

THE WHITE CHURCH



BRIDGE

May 2009

Dear Friends,

I love the arrival of spring! Not only do I love it personally because it means more outdoor activities but I love it professionally because we look forward to Confirmation Sunday, Mother's Day, Jubilation Sunday...and other really fun days here.

But as a parent there is always a little part of me that worries in the spring – things like proms and graduations. These are wonderful events but in my memory bank are too many connections with drinking and driving and youth fatalities. There are too many people in this town (of all ages) who think they are immune to tragedy and they make really dumb decisions as a result of that. I am one of the ones who gets called in the middle of the night when it happens...and I will never get used to that.

We have had a couple of parent discussion groups here although it is discouraging how few come to them. But in private discussions with many of you I know how much you care about this issue too. Parents need to support each other, talk with each other, know the parents of your kid's friends and not be afraid to call them if you wonder about something. Parents need to know that it is OK to set rules and follow them, set curfew times and adhere to them, be the bad guy instead of the friend.

One little line that I found on a website called faceproject.org said, "Don't be afraid of losing your child's love, be afraid of losing them." I want us all to enjoy this spring... and not lose one of you in the process!

I love you all,



Sunday Services in May



May 3	10 a.m.	Worship Service with Communion, Church School
May 10		<i>Mothers' Day</i>
	10 a.m.	Worship Service with Sing and Celebrate Choir, Church School
May 17		<i>Music Celebration Sunday</i>
	10 a.m.	Worship Service with Bells and Sing and Celebrate Choir, Church School
May 24	10 a.m.	Worship Service, Faith and Fun
May 31		<i>Jubilation Sunday</i> (see page 4)
	10 a.m.	Worship Service led by Church School Children, Nursery Care
	After Worship	All Church Picnic, Pie Contest and Sale (see page 5)

Church School for Pre-School through Grade 8

CLERGY AWAY

Rev. Elizabeth Barnum will be away from the office **May 5-7** for the New England Association of United Church Educators (NEAUCE) meeting in Craigville, MA.

Rev. Jeff Larsen will be away from the office **May 8-15**.

DEACONS FOR MAY

Sam Sylvester (star deacon), Van Edwards, Lorraine Keeney, Doug Roach,
Helen Schall, and Mary Lou Slicker.

If in a pastoral emergency you cannot reach either Jeff (247-1787) or Elizabeth (245-3567) please call on one of the deacons.

From our Associate Minister



I've just returned from the Mission Trip to the H.O.M.E. co-op community in Orland, Maine with a wonderful group of high school youth and adult volunteers. Wow! The guiding principle of H.O.M.E. is "Serve First Those Who Suffer Most" and they take this principle seriously and live it out daily. Sister Lucy Poulin and Sister Marie Ahern were part of the founding of this community nearly 40 years ago and today, in addition to providing five homeless shelters and two transitional houses, they also provide automotive services for low-income people, up to 9,000 hot lunches annually at their market stand/kitchen, 4,500 food boxes annually from the food pantry, permanent housing opportunities for low-income people (52 houses!), gardens & farm-shares for elders and low-income residents, GED tutoring, a day-care center, and summer camp – among many other services of the hearts and hands! H.O.M.E. is a very special place, modeling the Gospel message in inspiring ways.

There was hardly a cloud in the sky all week, the sun was bright, and spirits were generous. We worked hard to help at several sites within the community: fixing picnic tables, raking, spring clean-up of the grounds – including clearing out the greenhouse that had collapsed over the winter, taking down a shed, spring cleaning of their thrift shop, re-locating wood pallets, meeting many of the members of the community, shoveling ash from their wood-burning heat sources, cooking a community dinner, and starting a garden patch in the day care playground. In addition to the work, there was also time for play as musical instruments, playing cards, and s'mores came out during free-time. We also had the chance to go on an afternoon hike in Acadia National Park. The mountaintop views were just one indication of God's presence in the world. We were blessed to work and play, serve and learn, give and receive all week long.

At the community dinner on Thursday evening, I spoke with the volunteer coordinator as she sat down for her meal. She mentioned how hard a day it had been. People at H.O.M.E. do everything they can to assist those who are suffering – and she said the day had been a particularly hard one. She was grateful to be sitting down for dinner to get some nourishment for body & soul. When someone asked her if she was ready to leave to head home for the evening, I overheard her say with a smile and enthusiasm, "No, I'm not going yet, I'm going to stay here at dinner and talk with these kids!" This was testimony, I believe, to the nourishment people provide one another when coming together in community. As I looked around the room at dinner that night and saw people cooking, cleaning, serving, eating, laughing, sharing, playing & listening to the live music (provided by our Mission Trippers), it felt like we were all truly at a table of love (the expression that resonates with me when I think of the communion table). We were all part of one human family, all serving one another, receiving from one another – no person any more or less than another – sharing God's gift of bounty and blessing. Amen & Happy Eastertide.

Peace,



Make a note to join us on ...
Music Celebration Sunday

May 17th at 10 a.m.

Please join us for this special service when we lift up and express our thanks for the role of music in the worship life of this church. All those regularly involved in music ministry will participate, and there will also be special group anthems.

Adult Vocal Choir - White Church Ringers - Sing and Celebrate Choir

Jubilation Sunday

Sunday, May 31st

Worship Service for ALL AGES
10 a.m.



We'll gather **outside around the Ark on the playground**, weather permitting. Come celebrate with the church school children as they share the story of Noah's Ark in story, song, and with spirit.

What to bring: parasols, hats, sunscreen if it is sunny, fans if it is warm, coat or sweater if it is chilly, blankets if you'd like to sit on the ground picnic-style (we'll have plenty of chairs set up too).

What to wear: The CEYM Team members will be dressing up as **colors of the rainbow** and we **invite all church members to dress in the color of their choice!** All children in grades PreK-8 are invited **to dress as any animal of their choice** to fill our ark with all the creatures of the earth!

Church School Families: Please watch for more details in the weekly bulletin and email announcements. Contact Andrea Bullard or Elizabeth Barnum for more information.



A PICNIC hosted by CEYM follows the worship service outside on the church patio and playground.

ALL ARE INVITED

There will also be a PIE CONTEST & SALE during the picnic (see next page).

PIE BAKING CONTEST AND SALE

Jubilation Sunday, May 31, 2009



Participants are asked to bake **two of the same pie** for this event:

- one pie to be entered into the pie baking contest to be “tasted and judged” by the congregation and eaten as dessert at our All Church Picnic being held after worship that day
- the other pie to be sold to raise money for the church’s use of GreenStart energy. We’re hoping to raise enough money to help pay for the additional cost of using this renewable source of energy.

We need to know ahead of time how many pies are coming, **so please sign up by Sunday, May 24** to Heather Sugg at 433-4842 or ridsug2@juno.com.

For more information about the GreenStart program, contact Ginger Cater of the Social Action and Justice Team at 289-2194 or vhcater@cox.net

So even if you’re unable to bake something, we hope you’re able to support the sale portion of the event – by coming ready to buy a pie in support of our fundraiser. Thank you.



There has been a change to the schedule thanks to an additional church joining those who provide Saturday meals for the Community Soup kitchen in

Pawtucket. BCCUCC is now scheduled once every 9 weeks and is on for May 23, July 25, September 26, November 28, and January 30.

Our ministry teams do this on a rotating basis but often need additional help from members of the congregation—either by going to the soup kitchen to help serve and/or by providing a main dish, fruit or dessert, dropped off at the church.

To volunteer please contact our soup kitchen coordinators Diane or Drew Todd at (401) 245-4681 or e-mail Drew at todda09@bpsmail.org or Diane at diane.todd@verizonbusiness.com.



Beyond Our Walls (BOW) sends volunteers to Habitat for Humanity on the

4th Saturday of every month. So whether you’re a novice 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. If you are interested in participating please contact Rich Simpson of BCCUCC (247-1005 or rts.ri@cox.net) or David Renner of BOW at daverenner@cox.net. For more information about Habitat Providence, visit their web site at <http://www.habitatprov.org>

Mark your calendar for



**BACCALAUREATE
SUNDAY
June 14th**

At the 10 a.m. worship service, **high school graduates** (no matter what their school) have been invited to attend church wearing their gowns. During the service the graduates will be recognized and honored for their accomplishments.

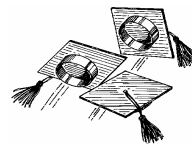
The service will end by 11 a.m. to allow time for graduates to get to the ceremonies being held later the same day.

The annual Kathleen L. Fodor Scholarships will also be awarded at the service (see article below).

Attention All Graduates !

Each year we publish the names of graduates - **from high school and from college** - in the June *Bridge*. In order to do this **we need their names!** If a member of your family is graduating this spring, please call the church office (246-0111) or e-mail us at office@bccucc.org and let us know their name, from what high school or college they are graduating, and, if they plan to continue their education, at what institution.

In order to be included in the June *Bridge*, **information must be in the church office by May 15th.**



**Kathleen Lynne Fodor
(KLF) MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

The Christian Education and Youth Ministries Team announces that applications for the Kathleen L. Fodor (KLF) Memorial Scholarship are available to members of the Barrington Congregational Church, UCC, who are pursuing education or training beyond high school. Two \$400 scholarships will be awarded this year. Selection will be made by random drawing, and announced on Baccalaureate Sunday, June 14th.

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. Students who applied previously are welcome to apply again. Application forms are on the vestry table, outside the church office, or on the church website on the 'Information for Church Members' page. **The deadline is May 31st, 2009.** We encourage all who are eligible to apply. Questions? Call Andrea Bullard at (401) 474-4722.

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



FAITH AND FUN SUMMER CHURCH SCHOOL

Starting Sunday, June 7th there will be child care in the nursery as usual, and the Faith & Fun Summer Church School will begin. This program, for elementary aged children, will include simple bible stories, crafts, snacks and outside play time.

We are looking for volunteers for June and July. If you are interested please contact Andrea Bullard @ 246-0111 x 107 or andrea@bccucc.org



Summer Fun at St. James Lutheran Church

49 Middle Highway, Barrington

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Monday—Friday July 6-10, 2009

VBS 9 a.m.—4 p.m.

(8-9 a.m. Drop Off and 4-5 p.m. Pick Up)

Ages 4-12 \$100 per child

Expertly trained staff from Calumet Lutheran Camp will be at St. James Lutheran Church to provide the best Vacation Bible School experience your child can have!

To sign up contact St. James Lutheran church (401) 246-0227 www.stjames-ri.org

Parenting for Prevention Tip # 8 offered by Barrington's Substance Abuse Task Force (BAY Team)

1 out of 3 children has been bullied. Bullying can be verbal, physical or online and can lead to low self-esteem and depression.

- Learn the signs—school avoidance, tardiness, physical complaints, frequent loss of belongings
- Talk with AND listen to your kids everyday
- Teach kids to say, "Stop bullying!"
- Teach about cyberbullying—no mean or threatening words or images, no posting of private or sensitive information, and no pretending online to be someone else
- Model kind behavior by strengthening your own adult communications.

JUNIOR PILGRIM FELLOWSHIP (JPF)

All youth in grades 6-8 are invited to participate

Friday, May 8th 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. JPF Dinner & Program (prepare something special for Mother's Day). Meet in Room 6. *RSVP by May 4th*

Sunday, May 17th 4:00 -6:00 p.m. Mini golf and ice cream. *RSVP by May 11th*.

A Sunday afternoon in June JPF Picnic and Hike. Details TBA.

If an RSVP is requested, please do so to Leslie Peck at 245-1820 or PeckMarketing@cox.net. Please note that if insufficient RSVP's are received by the deadline, the activity may be cancelled!

SENIOR PILGRIM FELLOWSHIP (SPF)

All youth in grades 9-12 are invited to participate

Sunday, May 17th 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. Dinner & Mission Trip Wrap-Up
(Kitchen & Library) *RSVP by May 15*

Sunday, May 31st 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. Dinner & Program
(Fellowship Hall) *RSVP by May 29*

RSVP to Elizabeth Barnum at 246-0111 or elizabeth@bccucc.org



GODLY PLAY TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Visit www.godlyplay.org for more information.

GODLY PLAY CORE TRAINING (attend all 3 days)

May 9, May 30 and August 29, 2009

Sponsored by the Diocese of Massachusetts at All Saints Episcopal Church, Belmont, MA

Contact: Nancy St John 781-383-2627 nsj10@comcast.net

GODLY PLAY INTRODUCTION/REFRESHER WORKSHOP*

October 24, 2009

Barrington Congregational Church, U.C.C.

Contact: Rev. Elizabeth Barnum 401-246-0111 ext. 104 elizabeth@bccucc.org

Trainer: Jenn Sanborn

*This is a special *Godly Play* Day-Long Retreat for all adults, parents, teachers, storytellers & doorpersons. An opportunity not to be missed!



U.C.C. SUMMER CAMP OPPORTUNITIES ACROSS NEW ENGLAND

There are a number of excellent summer church camp opportunities offered through the conferences of the United Church of Christ every summer across New England. Check out the websites below or please speak with Elizabeth Barnum if you'd like more information.



CONNECTICUT: Visit <http://silverlake.ctucc.org/>

Silver Lake (Litchfield County): Each summer, Silver Lake continues the proud tradition of being the vibrant church camp for up to 1300 fourth graders through high school-age young people.

MAINE: Visit <http://www.pilgrimlodge.org/schedule.html>

Pilgrim Lodge: Pilgrim Lodge is located on a lake in West Gardiner, Maine. During the summer months Pilgrim Lodge is the central location for the youth ministry program of the Maine Conference. The program also includes trip camps at other locations and weekend events for adults.

MASSACHUSETTS: Visit <http://www.macucc.org/leadership/Summercamps.htm>

Craigville, Cape Cod, MA: Two great opportunities offered this summer including an Adult Music Camp and Family Camp.

NEW HAMPSHIRE: Visit: <http://www.hortoncenter.org/summercamp.htm>

Horton Center: Located outside of Gorham, NH, on Pine Mountain lays this site. As a more rustic site, they offer programs that may include hiking, canoeing, rock climbing.

Star Island: One of the rocky, wind-swept Isles of Shoals, located off the coast of Rye, NH. Two weeks of family camps are offered by the U.C.C. on Star Island. Registration for these events can be made directly through www.starisland.org

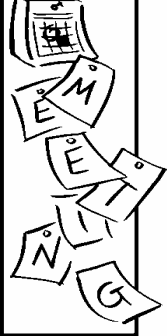
RHODE ISLAND: Visit http://www.ricucc.org/OutdoorMinistry_website/Camp.html

Irons Homestead, Glocester, RI: Site of the RICUCC outdoor ministries program. This summer's schedule will include: Grandparents Camp, Family Camp, Adventure Camp and Music Camp.

VERMONT: Visit: http://www.vtcucc.org/Covenant_Hills_Camp.html

Covenant Hills Camp: In partnership with the Methodist camp, the Vermont Conference of the U.C.C. offers outdoor ministries each summer.

ANNUAL



All are invited to attend the
Annual Meeting

of the Barrington Congregational Church, UCC on

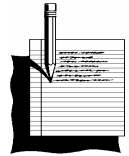
SUNDAY, JUNE 7TH, 2009 (this is a change from the original date set)

immediately following worship in the Sanctuary.

As always, church members are encouraged to make every effort to attend this very important church meeting. *Child care will be provided.*

Coffee hour will take place in Fellowship Hall after the Annual Meeting.

ANNUAL REPORTS due MAY 4TH



The leaders of the various ministry teams, together with the church officers are reminded that the **deadline for submitting annual reports is Monday, May 4th**. (Note: the deadline hasn't changed even though the date of the Annual Meeting has). If possible, submissions should be by e-mail as an attachment to the church office at office@bccucc.org. However, reports are accepted in any form.

Note: The 2009 Annual Report for BCCUCC will be posted on the church website by May 22nd so congregation members may read it prior to the Annual Meeting. Some copies will also be available for pick up after that date (if you don't have a computer).

WARRANT FOR ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of the Barrington Congregational Church, United Church of Christ is hereby called to take place on **Sunday, June 7th, 2009** in the Sanctuary **immediately after Worship**.

Article I: To call the meeting to order.

Article II: To receive and vote upon the Nominating Team's Report.

Article III: To vote on the proposed By-Laws changes.

Article IV: To hear a report from the Finance Team on the status of the 2009 Budget, and, if appropriate, restore the originally budgeted support of OCWM.

Article V: To consider any other business that may properly come before the meeting.

Article VI: To adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted, *Barbara Wuth*, Clerk

What's in YOUR budget?

Housing (Rent, mortgage, taxes...)
Utilities
Food
Barrington Congregational Church, UCC

- Pledged support
- Deacon's Fund
- One Great Hour of Sharing
- Mission Trip

Education
Health & Wellness
Insurance
Entertainment



How do you budget your finances?

Do you use nifty software, download records from your bank account and balance your checkbook monthly?

Perhaps you keep detailed handwritten records in a series of notebooks.

Maybe you just cross your fingers and hope you will have enough.

Whatever its form, where is the church in your budget?

Is it a Super Category containing subcategories of missions and needs?

Is it “food” for your soul, or maybe buried in memberships or (forgive me) entertainment?

If you're not pledging, how do you calculate a fair “drop-in” rate?

Church belongs in many places, which is the definition of a super category; maybe it should be budgeted for too (the definition of a pledge)?

100% Participation

57% of member-households pledge their financial support to BCCUCC! Thank you to all who do. If you haven't yet made a pledge, please consider doing so (in any amount) and help us reach our goal of 100% participation.

STEWARDSHIP TRIVIA



Who was the first person to make a formal pledge to Barrington Congregational Church, in what year, and for how much?

Send your guess to lcbohner@cox.net. Answer posted in the June Bridge.

The calendar for May 2009
as it appeared on page 12 and 13 of the newsletter
can be found in a separate document
on the calendar page of the website.

In addition, the **church's on-line calendar** can also be
accessed either through the home page of the website
or from the calendar page.



GREAT MOMENTS IN HISTORY:
"BECAUSE WE'VE ALWAYS DONE IT THIS WAY! THAT'S WHY!"
... IS SAID FOR THE FIRST TIME IN A CHURCH BOARD MEETING.

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DISCUSSION OF THE PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE BY-LAWS

Sunday, May 17th ~ after worship ~ in the Library

The By-Laws Review Task Force, in conjunction with the Church Council, has been working hard on a revision of the Church By-Laws. The revision will be available for review on the Church website by May 8th; go to www.bccucc.org and click on 'Information for Church Members' for a link to the document, which you can either read on-line or print. A limited number of hard copies will be available for those without internet access. The office will also have a copy available for review if needed.

We urge you to take some time to read the draft and also attend this important discussion, especially if you have a particular area of interest. We hope that having a discussion prior to the Annual Meeting will shorten the time needed for discussion on that day.

The revised By-Laws will be presented for approval at the Annual Meeting on June 7th after worship.

*Revised Church
By-Laws*



You can "recycle" your copy of *The Bridge* by passing it on to a friend or neighbor. It's a great introduction to BCCUCC and all the wonderful things happening here. Or if you read *The Bridge* on line, let them know about our church website www.bccucc.org where they can read our newsletter, as well as find lots of other information about our church.

If you have a **prayer request**, you are invited to call Kathleen Larsen at 247-1787 or e-mail her at KLarsenswc@hotmail.com who will pass it on to the confidential e-prayer chain.

E-mail Prayer Chain



If you have a concern, you are invited to contact a member of the Pastor Parish Relations Team. They meet regularly and deal with the concerns of the ministers, the staff and the congregation—so feel free to contact any of their members: Phyllis Buckley (245-1098), Lynne Lehman (289-0101), Jim McCartney (245-3288), Sharon Sylvester (247-4532) or Marshall Hoyler (245-1118).

The place God calls you to is the place where your deep gladness and the world's deep hunger meet. - Frederick Buechner

WHAT DO YOU ENJOY DOING AND FIND FULFILLING?

Perhaps it's teaching church school, or singing in the church choir, or campaigning for social justice issues, or keeping our church buildings in good condition, or greeting people before worship on a Sunday morning, or overseeing the finances of the church, or welcoming new members, or helping out in the nursery. These are just a few of the many different and varied opportunities for ministry at Barrington Congregational Church, UCC, that you could be a part of. It all depends where "your deep gladness" lies and what your gifts and talents are.

On the other hand, perhaps you've been doing the same thing at church for years, but you'd like a change and want to try something different that might "stretch" you.

The Nominating Ministry Team is currently looking for people to serve on Ministry Teams. A number of positions will be opening up in May and they ask that you consider serving on one that interests you. You are always welcome to call and speak with the team leader and/or attend a meeting to learn more. You can also read reports from all the different ministry teams in the Annual Report which can be found on the 'Information for Church Members' page of our church website www.bccucc.org

To volunteer or just learn more about what it means to serve on a ministry team, contact Greg Voigt (245-9606), Mary Louise Gamache (245-9914), Bernie Hawes (437-1860) or Jim McCartney (245-3288) from the Nominating Ministry Team.

Please note that our church by-laws require that to officially serve on a Ministry Team, you must be a member of this church.

Tot's are having their **Annual Yard Sale** in the church parking lot on Saturday, May 2nd from 8 a.m.—2 p.m. (Rain date May 9th). Anyone with items they would be willing to donate to the Yard Sale can contact Allyson Hansen at 245-2708. Anyone interested in renting space to sell their own stuff at the Tot's yard sale may also contact Allyson. Please support them in their fundraising efforts.



Is this yours?

Dishes belonging to church members have once again accumulated in the kitchen of the education building. They have been placed on top of the microwave by the back door. In addition, we still have a crock pot left from the chili contest. Please claim anything belonging to you and take it home. Those remaining will be given to Tap-In. Thank you.

The Women's Faith Group welcomes all women from BCCUCC as well as from other churches and faith traditions. They meet twice a month on Thursdays from **10—11:30 a.m.** in **Room 6**.



On **May 7 and 21** they will continue their study of
Gilead by Marilynne Robinson.

On **June 4** they will meet for the last time before taking a break for the summer.
This session will be followed by a brown bag lunch.

For more information contact Carol Louttit at 245-2299 or chl2299@aol.com or Nancy Martin at 273-1078 or nancy.martin3@verizon.net.



The sessions of the **LIVING THE QUESTIONS** adult education program continue to go well and we are continuing the series. Each session includes a 20-minute DVD segment that includes a variety of voices on each theme, then follows with discussion and concludes with prayer or a take-home reading & practice. Optional take-home pre-readings are also available by email the week prior to each session.

The program is divided into three sections:

(1) Invitation to Journey, (2) Reclaiming the World, and (3) Call to Covenant.

The next session will include:

May 3rd	Out into the World	<i>Library</i>
May 10th	Restoring Relationships	<i>Library</i>
May 17th	The Prophetic Jesus	<i>Room 8</i>

(The series will not meet during the summer months but will begin again in Sept.)

Gather in the Library (or Room 8 on 5/17) between 11:15 and 11:30. Sessions begins at **11:30 a.m.** and conclude at approx. 12:30 p.m.

Please stay tuned to announcements in Wednesday email, weekly bulletin, and future Bridges for further dates and times. Facilitators will rotate between sessions. Speak with Elizabeth Barnum if you have any questions.

UCC Women from all of New England will gather in Burlington, Vermont on March 12 - 14, 2010 for their 8th Celebration. The theme will be "TOGETHER BUILDING BRIDGES....a time to break down and a time to build up..." Ecclesiastes 3:3.

Save the date and watch for further announcements.





The **Dine-Out Group** invites you to join them for dinner on

Friday, May 8th

when they will eat at the

Venus de Milo Restaurant

75 Grand Army Highway, Swansea, MA.

Reservations must be made by Tuesday, May 5th to Sue Black at 245-2772 or by e-mail at Sueandjimblack@gmail.com.

Come on out! All are welcome!

The **Third Friday Bridge Group** will meet on



Friday, May 15th

at 7 PM in the Vestry.

Come enjoy an evening of cards, fellowship, refreshments and prizes. All bridge players are invited, and need not have a partner to enjoy this fun evening. For further information contact Sheila Hutton at 245-4941.



The Summer Worship schedule will run from **Sunday, June 28 to Sunday, September 6.**

During this time the worship service will begin at the earlier time of 9 a.m.

CHURCH ATTENDANCE

March 22 – 178

March 29 – 176

April 5 – 293

April 9 – 66
Maundy Thursday

April 12 – 413
Easter

April 19 – 169



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

Friday, May 15th.

Book Group

next meets on

Tuesday, May 19th

at 7:30 p.m.

at The Coffee Depot

501 Main Street, Warren.

All are welcome!



They will discuss the book

Sense and Sensibility

by Jane Austen

Jane Austen's first published novel, *Sense and Sensibility* is a wonderfully entertaining tale of flirtation and folly that revolves around two starkly different sisters, Elinor and Marianne Dashwood.



THE 203RD ANNUAL MEETING OF THE RHODE ISLAND CONFERENCE

Saturday, May 2nd Registration from 8 a.m.

Peace Dale Congregational Church, 261 Columbia Street, Peace Dale RI

“The Word for All Ages”

Keynote Speaker: The Rev. Dr. Robert W. Pazmino,
Valeria Stone Professor of Christian Education, Andover Newton Theological School.

Visitors are welcome to attend in addition to the delegates.

Early registration deadline was April 22nd—but it’s not too late to register—contact the Conference office at 724-7700 or visit their website www.ricucc.org for a registration form.

Three different **WORKSHOPS** are being offered at the Annual Meeting:

Pastor as Teacher - Bob Pazmino will offer a workshop for clergy to discuss the importance of teaching in the pastoral role. Bob will share different approaches and ideas that will help pastors to reaffirm and grasp new ways to educate congregations through the work of the church.

Bringing the Church Home - Learn and share ideas that help us to remember that our faith is not only a Sunday morning thing. How can we live out our faith in our everyday lives sharing our faith with future generations?

Adult Education - Christian Education does not end with the confirmation process. We are all lifelong learners and as communities of faith we learn from one another. Come and discover some new adult education opportunities and resources.

Be sure to sign up for a workshop on your Annual Meeting Registration!!

RICUCC Annual Meeting **PEACE BREAKFAST** at **8:15am** will feature Ray Frackelton, Ph.D., as speaker. Ray is Green Team founder and Trustee at Newman Congregational Church, Rumford; and Chair of the Board, RI Interfaith Power and Light. He has been involved with RI-IPL's efforts to talk with congregations around RI about the climate-change crisis, the Faith-basis of our response to the crisis, and steps that houses-of-worship and individual households can implement to lower their carbon footprints.

Sign up to attend the Peace Breakfast when completing your Annual Meeting registration or call the Conference office at (401) 724-7700.

NEW CONFERENCE OFFICE OPEN HOUSE

The Conference Office has moved to 8 Summer Street, Pawtucket, RI 02860. It is next to the Pawtucket Library and the YMCA—only minutes from their old location. The office is newly renovated, on the first floor and fully handicap accessible with ample off street parking. All are invited to come and see the new office at an **Open House on Sunday, May 17 from 1-3 p.m.**

All are invited to the 50th annual...

Ecumenical Communion Fellowship Breakfast

sponsored by the Rhode Island State Council of Churches

SATURDAY, May 9th, 2009 8 - 10:30 a.m.

Venus De Milo Restaurant, Route 6, Swansea, MA

Keynote Speaker: Larry Johnson



Larry Johnson is a well known radio personality on sports giant WEEI Radio. The long running Mustard and Johnson show was billed as, "The Teacher and the Preacher." For 25 years, Larry was a sports cartoonist for the Boston Globe. He currently works for ESPN.com. This gifted artist is a devoted man of faith. Come hear his inspirational story, which includes his battle with cancer.

The program is for men, women and youth.

Tickets cost \$12 and reservations are required

No tickets will be sold at the door.

Reservations and payment must be in the BCCUCC church office **by Sunday, May 3rd**. Please note that **checks should be made payable to "The RI State Council of Churches"**.



Barrington Congregational Church, UCC will be hosting a

Blood Drive on Thursday, May 28th

from 2 – 7 p.m. in Fellowship Hall

We will need some servers and many bakers to provide refreshments for the blood donors. To volunteer to help, call Dave Gregory at 246-1294.



New blood donors are always needed

To make an appointment online, go to www.ribc.org. However, an appointment isn't necessary—you can just stop by.

Give the gift of life – give blood

The Rhode Island Blood Center must collect 280 pints of blood daily to meet the growing demand of hospitals in Rhode Island.

A Review of the Donation Procedure

- Donating blood is safe, simple and quick
- You will answer several medical questions before you donate
- The entire process takes about 45 minutes, the donation about 5-7.
- You can relax over refreshments for about 15 minutes after donating.
- You can return to your normal daily routine (except for strenuous exercise)

Thank You! THANK YOU!

...to Elizabeth Barnum, Chris Brady, Steve and Jane Cipoletti, Steve Clemens, Dennis McLaughlin, Van Edwards, Tom Lennon, Lory and Charlie McCoy, Carol Strakosch, Keith and Kelly Strickland, Bev Travers, Teddie Travers and Patrick Smith for helping as volunteers at the March 27th Battle of the Bands. Special thanks to Scott Clemens and Zach Luther for their leadership in planning the event.

...to Anne Wood, Terrin Strickland, Helen Ward, Susan Short, Laurie Dubel, Francis Seader, Kristin Westmoreland, Fred MacDonald, Holly Ogden, Elizabeth Barnum, Mary and Bill Dewitt, Mary Louise Gamache, Zach Luther, Mary Jo Cook, and Scott Clemens for their help with Church School.

...to Marilyn Packard-Luther for helping organize our food contribution to the Interfaith Model Passover Seder at Temple Habonim.

...to Kelly Thibeault for facilitating a meaningful and prayerful evening workshop on the Labyrinth in Fellowship Hall at the beginning of April.

...to Jeff Larsen, Liz Eide, and Andrea Bullard who did a fabulous job planning the Good Friday Family Ecumenical Experience at St. James Lutheran Church.

...to everyone who made a donation to the Chancel Fund which allowed for the purchase of the palm trees used to decorate the sanctuary on Palm Sunday, silk flowers for use on the altar when needed, the Easter plants, and linens for the communion table. Special thanks to the members of the Chancel Ministry Team for taking care of all of this.

...to all those who took a plant after the Easter services and delivered it to the sick, homebound or recently bereaved from our congregation.

...to the many people whose ministry made the Easter worship services so special and welcoming—including the members of the adult and children's choirs, musicians, ushers, greeters, elevelte operators, and coffee hour hosts.

...to the custodians for all of the extra cleaning they did in preparation for Easter.

...to everyone who donated money during Lent to the Holy Joe's Café project. We were able to purchase 50 lbs of Equal Exchange coffee to be sent to the coffee house ministry in Iraq run by the military chaplains — that's enough for 5,000 cups of coffee for our service men and women!

...to Andrew Hemingway for volunteering to be the adult chaperone, along with Elizabeth Barnum, for the recent Confirmation Retreat to Craigville Conference Center, sponsored by the Massachusetts Conference of the U.C.C. It was a great retreat for the many youth across New England who participated—ask someone in this year's Confirmation class all about it! The Confirmation Class & CEYM Team extends their thanks to Andrew for chaperoning and also to Holly Meade and to John and Cheryl Muth for being the volunteer drivers.

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(Continued from page 20)

...to everyone who supported the food drive run by the Junior PF and the Simply Serving Church School class. The food was gratefully received by h.o.m.e. in Orland, Maine, and by Tap-In here in Barrington.

...to Lynne Lehman, David Renner, and Marilyn Renner for coming to speak with the Mission Trip participants at their preparation meetings. Their insights and excitement about the site in Maine was inspiring!

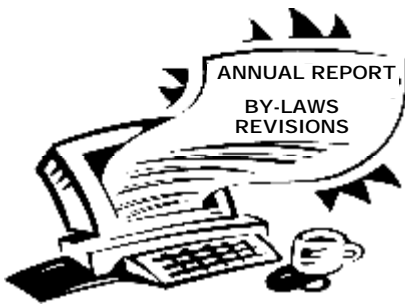
...to Bill Ward, Beverly Travers, Greg Voigt, Clyde Slicker, and Carol Strakosh who all took vacation time to journey to Maine and help support the Mission Trip as adult volunteers. What a team! Many thanks from CEYM and the Mission Trip youth participants' parents.

...to the group of high school students who gave of their time during school vacation week to experience a service-learning trip at H.O.M.E. in Maine. The gratitude of the H.O.M.E. community was immense! Good work. Participants included: Scott Clemens, Andrew Hemingway, Hannah Lennon, Zach Luther, Gabi Scaffani, Courtney Selvage, Terrin Strickland, Molly Voigt, and Nate Ward.

...to the various church members who loaned hard hats, work gloves, hammers, and tape measures to the Mission Trip group! If you still haven't picked yours up, you can pick them up from Elizabeth Barnum's office.

...and finally, many thanks to everyone involved in the library renovation project. A huge thank you goes to Sue Terhune who not only chaired the group but also put in many hours overseeing all of the work that was done as well as personally refinishing the table and the wood on the rolling chairs—amongst other things! Thanks also to Kathleen Larsen, Barbara Smith, Susan Seader, Elizabeth Barnum and Lisa Browning for all that they did for the project. Special thanks to Katrina Swihart for making the roman shades and pillows and to Francis Seader for the construction work. If you haven't been down in the church library recently, be sure to check it out sometime.

Now there are a variety of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. 1 Corinthians 12:4-6



**HELP US BE GREEN -
read church documents on line and save resources**

Found on the 'Information for Church Members' page of www.bccucc.org you will be able to read.....

...By-Laws Revisions available by May 8

...2009 Annual Report available by May 22

And don't forget that you can read *The Bridge* on line each month. Let the church office know that you don't need a copy mailing to you!



INTERESTED IN VISITATION?

Nancy Martin heads a lay visitation group that calls as well as visits those in the congregation that are struggling with physical problems, are homebound or bereaved. We want these people to know we care about them. Her group has served our church well but the team really needs an infusion of new and willing people to continue their wonderful work. Could you help out with a visit or phone call to a couple of those on the list? The deacons are also involved with some of the visitation, but a wider group from the church would be most welcome. The group meets once a month with the ministers to check up on all their listed people. Call 273-1078 or email Nancy Martin at nancy.martin3@verizon.net if you have questions or are interested in joining this important team.

Mary Lou Slicker for the Deacons



ITEMS NEEDED FOR MISSION TO HAITI

Dr. Lory Snady-McCoy, MD, one of our church members, is going on a medical and veterinarian mission to the village of Pignon in Haiti on May 10th. The village is VERY small and rural and they have very few supplies so Lory is hoping that church members might be able to contribute some much needed items for the village.

Lory is going with a group of veterinarians (one of them being her daughter). She will be performing eye screening examinations and manning the medical clinic, and the veterinarians will be treating the many farm animals (what they call "food animals") as well as cats and dogs.

The donation request from the clinic (in order of need) is for:



over-the-counter antibiotic ointments anti fungal ointments
adult and children's multivitamins acetaminophen
ibuprofen and aspirin.



Also, for the animals, any used or new collars and leashes are needed.

Donated items will be carried by Lory in her suitcases so she needs them ***no later than Friday, May 8th*** (preferably sooner). There will be baskets on the Vestry table and at the back of Fellowship Hall for the collection of these items. Thank you.

Letters from our mailbox



Dear Members of the Barrington Congregational Church,

On behalf of the Women's Resource Center and our clients, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your donation of gift cards to National Grid Electric, Hess Gas, Shaws, Cumberland Farm, Stop and Shop, Toys-R-Us, Exxon Mobil, CVS, Rite Aid, Wal Mart and Sunoco to support this year's Adopt-A-Family program. Because of you, we were able to serve 86 families who we work with directly due to domestic violence!

As you know, the WRC provides comprehensive services to families affected by domestic violence. Our services include an emergency safe home, a 24 hour helpline, court advocacy, counseling for adults and children who witness, community outreach, support groups, and a youth violence prevention program offered in our schools. All our programs are free and confidential.

Again, thank you for bringing so many smiles to those we serve.

Lori N. DiPersio, Executive Director of the Women's Resource Center

Ed. note: Many thanks to all who donated toward the purchase of these gift cards and special thanks to Lory McCoy for organizing it all. Over \$1100 worth of gift cards were given to the WRC.

Family Footnotes

Dottie Butler; Vera Eaton;
Bob Louttit; Mark Mason;
Barbara Ward;
and Sandra Blacketor (May Smith's daughter).



Rob Brougham
—husband of Amanda (Githens) Brougham.

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

John White and family on the death of his mother, Mary "Happy" White;
and to the family of Robert Messinger, Sr.



We welcome the following new members who joined our church on April 5th, 2009



Carey Bowman
Shelby Bowman
Judy Harff
Todd Harff
Carrie Kurland
Kathryn Loos
Kathleen Sullivan

Barrington Congregational Church, United Church of Christ.
461 County Road, Barrington, RI 02806

Telephone: (401) 246-0111

Fax: (401) 246-7825

E-mail: office@bccucc.org

Website: www.bccucc.org

Senior Minister:	The Rev. Dr. Jeffrey W. Larsen	jeff@bccucc.org
Associate Minister:	The Rev. Elizabeth D. Barnum	elizabeth@bccucc.org
Organist/Choir Director:	Marina Zabinski	
Office Administrator:	Christine Wallis	office@bccucc.org
Office Assistant:	Patricia Stoddard	pat@bccucc.org
Financial Secretary:	Patricia Stoddard	pat@bccucc.org
Christian Education Assistant:	Andrea Bullard	andrea@bccucc.org
Custodians:	Jack Salvaggio, Frank Wyrostek, Ken York, Jim Salvaggio	



May 2009

*The Barrington Congregational Church, United Church of Christ,
is a Christian community that worships God, embraces all people,
ministers to one another, works for justice and peace,
and renders loving service to God's world.*