

September 2009

THE WHITE CHURCH



Dear Friends,

While you are reading this on the verge of school opening and September arriving, I am writing it at the beginning of August and on the verge of vacation time in Maine. I am heading into some isolation and quiet but realize that I will return to lead the charge of energy into what is shaping up to be a very exciting church year ahead.

It is one goal of mine for this fall however to keep little pieces of gentleness and calm in the midst of a vital church alive in this demanding world. One of the sermons I preached this summer talked about the monastic life (the bulletin had the picture of the amazing monastery on top of the rock at Meteora, Greece) not so much as a contrast or alternative to how we live day to day, but as an important element to keep moments of in the midst of our life.

It is not my nature to pause...so please help me with this. Our summer scripture lessons have had a number of references to Jesus working hard and then getting away – into the wilderness, up to the mountains, out onto the lake – to recharge his engines and have quiet time with the disciples. This *Bridge* will be filled with wonderful things to do but don't let the church overwhelm you. More is not necessarily better. Let's work together to find some time for God as we try to do God's work.

I look forward to seeing you all very soon.

Blessings,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be the name 'Jeff'.

## Worship Services & Church School in September



- September 6 9 a.m. Worship Service for All Ages with Communion,  
No Church School
- September 13 *Rally Day* (see page 4)  
9:15 a.m. Teacher Tea and Treats (see page 4)  
**10 a.m.** Worship Service for All Ages  
After Worship Church School Open House and Registration (see page 5)  
All Church Picnic (see page 4)
- September 20 10 a.m. Worship Service with Bells and Dedication of Church  
School Volunteers,  
Church School classes begin for PreK—Grade 8
- September 27 *Bring a Friend to Church Sunday* (see page 14)  
10 a.m. Worship Service, Church School

*Church School for Pre-School through Grade 8*

*Nursery Care available every Sunday morning*

*Handicapped Accessible*

### DEACONS FOR SEPTEMBER

Sam Sylvester (star deacon),  
Van Edwards, Bill DeWitt,  
Cheryl Muth, Helen Schall,  
and Mary Lou Slicker,

*In the event of a pastoral  
emergency after hours, if you  
cannot reach Jeff (247-1787  
home) or Elizabeth (245-3467  
home) please call a deacon.*



The deadline for submission of articles to be  
included in the October *Bridge* will be  
Friday, October 18<sup>th</sup>.

### OFFICE HOURS

The Church Office will be closed for Labor  
Day after which regular office hours will be:  
Monday to Friday 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

## From our Associate Minister .....



Have you caught the comma yet? I have. I probably first caught it when the denomination's *Stillspeaking* campaign began, which was happening around the same time that I was a student in a course on U.C.C. Theology & Polity. But I think I definitely caught it again while attending General Synod in Grand Rapids, Michigan this June. I was honored to be attending as one of your pastors and to join with other church members & colleagues from the Rhode Island Conference. While I've been part of the United Church of Christ since my baptism, this was my first opportunity to attend General Synod and for that, I'm very grateful to this congregation.

The inspiration behind the comma is a quotation from the 20<sup>th</sup> century American comedian Gracie Allen that goes like this:

“Never place a period where God has placed a comma”

Examples that I see around of me of where God places a comma instead of a period include: a Bible passage, the cycles of the seasons, changing relationships, a diagnosis, a pause in a prayer, a yet-to-be-written letter, a new birth, and, yes, even death.

“*God is still speaking,*” has become today's translation for words from one of our forebears in faith. John Robinson, a pastor of the 17<sup>th</sup> c. said to the Pilgrims, “There is more truth and light yet to break forth from God's holy word.” Beyond the diverse ways that we can interpret the Bible & make meaning from the stories of our common heritage, our shared work and witness in the world is unfinished and still unfolding. The connections between the local, regional, national, and global settings of the church are as relevant as ever as we face daunting challenges ahead. As the gathered body of the Barrington Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, the ministries of this place & people continue forward this September as the program year begins again.

As we spin into September, I dare remind us that a comma is also a pause, a reminder to take a breath mid-sentence. So, in another sense, I also hope you experience Sunday mornings at church as a ‘comma’ in your week, a resting place for your spirit.

Peace,





**SUNDAY,  
SEPTEMBER 13<sup>th</sup>**

- **Teacher Tea and Treats**  
9:15 a.m. in Fellowship Hall (see below)
- **10 a.m. Worship Service for All Ages**
- **After worship Church School Open House and Registration**  
(see next page)
- **After Worship All Church Picnic** hosted by the Christian Education and Youth Ministries Team to which everyone is invited.



**We hope that you can join us as we return to the 10 a.m. worship time and celebrate the start of a new church year.**

## **Teacher Tea and Treats**

**Sunday, September 13<sup>th</sup>**

**at 9:15 a.m. in Fellowship Hall**

All volunteers working with our children and youth are invited to catch a light breakfast bite with Andrea, Elizabeth, and the Christian Education and Youth Ministries (CEYM) Team before the Rally Day worship service & church picnic. Join us!





Church school registration will begin after worship in the foyer outside Fellowship Hall on **Rally Day - September 13<sup>th</sup>**

**All children from nursery through 12<sup>th</sup> grade  
must be registered to participate  
in church school or youth activities.**

We request that a registration form be secured for EACH CHILD who participates in our CEYM programs.

If you registered your child last year, you'll only need to update & initial your current form on a Sunday morning during September.

To register a child for the first time, please obtain a registration form from the registration table in the foyer on Rally Day, or from the church office or download one from the church website ([www.bccucc.org](http://www.bccucc.org)). The information you provide helps us provide safe and welcoming programs for children and youth. Thank you!

Also following worship on Rally Day, Sept 13<sup>th</sup>, there will be a

## Church School Open House

when you can tour the Education Building, meet the teachers and assistants and then enjoy the All Church Picnic.



Regular Church School classes will begin on Sunday, September 20<sup>th</sup>.

**If you did not receive the booklet**

**A Guide to Christian Education and Youth Ministry  
Programs at BCCUCC 2009-2010**

in your mailbox and you would like a copy, please contact the church office. You can also find extra copies at church or read it on the web at [www.bccucc.org](http://www.bccucc.org)

The booklet contains lots of information on everything related to children and youth here at BCCUCC—from our nursery care to our Mission Trip for adults and high school students. Also included is the church school calendar for Sept 2009—June 2010 so you can plan ahead.





## Help Wanted



It really does 'take a village' to nurture Christian faith in children and young people. We hope and expect that parents, caregivers, and other interested adults in the church community will offer their time and talents throughout the program year. We help provide you with the information and resources that you'll need to enjoy the experience and grow in faith.

We are looking for persons aged 18 or older to work in the Nursery on Sunday mornings.

We are also looking for youth in grades 10 - 12 to assist in all of the church school classrooms.

Anyone interested should contact Andrea Bullard at [andrea@bccucc.org](mailto:andrea@bccucc.org) or 246-0111 to get a Volunteer Application Form.

### Teacher Training

**\*\*REQUIRED of ALL VOLUNTEERS working with children and youth\*\***

Please pick one date below and plan to attend:

Saturday, September 12<sup>th</sup>  
9:00 - 10:15 a.m.

**OR**

Tuesday, September 15<sup>th</sup>  
7:00 - 8:15 p.m.

All volunteers working with our children (including teachers and assistants) are asked to fill out and update the **BCCUCC Volunteer Application Form** to adhere to our Safe Church Policies. These are available at registration, at the training sessions, or from Andrea or Elizabeth's office.

### Dedication of Church School Volunteers

during the worship service

**on Sunday, September 20.**

We hope that as many volunteers as possible will be able to join us in worship that day.

**Congratulations to  
Meagan Gamache and Helen Ward  
winners of the  
2009 K.L.F. Scholarships.**

**Each won \$400 for their college tuition.**



**PASTA DINNER FUNDRAISER**  
for Mission Trip 2010  
**Friday, November 15<sup>th</sup>**

*Save the date!*



# A Day of Godly Play® for Adults

**Saturday, October 24, 2009**

**8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.**

**Barrington Congregational Church, U.C.C., Barrington, RI**

*Led by Jennifer Sanborn,  
Accredited Godly Play Teacher Trainer*

The Schedule for the Day will include:

- \* Experiencing a complete Godly Play Session  
A Sacred Story ~ Wondering & Response ~ Feast
- \* Reflecting together on the Experience
- \* Lunch, provided
- \* Looking at the parts of Godly Play and the Best Practices
- \* Discovering, or rediscovering the Educational Philosophy and Theology of Godly Play

Cost for the day includes lunch and is:

\$30 per person if registered by August 31<sup>st</sup>,  
\$35 per person if registered after September 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Mail registration form (see next page) and fee to:**

Barrington Congregational Church, U.C.C. Attn: Andrea Bullard,  
461 County Road, Barrington, RI 02806

Checks should be made payable to *Barrington Congregational Church, U.C.C.*

For more information, contact Elizabeth Barnum  
[elizabeth@bccucc.org](mailto:elizabeth@bccucc.org) or 401-246-0111 ext 104

*Workshop sponsored by Barrington Congregational Church, U.C.C.*

# A Day of Godly Play® for Adults

## Registration Form

This registration form can also be downloaded from the church website [www.bccucc.org](http://www.bccucc.org)

Name: .....

Address: .....

City/Town: .....

Zip: ..... Phone: .....

E-mail: .....

Church: .....

Please check off what your experience of Godly Play has been:

I am totally new to Godly Play

I have seen Godly Play told before

I am experienced in Godly Play and seek a review

Please note what you would hope to learn from attending this workshop:

Amount enclosed: .....

\$35\* per person, includes lunch \*(\$30 if registered by August 31)

Checks payable to 'Barrington Congregational Church, U.C.C.'

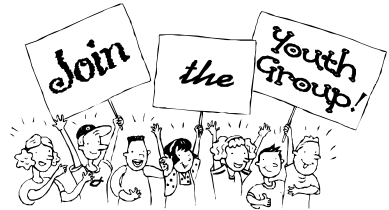
10% of a trainers' fee goes to support the Center for the Theology of Childhood

**JUNIOR PILGRIM FELLOWSHIP (JPF)**  
All youth in grades 6-8 are invited to participate

- Sun., September 13**    **5-7 p.m.**    **Pizza and Games,**  
Fellowship Hall, Kitchen and Terrace  
Bring a friend - all 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders welcome!
- Sat., September 26**    **7-10 a.m.**  
or **1-3 p.m.**    Service Project: **Helping Hands for the Heartworks**  
**Yard Sale** on the church grounds. Choose a shift or  
let us know when you'll stop by to offer a helping  
hand! Contact Leslie Peck for more information
- Sun., October 4**    **4 p.m.**    Service Project and Worship: **Blessing of the**  
**Animals** (see page 14 for details)  
Join us for this playful and meaningful service on the  
church grounds open to all—JPF will be collecting pet  
food donations.
- Mon., October 12**    Time TBD    **Great Day of Service.** Join the JPF group as they  
once again participate in this special day of service.  
See page 23 for more information.

...and save the following dates! Times and details TBA

- Sun., October 25**    **JPF Trip to Corn Maze**
- Fri., November 13**    **Laser Tag**
- Sat., November 28**    **JPF helps Membership and**  
**Nominating Teams with Soup Kitchen**



*For more information on JPF activities, please contact Leslie Peck  
at 245-1820 or [PeckMarketing@cox.net](mailto:PeckMarketing@cox.net) or Elizabeth Barnum (see below)*

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**SENIOR PILGRIM FELLOWSHIP (SPF)**  
All youth in grades 9-12 are invited to participate

The group will have its first meeting on

**Sunday, October 4** from **6:30—8 p.m.** at the church

*For more information on SPF activities, please contact Elizabeth Barnum  
at [elizabeth@bccucc.org](mailto:elizabeth@bccucc.org) or 246-0111 ext 104.*

# CONFIRMATION PROGRAM

Grade 9 & up



Confirmation marks the beginning of a journey toward adulthood in which an individual takes responsibility for shaping their own values and faith. They also discover how to express these values in daily life, affirming the vows of Baptism. This program for 9<sup>th</sup> graders (and up) will explore these themes together and their roles in our lives of faith: God, Jesus, the Bible, the Holy Spirit, Church History, the U.C.C. We'll also be bringing an increasing awareness of what it means to live in a world of multiple expressions of faith. We'll celebrate this diversity while we question, explore, relate, connect, listen, and share together as people of faith.

The Confirmation program will be co-facilitated by Jeff Larsen and Elizabeth Barnum, with support from parents & members.

The first meeting is **Sunday, September 20<sup>th</sup>** from **11:30 - Noon** and **parents are asked to attend this first session.**

SAVE THE DATES!

Confirmation Retreat (Irons Homestead): Nov. 1, 2009

Confirmation Sunday: May 2, 2010

*\*\*If your child is a 9<sup>th</sup> grader and you haven't yet received an introductory letter and schedule of meetings, please contact Elizabeth Barnum at [elizabeth@bccucc.org](mailto:elizabeth@bccucc.org). \*\**



## Sing and Celebrate Choir "OPEN HOUSE"

Parents with children in grades 1-5 (and older) who are interested in singing in this youth choir are invited to an "Open House" on **Sunday, September 20** after worship in Fellowship Hall at the piano. Marina Zabinski will be there to gather your ideas and to share some possible musical selections with you. (This is the same day that the Music Ministry will be having a display in Fellowship Hall showcasing all of the different choirs).

Interested parents will be needed to assist Marina with some of the 'behind the scenes' organization that is needed in order for the group to sing in worship (usually once a month). Please contact Marina at 726-5118 if you have any questions about the choir.

If you cannot attend the Open House but are interested in participating, please contact Betsy Restituyo ([betsyres@yahoo.com](mailto:betsyres@yahoo.com)) or the Church Office.

## Mission Trip April 17-24, 2010

for Grades 9-12 and Adults

### *Important Meeting for those interested*

The 2010 Mission Trip will be to Appalachia and will be led by Jeff Larsen. The exact location and all other details will be announced at an initial meeting to be held on



**Sunday, September 20, 6-8 PM** at the church.

The trip is open to all high school age students as well as adults. If you are interested please plan on being at this meeting – **students must bring a parent.**

The group will meet from 6-8 PM on the third Sunday of each month this fall: September 20, October 18, November 15 (Pasta Dinner Fundraiser from 5-7 pm), and December 20.



## CHURCH SCHOOL OFFERING



At the end of the 08-09 church school year, the church school children donated a total of \$800 received from their church school offering from recent years (the previous year's offering had yet to be used) to purchase the following items from **Heifer International** for those in need. Thanks for your support!

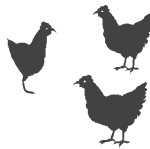
1 Llama \$150

1 Goat \$120

1 Pig \$120

2 orders of Tree Seedlings \$120

1 Trio of Rabbits \$60



1 order of Honeybees \$30

1 Flock of chicks \$20

1 Flock of ducks/geese \$120

Where Most Needed \$160



Congratulations to the BCCUCC softball team for another great season. They ended in second place after losing to St. John's 11-8 in the championship game. BCCUCC entered the playoff's as the #1 seed and made it to the final which was a tough game! BCCUCC was down 11-1 but never gave up and almost came all the way back.

We thank all of the team members for playing and for representing our church so well. We also thank all of their loyal supporters who cheered them on at games.

## SIGN UP\* FOR REVERSE TRICK-OR-TREATING

### Hand out Chocolate & Make a Big Impact

We know you're probably thinking "Halloween? It's still summer!" But it's not too early to think about joining this year's *Reverse Trick-or-Treating* campaign – and help improve the lives of children and small-scale farmers on cacao farms around the world.



### What's this all about?

On Halloween night, students and adults across the U.S. will unite to help:

- end poverty among cocoa farmers,
- end forced child labor in the cocoa industry,
- promote Fair Trade and protect the environment,

...all by handing Fair Trade chocolates back to adults while Trick-or-Treating door-to-door on Halloween!

Last year this campaign was a huge success reaching over 200,000 homes nationwide. To learn more visit [www.reversetrickortreating.org](http://www.reversetrickortreating.org).

And to learn about the Campaign to Reform the Global Cocoa Trade, visit <http://www.equalexchange.coop/reverse>.

\*If you're interested in Reverse Trick-or-Treating this Halloween, please contact Andrea Bullard ([andrea@bccucc.org](mailto:andrea@bccucc.org)) or Elizabeth Barnum ([elizabeth@bccucc.org](mailto:elizabeth@bccucc.org)) by September 27, so that they can place an order.

Note: The Fair Trade chocolates are provided by Equal Exchange at no charge.



### May We Help You?

Our Sanctuary is handicapped accessible by using the elevette to get upstairs. An elevette operator is on duty every Sunday morning to assist.

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.

Large print copies of the bulletin and hymns are available every Sunday morning from the ushers. Hearing assists are also available at every worship service for those who need them. Be sure to ask an usher if you need either.



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

## Celebrate East Bay Family Dinner Week

**September 28 — October 1**

as part of National Family Day, September 28, 2009



Sponsored locally by The BAY Team,  
Barrington's community coalition to prevent substance abuse.

*On Monday evening, September 28<sup>th</sup> no church meetings or activities have been scheduled so that families can eat dinner together.*

### **HAVING DINNER TOGETHER MAKES A DIFFERENCE!**

- The more often kids eat dinner with their families, the less likely they are to smoke, drink, and use other drugs
- Eating together promotes healthy eating habits and lessens the likelihood that kids will suffer from obesity
- Families who eat together have kids who are more likely to do well in school, and less likely to be involved in fights or get suspended
- Kids who regularly eat meals with family report less stress and boredom

To learn more, visit [www.casafamilyday.org](http://www.casafamilyday.org) or [www.thebayteam.org](http://www.thebayteam.org). Watch for a local dining guide, Family Dinner Week deals at Shaw's, educational programs in the schools, and flyers in the local paper with engaging conversation starters.

A couple of other websites worth checking out are:

from The National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University:

<http://casafamilyday.org/familyday/tools-you-can-use/family-dinner-kit/>

and from Washington State University: <http://nutrition.wsu.edu/ebet/index.html>

### **And your name is...?**

Let's all wear our nametags—for both the worship service and coffee hour—to avoid the embarrassment of having a conversation with someone and not remembering their name! Wearing nametags makes the church more welcoming to visitors and also helps members get to know each other.



As you leave, nametags can be placed in one of the baskets on the way out of Fellowship Hall. It will be returned to the nametag rack for you to wear the following Sunday.

Be sure to let the office know (246-0111 or [office@bccucc.org](mailto:office@bccucc.org)) if you need a nametag or a replacement. There is also a nametag request sheet on the vestry table. Thank you.

## Bring-A-Friend-To-Church Sunday ~ September 27<sup>th</sup>

Please invite a friend, neighbor, or relative to church on Sunday, September 27. We have a lot going for us at BCCUCC and we need more to join us, to share the work and the fun. There are many out there who are intrigued with our church, or even the idea of going to a church, but they need a personal invite.

I know, I know...it is a very un-New England thing to do...talk about your church with someone outside your home. But try it. You might be surprised at how eager others are to join you. For our church to remain vital into this 21<sup>st</sup> century we need to share the word and grow. Studies show that most people come to church only after a personal invitation.

So reach out – offer to drive them, take them out to lunch after... bring a friend to church any Sunday, but especially on September 27.



## Blessing of the Animals

All kinds of people and creatures are welcome!

**Sunday, October 4 at 4 p.m.**

Behind the Christian Education Building

As an offering please bring a bag or can of pet food  
for creatures in need.

All are invited to bring their pets and/or stuffed animals for a brief service of blessing. Those who wish may also dress up like their pet!

The event is hosted by the Junior PF

Are you interested in serving as an usher? Additional ushers are needed for Sunday services and volunteers are asked to serve once every three weeks on either the fall or spring schedule. Anyone interested is invited to find out more by contacting either Bob Kaloostian (463-3664) or Dave Gregory (246-1294). Thank you.



**THANK YOU** to everyone who reads *The Bridge* at the church's website each month. It saves resources and money! Let the office know if you're willing to read it on line—we'll even send you an e-mail reminder to tell you when the next edition has been posted to the website!

## GROWING OUR WORLD THROUGH FAITH

There's a fresh spirit in the air as we welcome September and its gentle breezes with renewed energy, our souls invigorated. We are back to school and back to the business of building our church community through our actions and our commitment to meeting the needs of one another and the world around us.

Like a majestic maple tree that will soon color our world we are firmly rooted in our history, faithfully supported by our community, and spiritually nourished by our ministry teams. To sustain our lives we must pledge our collective financial support like the leaves on a tree. A tree without leaves cannot survive let alone thrive.



We are growing, in members, in programs and in spirit. We are 'Growing our World through Faith.'

This fall we will showcase several ministry teams, explain their purpose and their vital role in the life of our church. We will also present their current budgets and plans for 2010 in preparation for Stewardship Sunday when you will have the opportunity to make a financial commitment to the life and legacy of our church and broader community.

Join us as we learn about the important work these ministry teams are doing:

September 20 ----Music

September 27 ----Justice and Witness (formerly Social Action and Missions)

October 4-----Christian Education and Youth Ministries

October 18 -----Buildings & Grounds

October 25\*-----Deacons

\*October 25<sup>th</sup> is Stewardship Sunday\*

**Building Security:** The Ministry Team(s) hosting coffee hour are reminded that they are responsible for securing the Education building after everyone leaves on Sunday mornings. Please make sure that all of the doors into the building are locked, windows closed, lights turned off, heat turned down, and doors closed to all of the rooms. Thanks.

The calendar for September 2009  
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, the **church's on-line calendar** can also be  
accessed either through the home page of the website  
or from the calendar page.

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## ALL ARE WELCOME TO AN 'OPEN AND AFFIRMING' DISCUSSION

For the past year and more the Deacons have been discussing going through a process that could lead to BCCUCC becoming an Open and Affirming Church. Because our church's mission statement welcomes all to participate in worship and the life of the church, we have questioned why this possibly divisive process should be necessary.

In our research we have found several responses that lead us to believe that we should begin on this journey. They include an understanding that while we inside the church may know that we welcome all, those in the community may not – we are unable to put anything on our website or signage that indicates that we are an “Open and Affirming Church.” By clearly verbalizing our intention of living as an ONA congregation, we would have the opportunity of living out our words and growing as a church community with a commitment to justice for all people.

We have invited **Rev. Dan Randall** to spend some time with us on **Sunday, September 20<sup>th</sup>**, after church. He will be sharing with us how the Bristol Congregational Church, UCC, undertook a process that led to their becoming an Open and Affirming Church. In general, this process begins with a time of study, prayer and discussion, usually leading to a decision about making an ONA declaration or statement. He will discuss with us how they shaped their discussions and how that unfolded as they moved forward.

*Please join us and be a part of this important discussion for our church.* Because Dan will be leaving his church after their worship and traveling to us, we will be gathering **at 11:30 a.m. in the library** with a time for breaking bread together.

Rev. Jeff Larsen  
invites all to a

**“Sermon Feedback”**  
session after church on  
**Sunday, October 18<sup>th</sup>**  
in Room 9.

If there is sufficient  
interest these will  
happen more often.

### SAVE THE DATES.....

Any new folks interested in learning more about our church are invited to “Conversation About Our Church” after worship on Sunday, November 1. Those interested in becoming members are invited to our “New Member Session” after worship on November 15. New Members will next be received during worship on Sunday, November 22.

The **LIVING THE QUESTIONS** adult education program will resume in the fall. 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 upcoming sessions will be:

- Sept 27<sup>th</sup> ..... Evil, Suffering, and A God of Love
- Oct 4<sup>th</sup> ..... The Myth of Redemptive Violence
- Oct 18<sup>th</sup> ..... Practicing Resurrection
- Oct 25<sup>th</sup> ..... Debunking the Rapture
- Nov 1<sup>st</sup> ..... Reclaiming the World
- Nov 15<sup>th</sup> ..... A Kingdom Without Walls
- Nov 22<sup>nd</sup> ..... Social Justice: Realizing God's Vision
- Dec 6<sup>th</sup> ..... Incarnation: Divinely Human
- Dec 13<sup>th</sup> ..... Prayer: Intimacy with God
- Jan 10<sup>th</sup> ..... Compassion: the Heart of Jesus' Ministry

All are welcome to participate in as many or as few of the sessions as you like. Gather in the **Library** between 11:15 and 11:30 a.m. Sessions begins at **11:30 a.m.** and conclude at approx. 12:30 p.m.

Facilitators will rotate between sessions. Speak with Elizabeth Barnum if you have any questions.

### **News of the Rev. Bill Scott—a former minister at BCCUCC (1963-1972)**

Dorothy Muth received an email from Bill Scott on August 25<sup>th</sup> in which he told her that he had a stroke and was hospitalized for two days. He says he feels pretty good at this time. Dot tells us that his wife, Mary, had a bad stroke several years ago and he has taken care of her the whole time. We send them our best wishes.

*Editor's note: Bill had sent an e-mail to Christine in the church office in late May in which he told her that he had been involved with the creation of The Bridge newsletter, and that it had been designed and titled by Carol Hogan over 30 years ago. In his words it "has remained remarkably the same ever since—even when it is run as a pdf file". (Bill reads his Bridge online). Thanks for creating such a reader friendly church newsletter.*

## MUSIC PROGRAMS RESUME IN SEPTEMBER



The **Adult Vocal Choir** invites new members to join the group at any time during the year.

They will resume rehearsals on **Wednesday, September 9** at **7:30 PM** in the Vestry and all voice parts are welcome.

Please contact Choir Director Marina Zabinski at 726-5118 if you are interested, or simply plan to attend a rehearsal.

The **White Church Ringers** will begin rehearsing on **Tuesday, September 1** at **7:30 PM** in the Vestry. Anyone interested in ringing bells is welcome to attend a rehearsal to sit in and listen and maybe even give it a try! If you read music, that is a plus but not a requirement. For more information please contact Barbara Ward, 245-7183 or Pat Stoddard, 245-7449.



For information about the children's **Sing and Celebrate Choir**, see page 10.

### Barrington Congregational Church, UCC **Annual Meeting Minutes June 7, 2009**

**Article I:** After determining that there was a quorum, Moderator Tom Strolla called the meeting to order.

**Article II:** The Report from the Nominating Team was presented with attention called to positions still open on some Teams. A motion was made to vote. The motion was seconded and the floor was opened for discussion. There was none. The vote was taken and the report was accepted unanimously.

**Article III:** Moderator Strolla briefly reviewed how the proposed changes to the By-Laws were presented. A motion to approve the By-Laws was made and seconded. The floor was opened for discussion and as there was none, a vote was taken and the revised By-Laws were accepted unanimously.

**Article IV:** Tom Colby presented a brief report on the status of the 2009 budget. As we are still in a deficit situation, with a potential for even a greater shortfall during the summer months, the Finance Team recommended that there be no changes to the budget at this time. Concern was expressed by a member of the congregation that we keep in mind our place in the wider church community when it comes time to plan for the 2010 budget.

**Article V:** A motion was made to dissolve the By-Laws Team. It was seconded and passed.

**Article VI:** The meeting was adjourned at 11:12 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted, Barbara Wuth, Clerk

The Justice and Witness Ministry Team invites you to help  
'keep the church green' by participating in a

## **Progressive Dinner**

**on Saturday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>**



As many of you know, the church has chosen to use electricity from New England GreenStart, which allows us to purchase cleaner, healthier electricity right on our regular utility bill and is available through National Grid. It is a blend of 100% renewable energy sources all located in New England. This, however, does add a small additional cost to the electricity bills for the church and parsonages. Proceeds from the progressive dinner will be used to offset this cost.

So, come out for a fun night of fellowship and food, knowing that you are helping to support new sources of alternative, sustainable energy at the same time.

Cost is \$25 per person.

*Deadline for reservations is Friday, September 25<sup>th</sup>.*

To make a reservation, contact the church office (246-0111 or [office@bccucc.org](mailto:office@bccucc.org)). People willing to host at their home the main course part of the evening should let the office know when they make their reservation. Times and locations for the dinner will be announced later.

### **East Bay Coalition for the Homeless**

invites you to help break the cycle of homelessness  
and give children hope for the future.

Join them at the 20th Annual

### **EAST BAY BIKE-A-THON**

Bike or Walk or Run

**Saturday, October 3, 2009**

**Colt State Park, Bristol RI**

Registration 9:00—9:45 am

Start: 9:30 a.m. for the 20 mile route  
10:00 a.m. for the 1, 3, 5, and 11 mile routes.

Families & teams welcome! Prizes, food and more!  
Registration forms with details are on the vestry  
table or call (401) 437-5104.

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:  
Jim McCartney (245-3288),  
Phyllis Buckley (245-1098),  
Lynne Lehman (289-0101),  
Sharon Sylvester (247-4532),  
Marshall Hoyler (245-1118),  
Laurie Lennon (694-0715).

Save the Date....

**Friday, Nov. 6, 5 pm  
to Saturday, Nov. 7, 4 pm**  
Optional immersion experience Nov 6

## **JUST PRACTICE**

**A New England Justice and Witness  
event on practicing justice in our  
lives, communities, and world**

**United Congregational Church, UCC,  
Worcester, Mass.**

**Keynote address by  
The Reverend Delle McCormick**

Registration and info coming soon at [http://  
www.macucc.org/mission-justice/JustPractice.htm](http://www.macucc.org/mission-justice/JustPractice.htm)

*Sponsored by the New England Conferences  
of the United Church of Christ*

### **A Different Mission Trip:**

Jeff and Kathleen Larsen are considering leading a mission trip to Honduras or Belize... interested in joining?

Working with an organization entitled "Sustainable Harvest International" ([www.sustainableharvest.org](http://www.sustainableharvest.org)) this trip would be 8 days of cultural immersion and home-stays working with local rural people in their fields and gardens. Total cost would be about \$2000 each.

Please let Jeff know if you are interested in more details.

[jeff@bccucc.org](mailto:jeff@bccucc.org)  
or 246-0111 ext 103.

## **2009 Neighbors In Need**

Justice and Witness Ministries

**SEPTEMBER 27<sup>TH</sup>**

Neighbors in Need (NIN) is a special mission offering of the UCC that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States and Puerto Rico. One-third of the NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM), including the 20 American Indian congregations in the UCC. Two-thirds of the offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries (JWM) to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects.

Special NIN envelopes will be available in the weekly church bulletin on Sundays September 20<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>. Or you may mail your donation directly to the Church Office. Please make checks out to Barrington Congregational Church, UCC and write 'NIN' on the memo line. Thank you.

Neighbors in Need helps make another world possible. It needs and appreciates your support. For more information visit [www.ucc.org/nin](http://www.ucc.org/nin).

Imagine

Another World Is Possible



**5th Annual  
Great Day of Service**  
will take place  
**Monday, October 12**  
(Columbus Day)

*You and I CAN change the world!*

The Great Day of Service, sponsored by the Barrington interfaith organization Beyond Our Walls, is gearing up for its 5th annual Great Day of Service which will take place on Columbus Day, Monday, October 12, 2009. The day will provide an opportunity for people to come together to work side-by-side, assisting agencies and organizations in need of community service through a work project.

Last year over 700 volunteers participated at more than 40 different work sites throughout Rhode Island. Projects ranged from apartment renovations at Crossroads RI in North Kingstown to park beautification in East Providence; from sandwich making for the homeless to cleaning up trash at beaches and parks; to creating care packages for service men and women stationed overseas to spending quality time with Veterans in Bristol; and MUCH, MUCH MORE: that's what a Great Day of Service is all about.

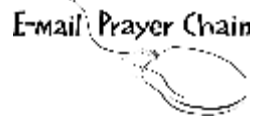
**On line registration will begin September 1, 2009**

Please visit [www.greatdayofservice.com](http://www.greatdayofservice.com) to learn more and get involved. Worksite information will be available online when registration opens on September 1<sup>st</sup>. Everyone can participate—there's an activity for all ages and abilities. Email [greatday@greatdayofservice.com](mailto:greatday@greatdayofservice.com) with questions.

***Come help make a difference!***

*You can volunteer as an individual, with a friend, as a family, or as a group. Our JPF youth will be volunteering again this year. If you are interested in forming another group from BCCUCC to participate, please contact the church office by September 15 and we will put you in touch with each other.*

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





## ONGOING COLLECTIONS FOR THOSE IN NEED

**Men's Clothing** for *The George Hunt Help Center*, in Providence.

Men's shirts, jeans, trousers, jackets, hats, sweaters, shoes, sneakers, and belts are always popular—but all clean men's clothing in good condition is accepted—especially winter clothing. **Toiletries** are also always needed. *Collection box in the Vestry Hallway.*

**Canned food items** for *Tap In* located here in Barrington.

*Collection bins in the Narthex* (where the greeters stand). Alternatively, items can be dropped off directly to TapIn located in the basement of the library building on County Road. They are open 9 am—Noon, Mon—Fri.



**Habitat for Humanity**® 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](mailto:rts.ri@cox.net)) or David Renner of BOW at [daverenner@cox.net](mailto:daverenner@cox.net). For more information about Habitat Providence, visit their web site at <http://www.habitatprov.org>

## The Community Soup Kitchen in Pawtucket

Different Ministry Teams are responsible for doing the soup kitchen each time BCCUCC is scheduled (every 9 weeks) but they welcome assistance from other members of the congregation. There are a variety of ways to help:



- Provide a healthy main dish (either make one—you will be given a simple recipe to use—or purchase something such as a large lasagna from Sam's Club).
- Provide vegetable salads and dressing.
- Donate fresh fruit—bananas, oranges & apples are all popular.
- Provide granola bars or dessert.
- Serve at the soup kitchen—located at the Park Place Congregational UCC in Pawtucket. Volunteers carpool from BCCUCC at 2:30 p.m. and return by 6 p.m.
- Cooks that aren't going to the soup kitchen should drop off their items at the church between 2:15 and 2:30 p.m. All main dishes should be delivered to the church hot.
- Volunteers are expected **to arrive by 3 p.m. at Park Place Congregational UCC** (71 Park Place, Pawtucket) as set-up takes some time. Everything has to be in place for the meal to be served beginning at 4 p.m.

Congregation members willing to do any of the above should contact Diane or Cate Todd at (401) 245-4681 or you can e-mail Diane at [diane.todd@verizonbusiness.com](mailto:diane.todd@verizonbusiness.com) or Cate at [Toddc11@bpsmail.org](mailto:Toddc11@bpsmail.org).

# Thank You! THANK YOU!

..to the many people who helped make Jubilation Sunday such a memorable outdoor worship experience...

- ..to John Arena for loaning his keyboard
- ..to Tom Strolla for securing & setting up the sound system
- ..to Marina and the Choir for their music
- ..to the Church School Volunteers for their assistance and support
- ..to Kathleen & Jeff for being Naamah & Noah
- ..to Carol Strakosch and the entire CEYM Team for the picnic
- ..to Heather Sugg for organizing the Pie Contest
- ..to all who baked pies for dessert and/or the Pie Contest
- ..to the Deacons for help with set-up
- ..and to Elizabeth and Andrea for having a dream and then making it happen!



....to Amy Gorman, Kristen Westmoreland, Betsy Restituyo, and Ann Wood for their help with Summer Church School

...to Doug and Jane Tonn for making Godly Play materials

...to Greg Voigt for making another Jesus figure for Godly Play

...and to Lisa Bohner, Achina Stein, Nathan Ward, Greg Voigt, and Laura Ward for sharing their musical gifts and providing “special music” during the summer worship services.

*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*



## UCC NEW ENGLAND WOMEN'S CELEBRATION VIII

UCC Women from all of New England will gather in Burlington, Vermont on **March 12 - 14, 2010** for their 8<sup>th</sup> Celebration.

The theme will be “TOGETHER BUILDING BRIDGES....a time to break down and a time to build up...” Ecclesiastes 3:3.

Check out the website <http://www.uccwomenscelebration.org> for more information and registration details.



Please make every effort to keep your 2009 pledge payments up to date. Not sure where you stand? Statements will be sent out again in October—or call the church office.

Our church is self supporting and relies totally on your pledges and gifts, plus a small amount of endowment income, to support its mission and ministries, as well as pay its bills and its staff!

## Family Ski and/or Tourist Trip to Quebec City

Church member, Abby Randazzo, is organizing a trip to Quebec City during the winter school vacation. *Please note that this trip is not being sponsored by the church, but is something that Abby is putting together that she thought the church community would like to be included in.* The trip is open to non-church members as well. She has done this trip before, and everyone, both skiers and non skiers had a great time.

Abby needs 30 people to sign up for this trip by September 15<sup>th</sup> along with a 50% deposit in order for the trip to move forward. The remainder of the money will be due in December.

**Dates:** February 15 - 18, 2010 (Monday - Thursday) Winter School Vacation

**Package includes:** 3 nights at the fabulous Chateau Frontenac  
Welcome Reception  
Motor Coach Transportation from Barrington Congregational Church  
Baggage handling  
All Canadian Taxes and Gratuities



**All for:** \$349/pp Quad Occupancy  
\$389.00/pp Triple Occupancy  
\$429.00/pp Double Occupancy



**For an additional Expense and if people are interested:**  
an organized dinner out together  
or a night at the sports Park that has a unique tubing park  
or a tour of the ice hotel  
or an evening snowshoeing and fondue at Mt St Anne



**Also available:**  
Adult Lifts: add \$100.00 for a 2 day lift pass to Mt St Anne and /or Le Massif  
Students Lifts: (13-18) Add \$76 for a 2 day lift pass to Mt St. Anne and/or Le Massif

If interested or for more information, please contact Abby directly at [randazzoam@yahoo.com](mailto:randazzoam@yahoo.com) or 247-1030.

Abby looks forward to a wonderful trip and getting to know more of the congregation!



DINE-OUT will be returning to  
 Evelyn's in Tiverton  
 for their first gathering this year.  
 They will meet there on  
 Friday, September 11<sup>th</sup>

at 6:30 p.m. - in time to watch the sun set over  
 the Sakonnet River. *All are welcome.*

Reservations aren't necessary but call Helen Schall  
 (245-4724) for directions or car pool information.

### The Women's Faith Group...

...meets on the first and third Thursday morning of  
 the month from 10—11:30 a.m. starting **October 1<sup>st</sup>** .  
 They will begin reading *Home* by  
 Marilynne Robinson.

The group welcomes all women from  
 BCCUCC as well as from other churches  
 and faith traditions.

For more information contact Carol  
 Louttit at 245-2299 or [chl2299@aol.com](mailto:chl2299@aol.com).



## The Book Group

next meets on

**Tuesday, September 8<sup>th</sup>**  
 at 7:30 p.m.

at **The Coffee Depot**  
 501 Main Street, Warren.



They will discuss their  
 favorite book(s) read over  
 the summer and make  
 plans for the fall.

**All are welcome!**

## CHURCH ATTENDANCE

May 24 – 118

May 31 – 198

June 7 – 141

June 14 – 167

June 21 – 138

June 28 – 85

July 5 – 64

July 12 – 73

July 19 – 70

July 26 – 60

August 2 – 81

August 9 – 54

August 16 – 59

August 23 – 76

**CHANGE OF ADDRESS**

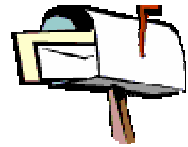


**Please make note of the following change:**

Ginger and Jonathan Stabach, Colin, Evan, Finn  
 173 Rumstick Road, Barrington RI 02806  
[gstabach@gmail.com](mailto:gstabach@gmail.com)

*Please notify the church office of any changes in your  
 contact information. Thank you.*

# Letters from our mailbox....



June 22, 2009

My Dear Church Family,

Where do I begin? The many cards with encouraging notes inside? The prayers I have felt come my way? The visits and delicious meals delivered with well wishes? The flowers and pies that have passed through our door?

You have helped my aching back, day my day, with your presence and love. I am forever grateful.

Fondly, Sue Terhune

July 21, 2009

Dear Church Family,

Thank you so much for the thoughtful bouquet of flowers you brought to me following my foot surgery. I so appreciate the care and concern of the BCC church members.

Thank you so much! Nancy Voigt

June 29, 2009

Many thanks to all who contributed Tylenol, ibuprofen and vitamins for our LaSalle Academy trip to Kenya. You have done a very good thing! I leave with five students and three other chaperones on July 1 for a school immersion experience with two Christian Brother Schools near Nairobi. Our students will attend school with their students. I am already anxious to return and tell you about the children of Kenya, so there will be more to come! I expect this will be a life-transforming trip for all of us.

Again, thanks! Cindy Steger

July 27, 2009

Barrington Congregational Church,

Thank you all so much for the lovely flowers that were sent to our home after Webster's passing. It was so very thoughtful of you.

Cordially,  
Linda, Web, Lydia and Alexis Goodwin



July 21, 2009

To my friends at the White Church,

It's hard to believe that I've been cleaning the church for over twenty years. I have enjoyed my time here doing all the things to keep the buildings and grounds looking great. I know that my efforts over the years have been appreciated.

I'd like to thank the entire staff for treating me to a very nice lunch at the Country Inn. Thank you to Paul Dennis and the church for my "final pay check". Thanks also for the framed picture of the church. I'll find a wall to hang it on at home.

Sincerely, Frank

*Editor's note: Frank Wyrostek left this summer after almost 21 years working as a part time custodian at the church. We miss him but he continues to work as a Battalion Chief in the East Providence Fire Department.*

June 24, 2009

To my Church Family:

Thank you so much for all of your kindness to me following the death of my daughter, Sandra Blacketer. The ministers were so good to me as were many members of the congregation. I am so grateful to you all.

Sincerely, May Smith

August 21, 2009

Dear Friends,

I would like to thank everyone concerned who have sent me notes and sympathy cards on the loss of my dear mother-in-law, Vera Eaton.

Sincerely, Dianne Eaton



August 10, 2009

Dear Church Family,

Thanks so much for your prayers for Dick after his #2 heart attack out in California.

Now a special thanks for your concerns and prayers after our condo was struck by lightning on August 5<sup>th</sup>. We are staying at the Extended Stay America on Warren Ave. in East Providence. The stay here is anywhere from 3 wks to 3 months. We are just waiting to hear from the Insurance companies. And getting the work completed.

Thanks again. See you in church,  
Jan Cornish & Dick Almquist

June 4, 2009

Dear Barrington Congregational Church,

On behalf of TAP-IN please accept our heartfelt thanks for your most recent gift of 14 \$15 Shaw's Gift cards. We are continually amazed by the support received from our community and so very appreciative for the help given by the members and clergy of the "White Church"

Sincerely, Debbie Abbate for TAP-In.

*Editor's note: Thanks to all who made a donation on Mothers' Day to purchase these cards.*

June 26, 2009

Dear Friends,

Thank you for giving so generously through Heifer's online gift catalog. It's been called the most important gift catalog in the world. And there's a good reason! Every gift you give helps create permanent solutions to poverty and hunger for children and families all around the world. Best of all, through our cornerstone principle of "Passing on the Gift", your gift keeps giving—providing a sustainable source of food, income and opportunity to more and more families.

Sincerely, Jo Luck, President and CEO of Heifer International.

*Editor's note: See page 11 for a full list of all the animals 'purchased' with monies from the church school offering.*

## ....more from our mailbox



I am very tardy in thanking all of you for the distinctive honor last spring of special recognition of my contributions to the musical life of our church. I was indeed honored and surprised - very! I believe strongly that music has a special place in our individual and group worship experiences. I am very happy if I have had any part in helping our members realize how important it is. It is said that it takes a village to raise a child. I think it also takes a village to raise a leader - particularly a musical one. I have had many in that village. My maternal grandfather was a professional baritone soloist, teacher, director, and coach in Boston for many years. Trained as a lawyer, he soon realized that his talents and interests were most clearly expressed in his musical life, which furnished the impetus for many of his family's involvements in church music. My mother's love of this particular expression of God's love strongly influenced me. We spent many hours standing around the piano singing. My wonderful piano teachers, especially Eleanor Reney were very important, as well as my training and experience as an elementary grade teacher for 30+ years, mostly in the Barrington schools. There was always a lot of music in my classroom, any time we could fit it in. When a piano became available one year, you know who went after it! I hope I was able to spark some interest in the children I taught. My children - Karen and Nancy - were (and are) involved in musical activities here. Karen has a lovely soprano voice, but her work schedule and lately, her health have interfered with her ability to use it effectively. Nancy has been a very loyal member of the handbell choir for 20 years. And her daughter, Christine, sang with the Sing and Celebrate group for a couple of years. Maybe the next generation, my great-grandsons, Kazin and Caleb, will be around some day adding their very loud voices to the musical potpourri we have around here.

The people of the church have been so helpful to me recently. All your cards, letters, calls, visits, and rides are so much appreciated. I hope you realize how important they are. I hope to be more active again soon. If any of my musical interests have been a source of any assistance or inspiration to you, I am very happy and most thankful to the Lord of all good things.

Musically yours,  
Barbara Ward



**The Knitting (and Crocheting) for Others group will meet this fall in the church library from 7-9 p.m. on Oct. 1, Nov. 5, and Dec. 3.**

For more information or questions, please contact  
Kathleen Larsen at 245-1787 or [klarsenswc@hotmail.com](mailto:klarsenswc@hotmail.com)

# Family Footnotes



## Congratulations to . .

**Lauren Stoddard and Daniel Lawler**  
married August 9, 2009

**Caroline O'Connor and Daniel LaFave**  
married August 15, 2009



## BIRTHS

*Sam Christopher Rotblat*

born June 25, 2009  
to Stuart and Darya Rotblat  
grandson to Howard and Susan  
Rotblat-Walker

*Aubrielle Brooklyn Githens*

born July 6, 2009  
to Brad and Megan Githens  
granddaughter to Lynne & Bob Githens  
great granddaughter to Sheila Hutton

## Baptisms



**Parker Nils Weldy**

Son of Nils and Michaela Weldy,  
Grandson of Peter and Karin Weldy

**Lydia Bradley Carscaddon**  
and

**Hadley Bliss Carscaddon**

Twin daughters of  
Allan Carscaddon & Eleanor Bradley,  
Granddaughters of Shirley & Bruce Bradley



Bob Louttit, Ozzie Rosenholm,  
Barbara Simpson, Sue Terhune,  
Dick Almquist and Jan Cornish,  
Karen Crisman, and Ron House.



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

Marcia Haggart on the death of her husband, Paul;

Ed Eberle and family on the death of his father;

Harold and Marion Gallant on the death of their niece;

Jon and Lynne Hoy and family on the death of their nephew, Eli;

Howard Rotblat Walker and family on the death of his mother, Esther Rotblat;

Dianne Eaton and family on the death of her mother-in-law, Vera Eaton;

and to the families of

Robert E. Brayton; Phyllis Marie Adams; Dorothy Ciosek; and Stephen Burrows.

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Website: [www.bccucc.org](http://www.bccucc.org)

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



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.*