Sonora to Tucson, Arizona. (<http://www.derechoshumanosaz.net/>) This pilgrimage is to honor and remember those thousands who have died in the Tucson sector as they crossed the Sonoran Desert (from Mexico into the USA).

I have been thinking about how to raise awareness of this tragic situation and to also raise funds for BorderLinks, which works to educate people about this reality. I came up with the idea of sponsors If you are unable to walk, but would like to participate in the pilgrimage, you can sponsor me for each mile I walk. In turn, I will send you journal entries from the walk so you can accompany me and others as we walk in solidarity with those who have died or risked their lives crossing through the desert. Those who wish to sponsor me are invited to consider anything from 10 cents or more per mile as a tax deductible contribution to BorderLinks. Please send an email to delle@borderlinks.org or call me at 520.204.6295 with your pledge. Checks made out to BorderLinks with "sponsor Delle" in the subject line can be sent to BorderLinks, 620 S 6th Ave. Tucson, AZ 85701.

Even if you aren't able to participate financially, please let me know if you would like me to send notes from the walk. Possibly they will come at the end but if I can get them out as I walk, I will. And please do pray for those whose lives depends on the scraps that fall from our tables. May we find a way to and a place for them at our tables.

Delle

Humane Borders

We are almost ready to send your contributions off to Good Shepherd Church in Sahuarita, Arizona. The change collected in the water bottles so far will provide money for about two "runs" into the desert to maintain the water stations furnished by Humane Borders. We will continue to have the bottles out during the summer months when conditions in the desert are at their very worst. Thank you for your continued support.



For more information on Humane Borders, go to www.humaneborders.org.

Community Soup Kitchen at the Hispanic UCC in Central Falls

July 14 — Music and Missions Teams

Sept 8—Finance and Stewardship Teams

Anyone interested in helping them, either by baking, preparing sandwiches (in July) or a main dish (in September), or serving, should either call a member of the team, or the church office at 246-0111. For more details, contact Lorraine Keeney at 245-3660.

Gift Cards for TapIn

The Mother's Day gift certificates for Shaw's were a great success. Tap-In was very grateful for the \$255.00 given by our church in gift certificates from Shaw's, and cash.

We hope to repeat this activity in June for Father's Day, again following up with a letter writing campaign in support of the One Rhode Island platform (see adjacent article).

Editor's note; On Mother's Day, the Social Action and Justice Ministry Team sold silk tulips. The proceeds were used to purchase Shaw's Gift Cards which were given to TapIn.

Support the One Rhode Island Platform

The One Rhode Island 2008 legislative platform is founded on the belief that "all our neighbors deserve a warm place to live, food on the table and affordable health care." In connection with our support of TapIn, we urge you to write to our legislators asking them to support this platform (full information available at www.oneri.org), particularly the \$150,000 that would continue to provide state funding for a food stamp outreach effort. "This investment leverages federal matching funds. The USDA estimates that every dollar spent in Food Stamps has a multiplier effect of 1.84. If Rhode Island experiences just a 10% increase in food stamp participation, close to \$8 million in federal food stamp dollars would flow to RI generating \$14 million in economic activity." (One RI Platform)

You can contact our legislators at the following e-mail addresses: Susan Story (rep-story@rilin.state.ri.us), David Bates (sen-bates@rilin.state.ri.us) and Jan Malik (rep-malik@rilin.state.ri.us).



presents an informational meeting about



Wednesday, June 13th at 7:30 p.m. at Barrington Public Library.

Learn how you can become the voice of a child in court by becoming a volunteer Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) at this special informational session being sponsored by BOW.

There are over 3,500 children identified as victims of abuse and neglect in Rhode Island but there are only 150 volunteers currently participating in Rhode Island's program. A child with a CASA Volunteer is a child with a stronger voice. See the flier on the vestry table, check out the website www.nationalcasa.org, or call (401) 458-3330 to learn more about the program.

Help pay for BCCUCC's use of Green Energy. Just by switching to using Green Energy in your home, the church will receive \$10. This helps offset the increased cost of using green energy for the church buildings. Go to www.greenstart.net or contact National Grid.

Swing a hammer for Habitat for Humanity!



If you are a novice wanting to learn handyman (or handywoman) basics or an expert willing to share your skills, Habitat gives you the chance to help others out of sub-standard housing and the chance to swing a hammer or wield a paintbrush. We will be sending work parties to the Providence Habitat affiliate on June 23 and August 25. If you are interested in participating or have questions, please contact Francis Seader (474-3853 or seader@cox.net). A typical work party starts on site at 8:30 and usually finishes up mid-afternoon. If you want more information about Habitat Providence, their web site is: <http://www.habitatprov.org>



WANTED serviceable Used Men's Clothing



for **The George Hunt Help Center** - an inner city drop in center for the homeless in Providence. If you can help, please bring the clothes and *leave them in the collection box in the Vestry*. Thank you.

Tap In Food Collection

We continue to collect canned foods for TapIn. Just drop off your donation in one of the containers provided on your way in to church or in the education building kitchen. Thank you.



Design this year's t-shirt for the 2007 "A Great Day of Service"!

Prize: Winning artwork will be featured on the 2007 A Great Day of Service t-shirt.

Contest rules:

1. Who can enter: Students in grades K-12 who reside, attend school, or are members of a congregation in the East Bay, RI.
2. Entry must reflect the spirit of A Great Day of Service and be on the theme of community service, volunteerism, and making the world a better place.
3. One entry per student. Must include student's name, school or congregation, grade, address, phone number. Artwork will not be returned.
4. Must be submitted on 8 1/2 x 11 white paper and created in black and white.
5. Judges will be provided by B.O.W. and all decisions of the judges are final.
6. By entering the contest, the winner allows the use of his/her name without further compensation and artwork may be published on our website along with the designers' name.
7. Selected winner will be notified by August 30, 2007.
8. **Entries must be postmarked by June 15, 2007.** Mail to B.O.W. Great Day of Service Logo Contest, P.O. Box 567, Barrington, RI 02806 .

let it shine — the UCC at 50 years

Now is the time to shine. Whether you are new or are a life-timer to the United Church of Christ, you and your congregation have something vital to celebrate. The UCC is 50 years bold! God has been doing amazing things through this church. Always seeking to be led by Christ, we have sought to embrace others in our fellowship; to be enlivened by worship, scripture, prayer, and sacraments; and to unite with others in working for God's reign of justice and love.

Now, as we celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of our founding Synod, it is time to remember and reflect on the gifts and challenges of our past. As we look toward the future, we see that this is also a time to prayerfully, attentively, listen for God's still-speaking voice. We pray again with our foreparents, "God provide us with your light. Guide us to live faithfully in the demands of this time. Do your work among us."

Five distinctive commitments of the UCC. They are known through the phrases:

- (1) **united and uniting**
- (2) **multiracial and multicultural**
- (3) **accessible to all**
- (4) **open and affirming**
- (5) **and a peace with justice church.**



These commitments have risen from the struggles, prayers, and celebrations of past General Synods. The commitments have taken on flesh, blood, and spirit when lived out in your own church and community. They express how God has been forming us — what kind of people we are becoming.

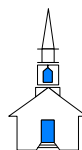
Strengthen the Church

Faithfully Building the
Body of Christ

The **STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH** UCC special offering will be collected on **Sundays, June 3rd and 10th**. Informational leaflets and envelopes will be in the Sunday bulletins those two weeks. Alternatively you can mail a check to the church office payable to BCCUCC with 'Strengthen the Church' in the memo line. Thank you.



The **Cat's Meow** wooden replicas of the church are still available for purchase from the church office. Cost \$20 each.



ARE YOU WILLING TO SERVE?

At the 2007 Annual Meeting of BCCUCC the following people were elected to serve as church officers and ministry team members. **As you can see, there are still a number of open positions.** If you are interested in serving in any of these positions, or just learning more about what is involved, please contact a member of the Nominating Team.

CHURCH OFFICERS

Moderator	Tom Strolla	Church Council Members at Large (3)
Clerk	.....	Dick Almquist
Treasurer	Jon Hoy	Kathleen Larsen
Assistant Treasurer	Matt Stein	Caroline Halliwell
Historian	Bethia Rosner	Delegates to RI Conf. UCC (3 + one youth)
Auditor	Dick McWhirter	Beverly Travers
		Helen Schall
		Carol Spiller
		..... (youth)

MINISTRY TEAMS (listed alphabetically)

The number in parenthesis for each team indicates the required number of members. Names in *italics* are ex gratis members of the team with no official standing but who assist with the work of the team.

Buildings and Grounds (8)	Christian Education & Youth Ministries (8 + 1 youth)	
Richard Fairfield		.....
Rich Simpson	Amy Gorman	.....
Maureen Jean	Camilla Hemingway	.....
Francis Seader	John Loerke	
Keith Strickland	Beth Comer	Deacons (12)
Susan Terhune	Debbi Summers	Lois McCartney
Jay Buckley	Carol Strakosch	Jim McCartney
Paul Dennis	Greg Voigt	Van Edwards
<i>Nelson Hawkins</i>	Lynne Lehman	Beverly Travers
	..... (youth)	Susan Seader
Chancel (4)	<i>Nancy Speed</i>	Lorraine Keeney
Carolyn Faulhaber		Doug Roach
Barbara Smith	Christian Fellowship (8)	Marshall Hoyler
Sue Terhune	Vicki Belmont	Mary Lou Slicker
Cheryl Muth	Dianne Todd	Achina Stein
<i>Carol Louttit</i>	.....	Chris Brady
<i>Stephanie Edwards</i>	.....	Bill DeWitt

Endowment (6)

Helen MacDonald
George Bolton
Gary Clark
Tom Lennon
Lee Miller
Joan Miller

Finance (6)

Mike Hoyt
Leslie Strolla
Tom Colby
Ron House
Joe Weissfeld
.....

Lay Visitation

(This is a non-elected group)

Janet Barnes
Jan Cornish
Emil Faubert
Nancy Martin
Janet Morrison
Stewart Morrison
Marjorie Stumpf
Barbara Ward
Paul Welch

Membership (8)

Marilyn Packard-Luther
Lisa Holby
Lynn Hoy
Jeanne Fulford
Steve Terhune
Paula Movsesian
Pat Cordeiro
Phyllis Buckley

Missions (6)

Anthony McCormick
Steve Fodor
Marylouise Gamache
.....
.....
.....

Music (5)

Ada Mahler
Pat Stoddard
Dorothy Muth
Mary Kutcher
Barbara Wuth

Nominating (5)

Marion Fodor
Greg Voigt
Pat Rude
Marylouise Gamache
Leslie Peck

Pastor-Parish Relations (5)

Moyne Cabbage
Phyllis Buckley
Lynne Lehman
Jim McCartney
.....

Personnel (3)

John Loerke
Clyde Slicker
.....

Social Action and Justice (8)

Helen Schall
Nancy Arena
Ann Wood
Martha Leibbrandt
Ginger Cater
.....
.....
.....
Mackenzie Cater

Stewardship (5)

Ron House
Eileen Dennis
.....
.....
.....

Ushering (1)

Bob Kaloostian

Who is the Chair of your Ministry Team?

PLEASE let the church office know a.s.a.p who is the leader of your Ministry Team for 2007-2008.

If you haven't yet decided on a team leader, then please choose a person on the team to receive e-mail and other communications for the rest of the team, and then let the church office know who that person will be. Thank you. Contact the office at 246-0111 or bccucc@fullchannel.net.

★ Thank You! ★ ★ THANK YOU! ★

...to the April Faithworks disciples: Andrew&Camilla Hemingway, Nancy Speed, Bill and Mary Dewitt.

...to Maureen Jean, Pat Rude, Carol Louttit, Pat Stoddard, Keith Strickland and Travis Strickland for all of their hard work on Church Clean-Up Day

...to Kathleen Larsen for all the wonderful photos she takes at church events which she shares with others and makes available for the website

...to Nancy Speed for making the wonderful DVD that was shown during worship on May 13th when the mission trip participants led worship

....to all of the retiring church officers and ministry team members who faithfully served their term in office

...to all of the church members who have agreed to serve as church officers, or on a ministry team

...to Eleanor Chisholm who has come into the office every Friday afternoon to stuff the bulletins and mail out the bulletin to our homebound members. After many years of faithful ministry she has decided to retire—we are grateful for her years of service

...to Katrina Swihart, Courtney Selvage, members of the Sing and Celebrate Choir, Adult Vocal and Bell choirs, Marina Zabinski and Barbara Ward, for the special music they provided for Music Celebration Sunday

...to Dave Gregory for all of his work at the recent blood drive held at our church, and to all of the other volunteers who helped by baking, serving or assisting in some way with this event.

Thank you for your ministry



Thank you to Catanzaro and Sons, Inc. for their usual fine work in painting the education building in April. We appreciate the extra effort on their part to help us keep within our budget for the project.



Our church member “handyman” has helped out a number of church members and continues to donate his services by doing odd jobs around the house or yard. Church members that are in need, either financially or physically, are welcome to call the church office at 246-0111 for more information.

How well does the church communicate?

Jeff, Pat and Christine are looking at the various ways in which the church communicates with its members on a regular basis. We need your feedback to know if we're being successful in keeping you informed, or if there are some improvements that could be made.

Our goal with all forms of communication is to

- Get information out to the congregation in a timely manner
- Assure the accuracy of the information
- Present it in a way that it's easy to find, read and understand
- Reach as many congregation members as possible

There are a number of ways in which information is regularly disseminated to the congregation. These are:

The weekly announcements sheet in the Sunday bulletin

The monthly newsletter, *The Bridge*

The weekly "E-nnouncements" sent out each Wednesday via e-mail *

The church website www.bccucc.org which is regularly updated with new information. The weekly announcements and the newsletter are on our website, as well as an up-to-date church calendar

In addition, Jeff sends out his e-mail "weekly" in which he shares some of his thoughts for the upcoming Sunday worship service[†]

Please let us know how we're doing. Your feedback is important so that we can work on making any improvements.

You may contact us by filling out the survey overleaf or by e-mailing us with your suggestions/comments at bccucc@fullchannel.net or jeffbccucc@fullchannel.net. Completed forms may be returned to the box on the vestry table or to the church office. Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey.

**To receive the weekly E-nnouncements e-mail Pat at patbccucc@fullchannel.net*

† To receive "Jeff's Weekly" e-mail Jeff at jeffbccucc@fullchannel.net

(Continued on page 28)

(Continued from page 27)

Which of the following methods of communication are useful to you in finding out what's happening at church?

- Weekly Announcement Sheet in Sunday bulletin
- The Bridge*, monthly newsletter
- "E-nouncements" e-mailed out mid week
- Church Website www.bccucc.org

What do you like, what don't you like, and/or what improvements would you like to see in any (or all) of the following:

Weekly Announcements:

.....

.....

The Bridge:

.....

.....

E-nouncements:

.....

.....

Church Website:

.....

.....

Name (optional)

BARRINGTON CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC
MINUTES from the ANNUAL MEETING
MAY 20, 2007

Article I: The meeting was called to order at 11:05AM by Moderator Tom Strolla. Before beginning, Rev. Larsen offered a prayer.

Article II: The annual reports of all officers and ministry teams were accepted. A report was received from the Cottage Meetings. Everyone was thanked for their participation.

Fred MacDonald reported on the progress of the Associate Minister Search Committee. In a month's time the Committee has been elected, updated our Church's Profile and has had it posted on the denomination's website. A single page "job posting" has been sent to 5 seminaries with one response received so far and more expected in June.

Paul Dennis spoke regarding the state of our Capital Improvement Fund. We need to be proactive in identifying our needs. It was recommended that the church increase the Capital Improvement Budget in 2008.

Article III: Helen MacDonald presented the slate of officers, delegates and ministry team members. A motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved to accept.

Article IV: An update from the Fire Safety sub-committee was presented. The congregation was shown pictures and drawings of the two proposed exit stairways. Dick McWhirter outlined what monies have been raised and spent so far. Funding scenarios were discussed and Paul Dennis gave a detailed explanation as to why the sub-committee recommends the interior stairway. After much discussion a motion was made to "approve the interior stairway option to provide a safe emergency exit from the Sanctuary, and authorize the Church Council to approve a fund raising plan to cover remaining costs of the Fire Safety Program up to \$100,000." The language of the motion was clarified to "approve a *funding plan* vs. fund raising plan. The motion was then seconded and after more discussion, was passed with a single dissenting vote.

Article V: A motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously that the Church Council appoint a By-Laws review committee to begin that process within the year.

Article VI: Rev. Larsen thanked Moderator Strolla for all his hard work and after a prayer, the meeting was adjourned at 11:45AM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Barbara Wuth, Clerk

DIRECTORY ADDITION

We welcome new members Ginger and Larry Cater and their children, Mackenzie and Austin. Please add their information to your church directory. They live at 36 Ferry Lane, Barrington RI 02806. Phone (401) 289-2194



Help keep us informed

Please let us know if either you or a church member you know of is in the hospital or is in need of a pastoral visit. You can call the church office and speak with Jeff directly or leave a confidential message on his voice mail at 246-0111 ext. 103. You can also e-mail him directly at jeffbuccucc@fullchannel.net

Worship Services Recorded



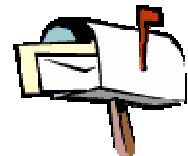
The weekly worship services are once again being audio tape recorded. The tapes may be borrowed from the church office if you are interested in hearing a particular service, either because you were unable to attend or because you want to hear it again.

If you have a **prayer request**, you are invited to contact Kathleen Larsen at KLarsenswc@hotmail.com or 247-1787 who will pass on the request to the BCCUCC E-Prayer chain. All prayer requests are kept confidential.

Can't make it to church?

If you are homebound, or sick for an extended period and unable to come to church, we are happy to mail you a copy of our weekly bulletin. Just call the church office at 246-0111 and we'll add your name to the list.

Letters from our mailbox



My dear Church family,

I feel very touched by the Easter lily Achina Stein brought to me a few days before Easter. We had a warm visit with her and her daughter, Tara. It truly brightened my day. I also want to thank the congregation for the many cards and prayers I received, especially Jeff for his visits which were so uplifting for me. With warm regards to all,

Dottie Butler

To Rev. Larsen, members and friends of my church,

A BIG THANK YOU to all for the visits, the altar and Easter plants, and all the nice get well cards while I was in the hospital.

God bless you all,

May Smith

Family Footnotes



Congratulations to . .

Paula McHale and Scott Rubinow
married May 5th, 2007

Laura Tabor and David Bastiani
married May 19th, 2007

Congratulations to the
following youth who were
confirmed on April 29, 2007



Zachary Arnold Laura Bilotti
Lauren Browning Emily Caesar
Kerstin Caesar Andrew Lennon
Stephanie Randazzo
Gabrielle Sclafani
Courtney Selvage Sara Slye
Terrin Strickland Lucy Strolla

Baptisms

Emily Laurel Horn

Daughter of Bill and Catherine Horn

Nicholas Richard Whitlock

Son of Richard and Rachel Whitlock



**For in the one spirit we were
all baptized into one body.**

1 Corinthians 12:13



BIRTHS

Connor Leo Welch

born April 17, 2007
to Heather and Jonathan Welch
Grandson to Paul and Peg Welch
and to Leo and Sheila Hourihan

NEW MEMBERS

*Ginger & Larry
Cater*

Joined May 6, 2007



**We offer our
prayers, support
and sympathy to....**

Marylouise Gamache on the death of
her father;

to Simeon Hawes on the death of his
father, Frederick Hawes;

and to the families of Robert Kelsey,
Richard Cobb, Jr., and Jane Thurston.



Eileen Dennis's mother;
Marilyn Packard-Luther's
mother, Ruth Packard;

Mike D'Orlando;

Vera Eaton;

and Dottie Butler.