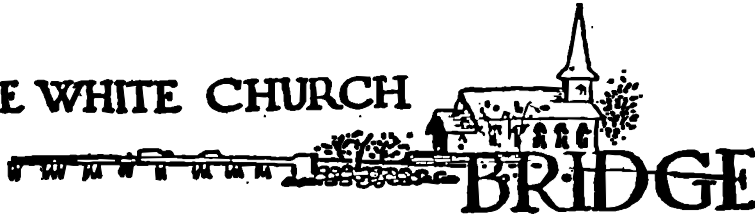


April 2010

THE WHITE CHURCH



Dear Friends,

Here is hoping that the long winter is over. Even those who have spent a piece of it down south have been chilly. March was an especially long month for many, as our prayer lists have indicated. May the April showers wash our bodies, minds and spirits clean for Easter's new life.

I happen to be a fan of the Easter Bunny. I grew up searching for eggs around the house on Easter morning and carried on that tradition with our own children. It is a practice that is first mentioned in literature from Germany in the early 1600's and was brought to America by German immigrants coming to Pennsylvania in the 1700's. Not unlike Santa Claus, the Easter Bunny would bring gifts, often eggs, to children in the middle of the night. Originally children would make a nest area somewhere in their house but now it seems the Bunny chooses its own place to leave things.

Rabbits and eggs have been fertility symbols since ancient times. There is a saying "wild as a March hare" referring to fertility rights and fights.

My wish for you all as we leave the wild March behind is that April will find you filled with a new sense of life and purpose, with a fertile mind for discovering God's purpose anew. May you wake up to April ready for surprises and gifts from God, who loves you very much and needs your help in bringing peace on earth at last.

I keep you all in my prayers,

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

Sunday Services in April

See pages 4-5 for a full listing of all the services and events during Holy Week



- April 4 **EASTER**
- 6:15 a.m. Ecumenical Easter Sunrise Service, Osamequin Point
- 9:15 a.m. Worship Service for All Ages.
- After 9:15 Service Coffee Hour & Easter Egg Hunt for PreK-2nd Grade (see p. 5)
- 11 a.m. Worship Service for All Ages
- April 11 10 a.m. Worship Service, Church School
- April 18 10 a.m. Worship Service with Bells,
Church School for PreK-2nd Grade only.
- April 25 10 a.m. Worship Service, Church School

Church School for Pre-School through Grade 8

Handicapped Accessible

Nursery Care Available

Parents of young children are reminded that if they need to leave the service with their child, the service can still be heard via loud speaker in the Vestry below the Sanctuary.

Clergy Away

The Rev. Jeff Larsen will be away on the Mission Trip from April 17—25.

The **church office** will close at noon on Good Friday, April 2, and will be closed on Monday, April 5.

DEACONS FOR APRIL

Susan Seader (star deacon),
Chris Brady, Bill DeWitt, Van Edwards,
Marshall Hoyler, Cheryl Muth, Abby Randazzo,
Helen Schall, Francis Seader, Mary Lou Slicker,
and Sam Sylvester.

*If you cannot reach Jeff (247-1787-home)
or Elizabeth (245-3467-home)
please call on one of the deacons.*

From our Associate Minister



I've heard a lot of talk about chance and choice lately. An adult son mentioned his gratitude for a parent. "She always gave me a second chance." A long-time member reflected on what she has learned as a part of this community of faith. When she listens for how God is present in her life, she realizes that she has the power to make choices. "Life is about choices," she said with a smile. Another person, torn between two possible paths from which to choose, agonized that he felt he had no choice in the matter, and upon making a decision declared solemnly, "This isn't my choice. It is just how things fell into place."

As a person of faith and as a seeker of spirit, I tend to believe our lives are a matrix of chances and choices, fate and free will, nature and nurture, luck and limits, circumstance and conviction. When we depend too much on either end of these spectrums we usually find ourselves in an existential crisis that leaves us more stuck in static than delighting in the dynamic movement of where Spirit might be leading us in our inner lives, in our service among community, and in our personal relationships.

Because of all this and more, I believe in second chances, even when it is hard to give myself, a friend or a family member a second chance. I believe in second chances even when I feel I've royally messed something up. I believe in second chances even when a grudge I may hold just seems to get heavier rather than lighter as the days pass. I believe, that unknown to us and often not by choice, life affords us second chances to make different choices. And, often, these second chances come in disguise.

This leads me to Easter. Something tragic and terribly human happened to not only an individual, but to an entire community, on that day Jesus went to the cross. But then the people of God declared unabashedly that the chance to live a life of love and practice the ways of peace was far from over. And here we are more than two millennia later, given yet another umpteenth chance to remember the call to live as Easter people.

May this Easter season of the church year grant you a second chance to choose new life.

Something to think about, prayerfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Elizabeth".



PALM SUNDAY— MARCH 28TH



Holy Week begins with the **Palm Sunday Service** at **10:00 a.m.** and the green eco-palms will be distributed.

This is also **New Member Sunday** so the service will include the reception of new members.

After Worship CEYM will host a **Lenten Lollapalooza** in Fellowship Hall. Adults and children of all ages are invited to make palm crosses, pretzels and various other Lenten crafts.



2

HOLY WEEK REFLECTIONS

MORNINGS

7:00—7:15 a.m. Monday, March 29 thru Friday, April 2 in the Library.

During this time of reflection **Rev. Jeff Larsen** will give a word for the day, provide coffee, and will finish in time for you to head off to work or school. All are welcome to come for this ‘quiet time’ at the start of their day.

EVENINGS

7:00 – 8:00 p.m. Mon., Tues. & Wed., March 29, 30 & 31 in the Library

Facilitated by **Rev. Elizabeth Barnum**, these sessions will include a time to gather, discussion of the book ‘*The Last Week*’ by Marcus Borg and John Dominic Crossan, and closing time for prayer. *You may attend whether or not you’ve read the book.*

A few copies of the book are still available for purchase (\$11.20 each) from the church office.

Monday, March 29th Discussion of chapters 1, 2 & 3

Tuesday, March 30th Discussion of chapters 4 & 5

Wednesday, March 31st Discussion of chapters 6, 7, & 8

Thursday, April 1st at 7:00 p.m. Join us for the Tenebrae Service in the Sanctuary

2

MAUNDY THURSDAY—APRIL 1ST



A **Tenebrae Service** will be held in the Sanctuary at **7:00 p.m.** The deacons and clergy will lead this worship service in which the story of Jesus' passion and suffering will be read, with candles extinguished one by one. The service also includes communion and music. All are invited to deepen their experience of the resurrection by living through the passion and death of Christ in this contemplative service.

2

GOOD FRIDAY—APRIL 2ND

Noon: Ecumenical Good Friday Service at St. John's Episcopal Church, 191 County Road, Barrington (located opposite the Barrington Shopping Center). All are welcome to attend this annual service sponsored by the Barrington Clergy Association. The Rev. Jeff Larsen will be participating.



2

EASTER SUNDAY SERVICES—APRIL 4TH



Easter Sunday begins with a **6:15 a.m. Sunrise Ecumenical Communion Service at Osamequin Point*** off the Wampanoag Trail, sponsored by several of the Barrington churches. All are invited.

*located 1.1 miles north of the church on the Wampanoag Trail (Route 114).

At **9:15 a.m.** and **11:00 a.m.** there will be **Worship Services for all Ages** in the sanctuary of BCCUCC, featuring preaching by the Rev. Jeffrey Larsen, a children's message, and music from the organ, brass and the church's adult choir at both services. Nursery care will also be provided at both services

Following the 9:15 a.m. service only, there will be an **Easter Egg hunt** for children in PreK—2nd Grade. Children are asked to bring a basket to collect the eggs that they find.





Lenten Series: "The Seven Deadly Sins"

A very special thank you to those people who made financial contributions to fund our special Lenten Art series. The bulletin covers, print copies and luncheon main meal were greatly appreciated by the whole church family and were made possible by your generosity.

Thanks also to Jamie Wyeth, the artist, for giving his permission to use the paintings.

The remaining "sins" are:

Sunday, March 28 Palm Sunday theme: "Greed"

Lenten Lollapalooza for all ages after worship (see next page)

Sunday, April 4 Easter theme: "Pride" at 9:15 & 11:00 AM services



Exploring the Family of God

The **Barrington Interfaith Clergy Association** is sponsoring a 3-part series exploring worship spaces, customs, and rituals. What binds us together in the Judeo-Christian tradition is a single God; what draws us into our particular families of faith are our rites and symbols which help us understand God and communicate with God.

All are invited to a time of learning, discussion, prayer, socializing and bridge building within our broader Barrington community.



Please join us on three consecutive **Wednesday evenings**
from **7:00 to 8:30 PM**

in three different houses of worship in Barrington:

Wed, April 28	Temple Habonim 165 New Meadow Road	Rabbi Andrew Klein
Wed, May 5	Barrington Presbyterian Church 400 County Road	Reverend Patrick Notley
Wed, May 12	Barrington Congregational Church UCC 461 County Road	Reverend Jeffrey Larsen Reverend Elizabeth Barnum

EASTER COMMUNION The decision was made by the Deacons that there will not be communion at the 9:15 and 11 a.m. Easter services, even though it is the first Sunday of the month. Communion will be available at the 6:15 a.m. Sunrise service and will also be served at the Maundy Thursday service that will be held on April 1st in the sanctuary.

As is always the case if you feel a strong desire to receive communion, Jeff or Elizabeth will be happy to accommodate your individual needs.



Adult Education — *Living the Questions*

The *Living the Questions* DVD & discussion series is nearing its end, but all are invited to participate in either or both of the remaining sessions. Gather in the **Library** between 11:15 and 11:30 a.m. Sessions begin by 11:30 a.m. and conclude at approx. 12:30 p.m. The schedule is:

- | | |
|------------------------|---|
| March 28 th | Conclusion of Session 19 &
Beginning of Session 20 (Creative Transformation) |
| April 4 th | EASTER No Session |
| April 11 th | Session 21 (Embracing Mystery) |
| April 18 th | Open & Affirming Education Session in Library
– No Living the Questions session today. |



Another Series? April 11th concludes the first offering of the Living the Questions series here at BCCUCC. If there are others interested in starting at the beginning and meeting at another time to view and discuss the series, please speak with Elizabeth Barnum.

What's Next? For current and interested participants in the Sunday morning after-worship Adult Education group who would like to be part of choosing what the next series of study will be beginning in May, please speak with Elizabeth Barnum or attend the April 11th session.

The Women's Faith Group



They will meet **April 1st and 15th** from **10—11:30 a.m.** in **Room 6** to begin studying a new book *The Leisure Seeker* by Michael Zadoorian.

Copies of the book are available from the church office at the discounted price of \$11.20.

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, or Nancy Martin at 273-1078 or nancy.martin3@verizon.net

Godly Play Story Schedule for April 2010

April 11th Story: Baptism

April 18th Work and Feast Day for PreK-Grade 2.
Grades 3-8 attend worship

April 25th Story: Good Shepherd and World Communion



CHURCH SCHOOL IN APRIL

EASTER April 4 PreK—Gd 8 attend Worship at either 9:15 or 11 a.m.
Easter Egg Hunt after 9:15 service for PreK—Grade 2.



April 11 PreK—Gd 8 leave after children's message for Church School
April 18 PreK—Gd 2 leave after children's message for Church School,
Grades 3-8 remain in worship
April 25 PreK—Gd 8 leave after children's message for Church School

Children are reminded that if they wish to make an **offering** they should bring it to church and take it forward with them for the Children's Time. Two gold boxes will be in the altar area for them to place their offering—either as loose money or in a special children's offering envelope available from the Narthex table as they come into church.

Upcoming Confirmation Classes

Sunday, April 11th 11:30 - 12:30 Confirmation Class with Jeff and Elizabeth, Room 6

Sunday, May 2nd Confirmation during 10 a.m. Worship Service



United Church of Christ New England Regional Youth Event

Inside Out – Outside In: Finding Our Way in God's World

For high school aged UCC youth who will be entering 9th grade in Fall 2010 through those who graduated in June 2010 to be held on the campus of Boston University, **June 24-27, 2010**. The cost will be \$350.00 per person.

A group of youth from the Rhode Island Conference U.C.C. are planning to go. This is your last chance to let Elizabeth Barnum know you might like to participate! Please email or call her ASAP.





EASTER EGG HIDING AND HUNT

There will be an Easter egg hiding session Easter morning, April 4, at 8:30 a.m. Please see Andrea Bullard if you would like to help with this fun activity. A special treat will be offered when we are finished hiding the eggs!

There will be an Easter egg hunt for PreK through second graders following the 9:15 service. Please bring a basket!



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

Good Friday (no school), April 2: Plastic Easter Egg candy stuffing for Easter Egg hunt on Easter Sunday. Meet in Fellowship Hall at the church. Please arrive at **4 p.m.**, when we're done, we'll have pizza. Pick up should be around 6 p.m.



Saturday, April 3 JPF will assist with the Soup Kitchen. Watch your e-mails for how you can help.

Youth interested in participating in any JPF event should contact Leslie Peck at 245-1820 or PeckMarketing@cox.net.

Looking ahead to

JUBILATION SUNDAY,

May 23, 2010.

Volunteers are needed to assist the children in preparation on May 9 and 16, for the May 23 special worship service! Anyone who can help should contact either Andrea (andrea@bccucc.org) or Elizabeth (elizabeth@bccucc.org).

CAN YOU HELP?

**★ Thank You! ★
★ THANK YOU! ★**

...to Van Edwards for inviting and hosting guest speaker R. David Coolidge. David is the new Muslim Chaplain at Brown University who came to speak about his religious practice with our 6th – 8th graders on March 21

...to Amy Gorman, Francis Seader, Michelle Koles, Lauren Browning, Kristen Westmoreland, Jane Knight, Carolyn McGarry, Betsy Restituyo, Elizabeth Barnum, Greg Knight, and Laurie Dubel for volunteering in Church School

...and to Leslie Peck, Steve Peck and Elizabeth Barnum for chaperoning the JPFers to the Rock 'n Bowl at Dudek's in Warren.

2010 Mission Trip Group



Sunday, March 28 from 6-8 p.m. Meet in the church library.

Sunday, April 4 10 – 11 a.m. Sell Cookbooks and Cat's Meow Churches at coffee hour between Easter services.

Saturday, April 17 8 a.m. Leave from the church for the Mission Trip to West Virginia

Sunday, April 25 Return from Mission Trip.

The congregation is asked to please keep the Mission Trip participants in their prayers as they journey to West Virginia and work with the Appalachian people.

BCC UCC Mission Trippers are rolling up their sleeves for you on:

When: **Sunday, April 11th**

Time: **9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.**

Why: To help defray the cost of our Mission Trip group traveling to Appalachia for the week of their Spring vacation (April 17th—25th).

Cost: Donation of your choice

- Options:
1. Have your car washed after the worship service as you leave the parking lot.
 2. Have your car washed before the worship service (if it's before 9:30 a.m.)
 3. Have your car washed during the service. Your car would be specially tagged and you would leave your keys with a Mission Trip adult as you go into worship. The adult would move your car from its parking space, have it washed, and then return it to the same space.

OR

4. Drive a dirty automobile!

Thank you for your continued support of the Mission Trippers and their fundraising efforts.





Spring Birdhouse Sale

a fundraiser for the 2010 Mission Trip to West Virginia

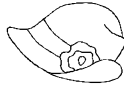
Saturday, March 27 from Noon to 5 pm

at **Center Ace Hardware Store**, 156 County Road, Barrington.

The Mission Trip participants will be getting together to build birdhouses on Sunday, February 28. If there are any left over from the Saturday sale, they will be sold in Fellowship Hall on Sunday March 28 after church.

The supplies for the birdhouses were generously donated by Arnold Lumber Co. of Bristol.

**Did you miss out on
getting an
Easter Hat?**



(available for both men and women)

**There will be a second opportunity
to purchase one on
Sunday, March 28 after worship.**

**Thanks to all of the supplies
brought in by the congregation,
there are enough to make some
more Easter Bonnets/Hats.**

**Cost of each hat will be a \$20.00
donation.**

**All money raised goes to the Mission
Trip Fund.**

On EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 4TH

between the two services,
the Mission Trip youth will be selling

CHURCH COOKBOOKS

(published Spring 2006)

for **just \$5** each (originally \$15).

It contains favorite recipes from church
members past and present.

2

CAT'S MEOW CHURCHES

wooden replicas of BCCUCC

They're available for purchase at the sale
price of **\$15 each** (originally \$20). Very
few of these wooden churches are left so
don't miss out on this opportunity as we
won't be ordering more.

Proceeds benefit the Mission Trip Fund.

WORTH REPEATING!

It really is possible to be allergic to church! There are a number of people who have a very difficult time coming to church, or staying in church, due to allergies to perfumes, colognes, flowers, etc. You are asked to be as considerate as you can be when preparing to make yourself beautiful and handsome for our time together. Thank you.

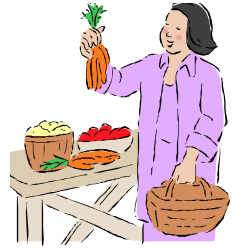


This program is ending in April. Thank you to everyone who registered their card and shopped their card and shopped mid-week so that the church could earn money back.

GO LOCAL ... a Farmers' & Artisans' Market at BCCUCC

We are happy to announce that our church is going to open a Farmers' and Artisans' Market this Spring called GO LOCAL.

GO LOCAL is a market for local farmers, artists, and craftspeople to sell their wares. The market will feature local fruits and vegetables, plants and florals, baked goods, cheeses, fine art, quality crafts, hand-made soaps and much more. The major requirement for vendor participation is that the goods sold must be the result of their own effort. No resale items are permitted. All potential vendors must undergo a pre-screening process prior to being invited to participate.



We plan to open the market this Spring, **June through October**, rain or shine **every Saturday, 9 AM – Noon**. The market will be on the church grounds, outside on the west side of the education building and Fellowship Hall.



We need a committee of church members to support market operations. So far we have a finance person, a building and grounds person and two publicity people. I will chair the committee. ***We still need a volunteer coordinator.***

Also, we need a bank of volunteers to help on Saturdays at the market; oversee parking, assist with vendor arrival/set-up and make rounds during market hours...

Please email me if you are interested in helping. Be sure to let me know if you have a preference for a position.

Thank you, it will be great fun!

Lisa Browning

lbrowning@colemanrealtors.com or (401) 247-0395

Attention choir members.....

The RI Conference of the UCC is hoping to gather choir members from all of the RICUCC churches to come, sing and experience different kinds of music for worship, at the

RICUCC Spring Meeting

on May 1, 2010

at Central Congregational Church

296 Angell Street, Providence RI 02906

Rehearsal will be Thursday, April 29, at 7:30 pm at Central Church and they will warm-up the day of the annual meeting 8:15am.





SINGLES GROUP

On **Saturday, April 17th**, at **7:00 p.m.**,
there will be a gathering of **Singles, age 30+**,
at **Seekonk Congregational Church, UCC.**
Woodworth Hall of the Gardiner Building (Behind Sanctuary)
600 Fall River Avenue, Seekonk, MA 02771

This will be an opportunity to socialize with Singles from other area churches. Light refreshments will be served and we will discuss the venue and scheduling of future get-togethers.

If the club scene is not for you and you'd like to befriend other like-minded individuals, please join us to explore the possibilities!

Questions? Contact Seekonk Congregational Church, UCC
at 508-336-9355 sccucc@verizon.net or check out their website at www.scc-ucc.com



Still Speaking magazine

Premiering in late April 2010, **Still Speaking Magazine** is an 88 page, twice annual periodical filled with compelling stories and engaging photography about people in the United Church of Christ. Every issue is chock full of features and images celebrating how the UCC is changing lives—individually, systemically and globally.

Information on how to get your inaugural subscription is at ucc.org/magazine.



SAVE THE DATE!

RI Conference of the UCC

Spring Meeting

May 1, 2010

Central Congregational Church

296 Angell Street,
Providence RI 02906

Delegates and visitors welcome!

The East Bay Chapter of PFLAG South Central RI meets the **2nd Thursday** of each month from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. in Room 9 of Barrington Congregational Church UCC
All are welcome.

Learn more at www.infopflagscri.org or call the East Bay Chapter (401) 952-6720



Save resources and read *The Bridge* electronically?
Contact the church office at office@bccucc.org

*The April 2010 calendar as found on pages 14-15,
can be found on the Calendar page of the church website
www.bccucc.org*

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can be found on the Calendar page of the church website
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E-mail addresses

Church Office:
office@bccucc.org

Senior Minister—Jeff Larsen:
jeff@bccucc.org

Associate Minister—Elizabeth Barnum:
elizabeth@bccucc.org

Office Administrator—Christine Wallis:
christine@bccucc.org

Financial Secretary & Office Assistant Pat Stoddard:
pat@bccucc.org

Christian Education Assistant—Andrea Bullard:
andrea@bccucc.org

Do we have YOUR e-mail address? Please send it to the church office.

Open and Affirming Discussions

The Open and Affirming (ONA) Study team has planned several gatherings after worship to view films about inclusivity to spark discussion as well as a time for discussing the Affirmation of Welcome before the Annual Meeting in June.

April 18 after worship - view and discuss "For the Bible Tells Me So". Light lunch will be provided. This award-winning film is a compassionate and insightful documentary about the contemporary face of an old conflict between Christian fundamentalists and gay and lesbian people.

May 16 after worship - view and discuss "Praying with Lior". Light lunch will be provided. An engrossing, wrenching and tender documentary film, "Praying with Lior" introduces Lior Liebling, also called "the little rebbe." Lior has Down syndrome, and has spent his entire life praying with utter abandon. Is he a "spiritual genius" as many around him say? Or simply the vessel that contains everyone's unfulfilled wishes and expectations?

May 23 after worship - Open discussion regarding the Affirmation of Welcome and any other issues surrounding this topic that members of the congregation might have.

2

In addition to the various gatherings, the ONA Study Team is asking for written feedback from the congregation on the draft BCCUCC Affirmation of Welcome. It is printed on the next page with space for your comments. Comment sheets are also available from the vestry table, the piano in Fellowship Hall, and outside the church office.

*BCCUCC Affirmation of Welcome
Draft*

We, the members of Barrington Congregational Church, United Church of Christ welcome you. We believe that that all people are blessed and loved equally by God. Following the teachings of Jesus, we welcome all people into God's covenantal community.

We welcome people to come as they are. We welcome people of all races, ethnicities and beliefs. We welcome all, no matter their class, age, marital status, physical or mental ability, variety of thought and expression. People of all sexual and gender orientations, gender identity and gender expression are welcome here. All are welcome in the full life and ministry of our church.

Acknowledging God's acceptance of us and Jesus' commandment to love our neighbors as ourselves, we affirm our belief that we are one body in Christ.

'' -----

The members of the ONA Study Team encourage and welcome your comments, suggestions or concerns:

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Thank you for your input.

Please drop in the suggestion box in Fellowship Hall, send to the church office, or contact any member of the ONA Study Team*, Jeff, or Elizabeth.

*Team members include: Leslie Strolla (leslie_strolla@brown.edu), Jim McCartney (jrmcc@fullchannel.net), and Lois McCartney (lfmcc@fullchannel.net).



All those going on the Mission Trip would like to thank the congregation for their generosity and support of the various Mission Trip fundraisers. The group will be heading to Brenton, West Virginia in just a few short weeks!

Thanks to everyone who purchased tickets, came to the **Pasta Dinner** on March 7, provided desserts, or made a donation. Special thanks to Daniel and Doug Roach for making a new Pasta Dinner sign to go out by the road, and to Shaw's Market for donating the Italian bread. Thanks also to all of the cooks and to the youth and parents who helped, and to Jean Arnold who worked so hard and did such a great job organizing everything. A total of \$1671.67 was raised from ticket sales and donations.

Once again, **Easter Bonnets** are the height of fashion this season as many were custom made and sold after worship on Sunday, March 21. Special thanks to Kathleen Larsen and Susan Seader for heading this up (pun intended!!) and to everyone who put their millinery skills to good use in making the hats. And of course, a huge thank you to everyone who purchased one of the wonderful creations. Over \$600 has been made so far. But don't worry if you haven't yet purchased your Easter Bonnet (which can be worn to church on Easter Day). They will be making and selling them again on Palm Sunday, March 28—while supplies last.

And finally, thanks to all those who read Jeff's article in last month's *Bridge* about some of the costs of the Mission Trip, and responded by making a **donation**. Your generosity is much appreciated.

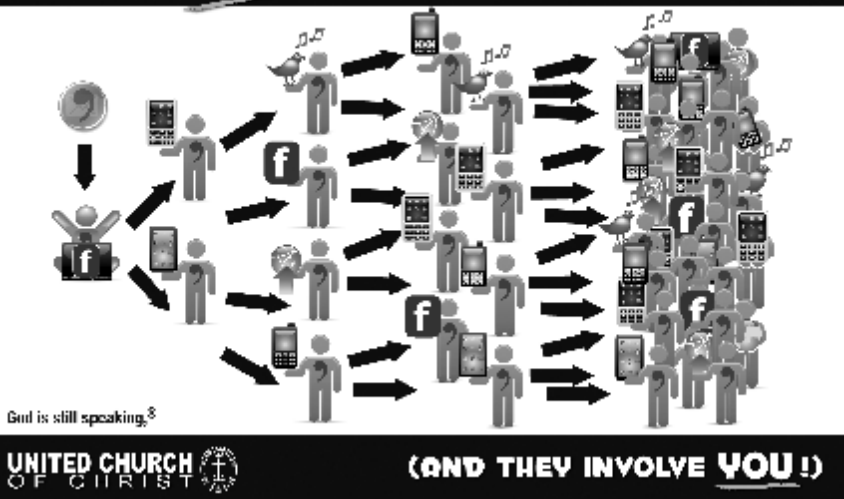


...to Carolyn Faulhaber, Pat Stoddard and Dave Rogers for all of their hard work on a recent sunny day tidying up the flower beds in front of the CE and church buildings. Now we'll be able to see the daffodils when they come up!

...to Marina Zabinski and the members of the adult choir who spent many hours rehearsing Rutter's *Requiem* to sing in the worship service on March 14. Their effort was well worth it as the performance was both lovely and moving. Special thanks to Martha Foster who sang the soprano solo so beautifully.

...and to everyone who allowed themselves to be filmed or volunteered to be interviewed on camera by Lee Randazzo as part of his senior project at New England Tech. We look forward to seeing the final DVD!

WE'VE GOT **BIG** PLANS ON FRIDAY, APRIL 16.



On **Friday, April 16 at 9 a.m. (ET)** the United Church of Christ's Still Speaking Ministry will launch a **NEW** powerful video spot on the internet.

At first the message will be delivered to tens of thousands — by email, through internet ads, and posts to social networks.

Then, as the day unfolds, “God is Still Speaking” will sweep the internet like a mighty wave — reaching millions! **But only with your help.**

Here's what you need to know:

STEP ONE: 9:00 a.m.

Visit ucc.org or check your e-mail for a special message offering a first peek at Stillspeaking's new, edgy internet spot. Watch it. Let it sink in.

STEP TWO: 9:03 a.m.

Share the link on Facebook, Twitter, MySpace, LinkedIn, myUCC, your own blog, or other places where internet dwellers will see it.

STEP THREE: 9:05 a.m.

Send the link by email to family, friends, co-workers and church members, inviting them to watch and share with others.

STEP FOUR: 4:30 p.m.

Just for kicks, **repeat steps two and three.**

STEP FIVE: 10:00 p.m.

Relax, knowing that, thanks to you and countless others, millions have received a counterculture message about a Stillspeaking God — a word of inclusion, justice and welcome.

From Your Justice and Witness Ministry Team.....

4th Annual

Regina F. Berenback Memorial Lecture for Social Action and Justice

DATE: Sunday, March 28, 2010

Time: 4:00 pm

WHERE: Fellowship Hall, Barrington Congregational Church, UCC

SPONSOR: Justice and Witness Ministry Team of BCCUCC

TOPIC: "Enacting the Lively Experiment: How Diversity Has Driven the Rhode Island Economy Past, Present and Future"

GUEST SPEAKER: Keith W. Stokes, Executive Director, Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation.

Keith W. Stokes was appointed by Governor Carcieri to his present position in January 2010. He is also Chairman of the Board of the Quonset Development Corporation, as well as the Slater Technology Fund. Mr. Stokes was the Executive Director of the Newport County Chamber of Commerce for over 15 years and worked as Senior Policy Advisor to Rhode Island Governor Bruce Sundlun. Mr. Stokes is also a frequent national, state and local lecturer in community and regional planning, historic preservation and interpretation with an expertise in early African and Jewish American history.

Mr. Stokes is a native of Newport, Rhode Island. He was educated at Cornell University and the University of Chicago. Mr. Stokes has a diverse professional background including business, community planning, historic preservation, and government. He has served his community in many capacities – including as a three-term Newport City Councilman. Mr. Stokes and his wife Theresa have four children.

ADMISSION: This event is **FREE** and open to the community.
All are welcome. Refreshments will be served.
Please support this church event with your attendance.

All Church Missions Project — CWS Hygiene Kits

On Sunday, April 11th, the Justice and Witness Ministry Team invites you to join them during coffee hour in assembling hygiene kits for Church World Service. The J & W team will supply the items needed for the kits through funds given to the former Missions Team in the past.

As many of you know, CWS collects many service kits on an ongoing basis. These might be school kits, baby kits or hygiene kits. They are stored in their warehouses until needed. Recently, due to the earthquakes in Haiti and Chile as well as other natural disasters, CWS has depleted their supplies and has set as a goal the collection of 40,000 more kits.

Please help us in our first Kits Assembly Sunday. The gifts of your hands and hearts will be appreciated. We will also be accepting any monetary donation that you wish to offer to Church World Service.



All are invited to attend a

Cool Congregations Workshop

by Rhode Island Interfaith Power and Light

Saturday, April 17 9 a.m.—Noon

Barrington Congregational Church, UCC

People of faith across Rhode Island are caring for God's creation by solving global warming in their own homes and saving money in the process. The Cool Congregations stewardship program will provide you with the tools you need to make a difference in your home, congregation, and community.

Cool Congregations participants will have the opportunity to:

- Measure their carbon footprint
- Explore ways to reduce their footprint
- Make a faith-based pledge to reduce their footprint
- Meet to celebrate their successes and build community

For more information go to www.riipl.org

To sign up for the workshop, contact Ann Wood (anniebwd@aol.com or 247-2325) or the church office (office@bccucc.org or 246-0111).

The workshop is being sponsored by the Justice and Witness Ministry Team of BCCUCC

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 or Cate at Toddc11@bpsmail.org. 2010 dates for BCCUCC to do the soup kitchen are April 3, June 5, August 7, October 9 and December 11.



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) or David Renner of BOW at daverenner@cox.net. For more information about Habitat Providence, visit their web site at <http://www.habitatprov.org>



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. **Toiletries** are also always needed. *Collection box in the Vestry.*

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.



It's time to go beyond the peel. Join the banana revolution.



Equal Exchange has worked for over two decades to transform the coffee, tea and chocolate industries. And now they are proud to offer you a choice when you are purchasing bananas.

Next time you're browsing the fruit aisle, look for an Equal Exchange sticker on your banana bunch. By doing so you are choosing to connect yourself to the courageous banana farmers in El Guabo co-op, located in Ecuador. They're making history for themselves, and quite possibly for the entire banana industry.

Bananas marked "Equal Exchange" can be found in some Whole Foods and Stop and Shop markets, as well as other stores.

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.



The Buildings and Grounds Ministry Team is looking for help with several maintenance and clean-up projects on their

CHURCH CLEAN-UP DAY

Saturday, April 10th

Please contact Paul Dennis (245-6296) to sign up, or leave a message in the church office (246-0111).

Volunteers — both skilled and unskilled — are welcome, so please consider volunteering an hour or so of your time on April 10th to help with some much needed work around the church. Thank you.



BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS UPDATE

Members of the congregation may have noticed several maintenance and improvement projects underway:

- The vestry entry redecorating has made this area much more welcoming. Painting and carpeting will continue after structural repairs are completed in the "parlor" (where the elevette is). These improvements are funded by an anonymous church member donation.
- A program by RISE and the utility companies made it possible to upgrade almost all the light fixtures in the education building and vestry with energy saving fixtures and bulbs at a very reasonable cost to us.
- Work will begin soon to improve the handrails for the education building foyer and library entrance stairways and rebuilding our failing stone wall along the front sidewalk.
- Finally, there are two Boy Scout Eagle projects in the works to repaint the carriage sheds and the kitchen.

We are indeed blessed to have volunteers and donors to help defray the cost of maintaining our facilities! You can help by showing up for church clean up day Saturday, April 10th (see article above). Contact Paul Dennis (245-6296) or the church office to sign up.

Our Landscaping Needs Your TLC!

Buildings and Grounds needs several people who will offer to be “on call” for occasional time spent on the care of our landscaping. These efforts will likely be spring and fall clean-ups, weed, insect and disease monitoring, pruning, trimming and the like. No experience is necessary. The larger the group, the less time it will take for all of us.

If you would like to help in this way, please contact Sue Terhune (246-1868, sierramadre50@cox.net) or the Church Office (246-0111, office@bccucc.org) and someone will get back to you. Thanks.



The Membership Ministry Team offers thanks and appreciation to the Building and Grounds Ministry Team for the beautiful renovation of the entryway to the Vestry, with special additional thanks to Sue Terhune, Lynn Hoy, and Paula Movsesian. It looks wonderful!

Editors note: The renovation was made possible thanks to the generous donation from an anonymous church member. All who see the new Vestry entryway just love it!



Literacy Volunteers of East Bay will host their **3rd Annual SPRING SCRABBLE® SCRIMMAGE**

on **Saturday, May 1, 2009** from **5-8:00 P.M.**
at **Barrington Congregational Church, UCC.**

Participants can register in teams of four (\$35) or as individuals (\$10). The event is open to players of all ages and families are welcome. All proceeds benefit LVEB and help continue its valuable work throughout the East Bay.

Registrations forms are available from the poster in the foyer outside Fellowship Hall. Register by April 23 and be eligible for a door prize.

For more information contact LVEB at 401-247-2177 or visit www.lvebastbay.org.



CHURCH ATTENDANCE

February 28 – 224
March 7 – 207
March 14 – 169
March 21 – 196



www.bccucc.org



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

Friday, April 9th at 6:30 p.m.

when they will eat at

Cattails Grille

315 Waterman Ave in East Providence.

April's Dine Out is hosted by Sim and Bernie Hawes. Please mark your calendars and e-mail your reservations to bhawes@astromed.com or 437-1860 *by Tuesday, April 6th.*

The dine out events have grown to be lively and fun nights to socialize and get to know fellow church members over a nice meal. Why not join them?

ALL ARE WELCOME.

KNITTING FOR OTHERS



The group will meet at the home of
Marty Kee,
3 Briarfield Road, Barrington

on Thursday, April 8 from 7 –9 p.m.

(a week later than usual because April 1 is Maundy Thursday)

The group welcomes new knitters (and those who like to crochet) who would like to make something to give away. Several members are knitting prayer shawls, but hats for newborns and helmet liners are examples of other things being made. If interested, please call Kathleen Larsen at 401 247-1787 or e-mail klarsenswc@hotmail.com who can also give you instructions and needle size for prayer shawls. We look forward to seeing you there.



**YOUR
NAME**

Need a nametag? Sign up in the vestry hallway, the membership table, or call the church office. Thanks.



The deadline for submission of articles to be included in the *May Bridge* will be
Friday, April 16th.

Book Group

next meets on

Monday, April 12th

at 7:30 p.m.

at The Coffee Depot

501 Main Street, Warren.

All are welcome!



They will discuss the book
**American Prophet: Moses
and the American Story**
by Bruce Feiler

The author reveals the central role Moses has played in American history--from the Pilgrims to the Founding Fathers to the Civil War to the civil rights movement--and explores how he can help unify our country today.



Kate Bonneau now lives at
 97 Promenade Street
 Barrington RI 02806
 Tel: (401) 383-1125

Janet Durfee-Hidalgo and son
 Cody Hidalgo now live at
 23 Anoka Avenue
 Barrington RI 02806
 Tel: (401) 246-2184



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

PPRT

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)
- Sharon Sylvester (247-4532)
- Marshall Hoyler (245-1118)
- Laurie Lennon (694-0715)

Family Footnotes



Dick Almquist; Eleanor Chisholm; Steve Fodor;
 Richard Gamache; Nelson Hawkins;
 Amanda Robidoux; May Smith; Betsy Staples;
 Paul Welch; Ken York; Paul Smith's father;

Fred Pierce's mother, Millie; Mary Kutcher's grandson, Timothy;
 Tom Colby's father; Kate Colby's father, Dick Haas.
 and Helen Grogan, wife of Rev. Wells Grogan (at BCCUCC 1952-62).

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



Barbara Ward and Nancy Arena on the death of Karen Crisman who was Barbara's daughter and Nancy's sister;

Ozzie Rosenholm and family on the death of his brother, Bill;
 and to the family of Stanley Berge.

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, Ken York, Jim Salvaggio	



April 2010

*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.*