

May 2011

THE WHITE CHURCH



BRIDGE

Dear Friends,

Hanging on a wall in Independence Hall in Tel Aviv is a photo taken on April 11, 1909 of 66 families gathered in the sand dunes in a circle looking intently into the middle. A lottery was being held with numbers from 1-66. Each number stood for a marked out plot of ground where you would build your house according to what number was chosen. These 66 families, just before the choosing made a remarkable decision – children would do the drawing of the numbers! “And a child shall lead them.” (Isaiah 11:6)

And out of that sand grew a city – today as modern as any in the USA. Out of our children this church community is built. In the next six weeks we will be celebrating that with Confirmation Sunday, Jubilation Sunday and Baccalaureate Sunday. And for our children some decisions will also be made in these next six weeks. Our Long Range Planning Team has been working hard under the leadership of Tom Colby, meeting with all the different Ministry Teams. All of these meetings have been intentionally advertised as open to all the congregation and we continue to want your input.

Eventually all their considerations and recommendations will be brought to the whole congregation. They will involve some changes...and they will necessitate some additional funding to be put into action. We are not at the point of just standing on sand in the desert but we do want to be a community living its faith in the world even more creatively than at this time. For our children’s future I hope you do everything you can to support the future of our ministry.

God’s peace to you all,



Sunday Services in May



- May 1 *Confirmation Sunday* (see page 4)
10 a.m. Worship Service with Communion and Confirmation,
Church School for PreK-Grade 6 only
- May 8 *Mothers' Day*
10 a.m. Worship Service, Church School
- May 15 *Music Celebration Sunday* (see page 4)
10 a.m. Worship Service with Vocal Choir and Bells,
Church School
- May 22 *Jubilation Sunday* (see page 5)
10 a.m. Worship Service led by Church School children, with Sing
and Celebrate Choir
After Worship All Church Picnic
- May 29 10 a.m. Worship Service
No Church School, Nursery Care only

Church School for Pre-School through Grade 8 unless otherwise noted
Nursery Care for age 3 and under

Handicapped Accessible

CLERGY AWAY

Rev. Elizabeth Barnum will be away from the office at the New England Conferences Clergy Event in Waltham, MA from **May 4-6**.

She will be taking her spring weekend off from **May 13-15**.

Rev. Jeff Larsen will be away **May 28-30**.

DEACONS FOR MAY

Greg Voigt (star deacon), Van Edwards, Cheryl Muth, Helen Schall, Sam Sylvester, and Liz White

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

OFFICE CLOSING

The church office will be closed on **Monday, May 30th** for the Memorial Day holiday.

From our Associate Minister



*Imagine yourself coming back
10 years from today
Through time, to help you
where you must now be.*

-Jim Cohn, poetry activist

There has been a lot of talk at ministry team meetings about the future here at BCCUCC. The Long Range Planning Team has been hard at work facilitating discussions within all spheres of church life as they seek to chart a course for the years ahead. Some of those goals, plans, and hopes are financial, some programmatic, and of course, some spiritual. One of the questions they ask towards the conclusion of these conversations is:

“If we were meeting 3-5 years from now, looking back retrospectively, what has happened to make you happy with the progress that has been made by the church and by this particular ministry team?”

If there are any responses to this question that you would like to share with the LRPT, let them know! I will continue to be thinking a lot about these kinds of questions this month. May seems to be ‘meeting month’ for clergy creatures and church folks alike. I will be attending a 3-day clergy event in Massachusetts focusing on the theme “Ministry in a Changing Landscape.” Similarly, the Rhode Island Conference Annual Meeting is focusing on the theme of “visioning our beloved church’s future” including a panel discussion of which both Jeff Larsen and I will be a part. How might we ‘be church’ in a changing landscape? ‘Tis the talk of the times!

More generally, long-range planning is a curious thing. Some people can see goals for 5 (or 50!) years from now through a clear crystal ball, even taking into account potential surprises. Some struggle mightily with even imagining 3-5 days from now. Some are lingering in memories of yesterday and others are so surrendered to the present, talk of the future is beyond comprehension! Some face the future with fear and worry while others face the future with hope, excitement, and curiosity.

While goal setting & long-range planning is a primary strategy for all sorts of institutions, setting ‘spiritual’ or ‘faith-based’ goals can sometimes seem harder to define. It is Eastertide and during this season in the church year, one of the invitations of our faith is that we might “Know Jesus in New Ways” (as some of the brand new Godly Play stories are titled). Whether you’re musing about 10 minutes, 10 days, 10 months, or 10 years from now, long-range planning of the soul includes facing the future by first being firmly planted in the present moment. May a quality of presence bloom in your soul this spring and may you experience God in new ways!

Peace,

Handwritten signature of Elizabeth



CONFIRMATION SUNDAY MAY 1ST

On **Sunday, May 1st** at the 10 a.m. worship service, thirteen of our youth will be confirmed and become members of our church.

Our Membership team will host a special reception for the confirmands and their families at 9:15 a.m. before the service. The congregation is invited to greet and congratulate them at coffee hour after the service. All are welcome including the extended family of those being confirmed.

Make a note to join us on ...

Music Celebration Sunday

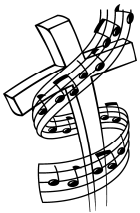
May 15th at 10 a.m.



Please join us for this special service when we lift up and express our thanks for the role of music in the worship life of this church. Those regularly involved in music ministry will participate, and we will also celebrate the additional musical contributions from members of the congregation.

- *Adult Vocal Choir* - *White Church Ringers* -

Note: The Sing and Celebrate Choir will sing on Jubilation Sunday (May 22nd)



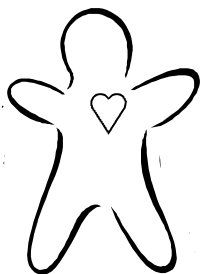
The Future of Music in Our Church's Ministry ...Be Part of the Action!

All members of our adult choirs and all people in our church community interested in music are invited to a special session with the Long Range Planning Team following worship on

Sunday, May 15, in the Vestry, from 11:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

This is a chance for us to look 5 years ahead and both share our dreams and take responsibility for an important part of our church's ministry.

A separate coffee hour will be offered in the vestry so come right from worship.



Jubilation Sunday

Sunday, May 22nd

Worship Service for ALL AGES

10 a.m.

Back Hill and Playground (weather permitting)

Due to the spirit and success of the last two years' Jubilation Sundays, we'll be gathering outside on the playground again, weather permitting. Come celebrate with the church school children as they share the story of **P.O.G. (aka Person of God)** in story and song (and with spirit!). The Sing and Celebrate Choir will also be sharing a song.

What to wear: Casual and comfortable

Bring: Blankets and chairs to sit on

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

Following the worship service there will be:

A **PICNIC** hosted by CEYM outside on the church terrace.



and

A **SLIDE SHOW** of the 2011 Mission Trip to Pittsburgh in the **library**.



ALL ARE INVITED

Church School and Godly Play Story Schedule for May

May 1	PreK – 3 rd grades 4 th – 8 th grades	Lessons 1 & 2 of 'Knowing Jesus in a New Way' Jubilation Sunday Preparation
May 8	PreK – 3 rd grades 4 th – 8 th grades	Good Shepherd and World Communion Jubilation Sunday Preparation
May 15	Jubilation Sunday Preparation for all	
May 22	JUBILATION SUNDAY	
May 29	No Church School. There will be nursery care.	



JUNIOR PILGRIM FELLOWSHIP (JPF)

All youth in grades 6-8 are welcome to participate



Mark your calendars as Jr. PF will be taking a trip to the Rustic Drive-In in Smithfield, RI, on Friday night, June 3rd.

The movie and meeting time at church to drive over TBA. Chaperones will be needed, please contact Leslie Peck at 245-1820 or PeckMarketing@cox.net.

Want to read *Jeff's Weekly* and receive the *Ennouncements* on your computer each week?

Then be sure that the church office has your current e-mail address. Simply send an e-mail to office@bccucc.org and let us know—being sure to include your name in the body of the e-mail so we know who you are!

Please note the following:

- *Jeff's Weekly* only goes out to those who specifically request it, whereas the *Ennouncements* go to all on our e-mail list.
- If you 'unsubscribe' from any e-mail that we send you using Constant Contact, you will no longer receive any e-mails that are sent from the church using Constant Contact.



Mark your calendar for



**BACCALAUREATE
SUNDAY
June 12th**

At the 10 a.m. worship service, **high school graduates** (no matter what their school) are invited to process in their gowns. During the service the graduates will be recognized and honored for their accomplishments.

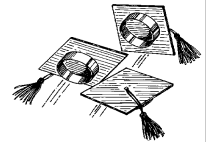
The service will end by 11 a.m. to allow time for graduates to get to the ceremonies being held later the same day.

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

Attention All Graduates !

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

In order to be included in the *June Bridge*, **information must be in the church office by May 13th.**



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

The Christian Education and Youth Ministries Team announces that applications for the Kathleen Lynne Fodor (KLF) Memorial Scholarship are available to members of the Barrington Congregational Church, UCC, who are pursuing education or training beyond high school. Two \$400 scholarships will be awarded. Selection will be made by random drawing, and announced on Baccalaureate Sunday, June 12th.

Graduating seniors, as well as those students presently attending a secondary or graduate school, who have completed the confirmation process, and are currently a member of Barrington Congregational Church, UCC, may apply. Students who applied previously are welcome to apply again. Application forms are available from outside the church office, or on the church website on the 'Information for Church Members' page. **The deadline is June 5th, 2011.** We encourage all who are eligible to apply. Questions? Call Andrea Bullard at (401) 474-4722.

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

Our Whole Lives Update from Elizabeth



In recent newsletters and ministry team meetings, I have been sharing the exciting news that BCCUCC has been chosen to be part of a national study of a progressive sexuality education program. Our Whole Lives is a series of comprehensive sexuality education resources written by human sexuality educators for use in churches, schools, and community settings. A separate resource, *Sexuality and Our Faith*, provides materials for incorporating faith-based teaching into each session.

The primary four values of Our Whole Lives are (1) self-worth, (2) sexual health, (3) responsibility and (4) justice & inclusivity. We continue in the process of recruiting volunteers, educating lay leaders, and preparing to learn how to implement the program for Gr. 7-9 & Gr. 10-12 either this fall or in the later implementation phase, depending on the timeline given to us by the research team.

BREAKING NEWS:

It is a likely possibility that we may be the host site for this region's facilitators to come for their 3-day training! This makes it more convenient for our 6 volunteer facilitators to receive training locally. It also allows BCCUCC the chance to extend an extravagant welcome & hospitality to those attending from other churches. This training will likely happen for three days in June and will require host homes, meals, and a warm welcome from members & friends of this congregation. Stay tuned to hear a lot more about this incredible opportunity.

The ABCs of Our Whole Lives

Late winter, I provided a reflection on why holistic spirituality & sexuality education was important for churches to support. I started by listing themes from A-L. Here in brief, I list the A-L themes along with M-Z!

A	Acceptance AND Affirmation	N	Nonexploitative
B	Body of Christ	O	Open-minded
C	Creation & Community	P	Parents as primary sexuality educators
D	Diversity & Decision-making	Q	All Questions have value!
E	Equality	R	Responsibility
F	Freedom	S	Spirituality
G	God's Gifts	T	Temple (Body as)
H	Healthy - Humanity - Holiness	U	Understanding
I	Incarnation & Inclusivity	V	Values
J	Justice	W	self-Worth
K	Knowledge	X	seXuality
L	Love! Life! Learning!	Y	Youth
M	Meaning-Making	Z	Zest for life – heart, body, mind and soul!

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

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

CONNECTICUT: <http://silverlake.ctucc.org/> *Silver Lake (Litchfield County):*

MAINE: <http://www.pilgrimlodge.org/> *Pilgrim Lodge*

MASSACHUSETTS: <http://www.macucc.org/> *Craigville, Cape Cod, MA*

NEW HAMPSHIRE: <http://www.hortoncenter.org/> *Horton Center*
<http://starisland.org/> *Star Island*

VERMONT: http://www.vtcucc.org/Covenant_Hills_Camp.html *Covenant Hills Camp*



The 2011 softball season will soon be here so it's time to get out your gloves and dust off those cleats!! Every summer, BCCUCC fields a co-ed softball team to participate in the **Barrington Churches Softball League** and any interested **men aged 30+ or women aged 16+** who would enjoy playing should contact Tom Strolla at ostrolla@cox.net or (401) 246-0936.



Games are played on Mondays, Tuesdays or Thursdays starting late June, beginning at 6 p.m. at Bicknell Field located at the end of Walnut Avenue. A great time is had by all and new players are always needed and very welcome.

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



Pull Tabs for Charity collection continues

One of our youth, A.J. Dolce, is collecting **beverage can pull tabs** (also known as pop-tops) to benefit the Shriners Hospitals for Children.

All medical treatment is provided without cost to the patient, their family, or any third party. They recycle the tabs (the only part of the can that is pure aluminum) and use the proceeds to purchase needed equipment and items for their patients. There is more information and a special collection can in Fellowship Hall. Thanks to everyone who has already brought some in.



After Worship Adult Education

Sundays after Worship in the Church Library
from approx. **11:20 am—12:20 pm**

(Stop by Fellowship Hall on the way & grab a hot beverage & snack)

will meet on **May 1, 8, 15** (later dates tbd)

The group is continuing their reading and discussion of the book
Twelve Steps to a Compassionate Life by Karen Armstrong

All are welcome to any or all of the series. Join us!

Facilitators are: May 1 - Nancy Martin; May 8 - Achina Stein;
May 15 - Susan Rotblat-Walker

Contact Elizabeth Barnum for more information (246-0111 or Elizabeth@bccucc.org)

“Loving Committed Relationships”

Sunday, May 1 st 5—7 PM at BCCUCC

In a committed relationship? Want to talk about it?

Ok then, want to listen to others talk about theirs and then, maybe,
enter into some conversation?

Kathleen and Jeff Larsen invite you to a fun, and hopefully interesting, evening at the church Sunday, May 1 from 5-7 PM. There will be a light supper followed by a panel of church people sharing their experiences...challenging you to think about and enrich your relationship.

Suggested reading before the event: ‘Committed’ by Elizabeth Gilbert.



POSTPONED until the Fall



The deadline for submission of articles to be
included in the June *Bridge* will be
Friday, May 13th.

The June *Bridge* will be the last newsletter until September, so please submit information for anything happening over the summer. Thank you.

AUCTION UPDATE

The Auction team continues to meet and plan our 2011 Auction. As with past auctions we are planning on providing various baskets that you can fill and return filled with items that follow a theme. If you have any baskets or interesting containers that you can donate please get them to the church by May 15. Starting on that day, you can pick out your basket and start getting creative. Examples of past baskets



include “movie night”, “cheese, crackers and chocolate” or maybe even a Christmas theme, you only need your imagination to come up with something wonderful. The Auction team has plenty of other ideas, so be sure to ask for suggestions if you would like help getting started.



So as spring finally reaches us and we start our spring cleaning, keep the auction in mind. Remember one person’s stuff, may be another’s treasure!

The donation team looks forward to hearing from you. The members are:

Judy Harff: judy@harff.com 289-0438
Lorraine Keeney: likeeney@gmail.com 486-3042
Laurie Lennon: lemlaur@hotmail.com 694-0715
Pat Rude: ru4880@cox.net 245-7712
Jane & Doug Tonn: jtonn2@cox.net 289-2349



We look forward to seeing everyone at the Gather at the River – Catch the Spirit Auction to be held on Saturday, September 17th at Stanley’s Boatyard. More details and ticket information to follow.

Keep track of the auction’s progress by going to the church’s Facebook page at www.facebook.com/bccucc and find it under Events.
Or simply click on the Facebook logo to the right.



Name



AUCTION

Have questions about the Auction? Not sure who to talk to about making a donation? Want to volunteer?

All of the people involved in the auction now have special Auction nametags which they will wear at church and coffee hour. Any one of them will be happy to help you or direct you to the person you need to talk to.

The May 2011 calendar as found on pages 12-13 of the printed version can also be found on the Calendar page of the church website

www.bccucc.org.

BCCUCC's Affirmation of Welcome

We believe that all people are blessed and loved equally by God. Following the teachings of Jesus we heartily welcome everyone into God's covenantal community. Whatever your race, ethnicity, age, socioeconomic or marital status, variety of thoughts and beliefs, physical or mental ability, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression--whoever you are and wherever you come from you are welcome into the full life and ministry of our church.



REMINDERS ABOUT HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SERVICES

MAUNDY THURSDAY—APRIL 21ST



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.

GOOD FRIDAY—APRIL 22ND

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. Robert Marshall, Rector of St. John's Episcopal Church, will preach.

EASTER SUNDAY SERVICES—APRIL 24TH



at

Easter Sunday begins with a **5:45 a.m. Sunrise Ecumenical Communion Service** **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,

The service will include 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—3rd Grade**.

Children are asked to bring a basket to collect the eggs

BCCUCC Finance Team Report



Dear members of the Congregation,

As one of our promises to better inform and engage in the financial workings of our church, we will be including a monthly update in *The Bridge*. The Finance Team and Church Council review our financial picture each month to ensure our income and expenses are on track, identify any potential shortfalls and overages and try to learn about pledging patterns, changes in costs or other money-related issues that can help us manage our finances.

As of April 2011, while one-quarter of the year has been completed, we have only collected about 19 percent of our total income and luckily, spent only about 16 percent of our total budget. We will be looking for pledges to increase over the next coming months and urge you to please stay up to date with your giving.

One struggle of the Finance Ministry is accounting for monthly fluctuation in pledge income. This led to the creation of the Pledge Pay option for giving. For anyone who is interested in Pledge Pay, which is a regular withdrawal from your bank deposited into the church operating budget, please contact Financial Secretary Pat Stoddard. It's very helpful to us and to the many individuals and families currently participating.

Please feel free to ask questions, join our ministry team at meetings or as a member. We will keep you apprised of our church's financial health and look forward to the Annual Meeting on June 5th to discuss progress made on the Finance Team recommendations presented in January.

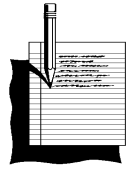
In peace and prosperity,

Kim Godfrey, Matt Stein, John Loerke, George Bolton,
Leslie Strolla, Pat Stoddard

Not able to get to church? If you are no longer able to make it to church on Sunday mornings due to health or age related issues, we are happy to mail you the Sunday bulletin each week. Just call the church office at 246-0111 and we will add your name to our list.

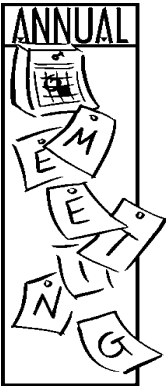
A tape recording is made of the Sunday worship service, and is available to anyone who would like to borrow it. Perhaps there is a homebound church member you know who would enjoy listening to the Sunday service. The tape is available from the office.

ANNUAL REPORTS due MAY 20th



The leaders of the various ministry teams, together with the church officers are reminded that the **deadline for submitting annual reports is Friday, May 20th**. If possible, reports should be submitted by e-mail *as an attachment* to the church office at office@bccucc.org. However, reports are accepted in any form.

Note: The 2011 BCCUCC Annual Report will be posted on the church website and sent out by e-mail at the end of May so congregation members may read it prior to the Annual Meeting. Some copies will also be available for pick up after that date (if you don't have a computer).



All are invited to attend the
Annual Meeting
of the Barrington Congregational Church, UCC on
SUNDAY, JUNE 5th, 2011

immediately following worship in the Sanctuary

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

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

WARRANT FOR ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of the Barrington Congregational Church, United Church of Christ is hereby called to take place on **Sunday, June 5th, 2011** in the Sanctuary **immediately after Worship**.

Article I: To call the meeting to order.

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

Article III: To receive the report of the Finance Team's Recommendations.

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

Article V: To adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted, *Lorraine Kenney*, Clerk



MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

OPENING DAY for our market will be **JUNE 4TH**.

It will feature **La Creperie** whose chef will prepare delicious made-to-order crepes, both savory and dessert.

The Barrington Library will also hold their **annual book sale** at the market that morning.

The market will be open every Saturday through October, 9-12 noon.

We just recruited a few new farms with micro greens, baby salad greens... and new vendors including Seven Stars Bakery, a grain-free granola vendor, organic honey, a biscotti vendor, cupcake vendor and much more.

Steve Peck has done a wonderful job with our Facebook account and has created a website. Please visit us at

<http://www.facebook.com/golocalfarmersmarket>

<http://golocalfarmersmarket.org>

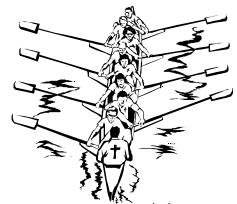
We are looking for musicians to play at our market. Please contact me if you know of anyone interested. We are always looking for new vendors and organizations who may want to hold an event at our market. Lastly, if you would like to work at the market, let me know.

Please tell your friends about the market. We can only succeed if enough patrons support the vendors. Your help is greatly appreciated!

Lisa Browning,
golocalmarket@gmail.com, 401-529-9501

Are you willing to serve?

The Nominating Team is looking for volunteers to serve on ministry teams or as church officers. If this is something you may be interested in doing or would like to know more about, please contact Mary Louise Gamache (245-9914) or Bernie Hawes (437-1860) from the Nominating Ministry Team.



MINISTRY TEAM

Information on all of the teams can be found in the leaflet **“Opportunities for Getting Involved in Our Church”** that is available from the rack outside the church office.

Book Group

next meets on
Thursday, May 12th
at 7:30 p.m.

at The Coffee Depot
501 Main Street, Warren.

All are welcome!



They will discuss the book
Sarah's Key
by Tatiana de Rosnay

On the sixtieth anniversary of the 1942 roundup of Jews by the French police in the Vel d'Hiv section of Paris, American journalist Julia Jarmond is asked to write an article on this dark episode during World War II and embarks on an investigation that leads her to long-hidden family secrets and to the ordeal of Sarah, a young girl caught up in the raid.

CHURCH ATTENDANCE

March 27 – 186

April 3 – 195

April 10 – 182

April 17 – 168

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

Friday, May 6th at 6:30 p.m.

when they will eat at

Agave

805 Hope Street, Bristol RI

Reservations need to be made by Monday, May
2nd to Jim or Lois McCartney at 245-3288.

All are welcome—singles and couples



The **Knitting for Others** Group
takes a break during the warmer
months and will not meet again
until the Fall. However, you are
welcome to keep knitting items
over the summer.

After starting and leading this group for over two
years, Kathleen Larsen has decided to step back
and let someone else take over. If you're
interested in leading this ministry, please contact
the church office. Thanks.

The Women's Faith Group

The group will meet on

Thursdays, May 5 and 19

from **1:30—3 p.m.**

for discussion of the book

The Help by Kathryn Stockett

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.



Changes to *The Bridge* newsletter in 2012

Beginning January 2012, we plan to only send out *The Bridge* electronically. Some copies will still be printed for those without computers, but everyone else will just receive our newsletter via e-mail. This is in line with what many other churches and organizations are now doing. It will help us be more 'green' as well as save the church resources, money and time.



The timing of this change seems perfect since the State will be building a brand new 'White Church Bridge' in 2012!

Do you still need to receive a hard copy of our *Bridge* newsletter in the mail?

If the answer is 'No' because you can read it on line — please e-mail or call the church office to 'cancel' (office@bccucc.org or 246-0111). You will still receive a copy by e-mail, or you can find it on the church's website or Facebook page.



Does the church office have your e-mail address?



E-mail Addresses

If not, please e-mail it to us at

office@bccucc.org

Are you new to our church and feeling a little lost or have some questions?



Then look for a member of our Membership Ministry Team who can be identified by their fluorescent green nametags. They'll be happy to help you in whatever way they can.

Volunteer Brunch

All office volunteers, *Bridge* collators, counters, pew stockers, clergy and church staff are invited to a brunch on



Wednesday, June 1 at 10:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall.

Invitations will be sent out in May, but if you've volunteered in any of these capacities and don't receive one, please accept our apologies and give the office a call as we want you to be there so we can show our appreciation for all that you do.

Please R.S.V.P. to the church office (246-0111) by Friday, May 27th.



LONG RANGE PLANNING FOR OUR CHURCH

In an effort to better plan for the many and varied facets of our future as a church community, the Church Council appointed a Long Range Planning Team (LRPT), currently chaired by Tom Colby.

The Team is in the process of meeting with the various church Ministry Teams to identify long term goals and how they might be achieved. The schedule for their meetings in May is listed below. The information they gather will be incorporated into a larger Long Range Plan for our church.

Anyone in our church community that has a particular area of interest is invited to attend that team's meeting with the LRPT or be in touch with them directly with your thoughts.

LRPT and Ministry Team Meeting Schedule

Wed., May 11th **Justice & Witness Ministry Team**, 7:30 PM, Library

Sun., May 15th **Christian Education & Youth Ministries Team**, 8:30 AM, Library

Sun., May 15th **Music Ministry Team & Choirs**, after worship, Vestry (see p. 4)

Tue., May 17th **Membership Ministry Team**, 7 PM, Room 6

Check out our church's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/bccucc and then 'Like' us so that you get our news feeds.

Note: You don't have to have a Facebook account in order to access the page.

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



The Justice and Witness Ministry Team will hold a
Mothers Day / Earth Day sale of fresh roses

on Sunday May 8 in Fellowship hall.

We will be charging \$5.00 for a fresh rose and the proceeds will be donated to an environmental organization.

Educational materials about environmental groups will be available at the table.

Please stop and buy a pretty fresh rose for Mom or for yourself.



THE 205TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE RHODE ISLAND CONFERENCE

Saturday, May 7th 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Edgewood Congregational Church UCC,

1788 Broad Street, Cranston, Rhode Island

Visioning Our Church's Future

On the first Saturday in May, we will be gathering again for our Spring Annual Meeting of the RI Conference. We are grateful to the Edgewood Congregational Church in Cranston for hosting our meeting. Our theme of visioning our beloved church's future came out of a number of conversations throughout the whole church about what our church could or should look like in the future. Many of us have been very aware of numbers of sometimes-conflicting conversations surrounding the concept of "The Emerging Church."

To define the "Emerging Church" movement Eddie Gibbs and Ryan Bolger, in their book, *Emerging Churches: Creating Christian Community in Postmodern Cultures* (Baker Academic, 2005) describes emerging in this way: Emerging churches are communities that practice the way of Jesus within postmodern cultures. This definition encompasses nine practices. Emerging churches (1) identify with the life of Jesus, (2) transform the secular realm, and (3) live highly communal lives. Because of these three activities, they (4) welcome the stranger, (5) serve with generosity, (6) participate as producers, (7) create as created beings, (8) lead as a body, and (9) take part in spiritual activities. The strands of this "Emerging Church" are categorized as Prophetic (or at least provocative), Postmodern, Praxis-oriented (praxis—how the faith is lived out), Worship, Orthopraxy: (that is, right living), Missional, and Post-evangelical. We have invited, as our presenters, clergy who have encountered and work with these strands. We look forward to hearing about their ideas, values, and mission.

Moderator of the morning panel will be **Rev. Jeff Larsen**.

Participants in the panel include: James deBoer, Amy Frenze, Rev. Nicole Grant Yonkman, Rev. Todd Grant Yonkman, **Rev. Elizabeth Barnum**, and Royce Tevis.

Contact the church office or Elizabeth or Jeff if you think you might like attend - either as a visitor or as a delegate (see below).

Would you Like to be a Delegate?

We are short of delegates to represent BCCUCC at the Conference level. Please contact Jeff, Elizabeth or the church office if you might be interested in being a delegate to the upcoming or to future RICUCC meetings.

Thank You! THANK YOU!

...to Pat Stoddard for cleaning out and tidying up the coffee hour storage closet in the kitchen

...to Francis Seader for making the new wooden coat racks for the three Godly Play rooms

...to Cheryl Muth for being a lay liturgist on the first Sunday of Lent

...to Miz Fibz for providing coffee hour on March 13

...to Amy Gorman, Cara Priolo, Greg Knight, Ginger Stabach, Kathy Sullivan, Susan Short, Jane Knight, Leslie Strolla, Francis Seader, Laurie Dubel, Kristen Westmoreland, Sam Sylvester, Cathleen Joachim, Elizabeth Barnum, Bill Banas, Kate Loos & Betsy Restituyo for volunteering in Church School

...to Francis Seader and Susan Seader for being additional leaders with Elizabeth Barnum for the Confirmation Retreat. Thank you also to Leslie Peck for being an additional driver on the way to Irons Homestead and to Scott Bento at Irons Homestead for assisting with our Retreat

...to those who made donations of seder items for the Community Seder Meal at Temple Habonim

....to the boys and adults of Boy Scout Troop 6 who worked very hard sweeping up and removing all of the sand from the church parking lots on April 8 and 9, as well as tidying up some of the flower beds

..to Van Edwards, Helen Schall and Cheryl Muth for representing the Deacons at the 'Conversations about our Church' gathering on April 3

...to the vocal choir for the special music and readings that they presented during worship on April 10

...to the Mission Trippers: Hannah Lennon, Emma Edwards, Dan Roach, Erin Gamache, Kelly Gamache, Hale Summers, Bridget McCoy and the following additional volunteers for assisting with the Car Wash: Tara Stein, Andrew Hemingway Jr., Andrew Hemingway Sr., Alison Fodor, Lory McCoy, Charlie McCoy, Doug Roach, MaryLouise Gamache, Van Edwards, and Stephanie Edwards. And special thanks to everyone who generously donated – they raised over \$1,100!

...to the Lennons for laundering all the rags from the car wash

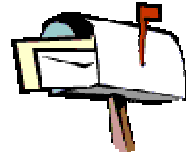
...to Kathleen Larsen for starting up and then leading the Knitting for Others ministry for the past two and a half years

...to CEYM and Christine Wallis who helped with the Lenten Lollapalooza

...to all who brought in food for Tap In or made a donation to Holy Joe's Café during Lent. Thanks also to all who made a donation to One Great Hour of Sharing

....and to everyone who participated and contributed to the Pennies for Peace Lenten Church School offering. We'll update you on the final amount in the June Bridge!

Letters from our mailbox



To the Deacons,

A belated thank you for the honor of Lay Woman of the Year. I was incredibly surprised, deeply honored and touched to the core by your consensus. I truly feel that the honor belongs to the congregation, the ONA study process and decision felt effortless because of the energy of our church - it made me feel that we truly are ONA! I was just the most visible piece of the process.

While I was sorry to miss the breakfast this morning, I want to share that at the very time, I was participating in the most amazing yoga class on the beach here in Jupiter, Florida. It was very spiritual for me and I thought of all of you and your honor.

I love this church and its people. I have had a home here for over 40 years now. It is family to me. You have reminded me of the love we have for one another.

Yours in faith,
Leslie (Strolla)

2



Dear Members of the White Church Family,

Thank you for the beautiful flowers from the Sunday service together with the bulletin.

The Invitation to Worship with its responses, “There are times when we are filled with joy and hope, and other times we are sad and scared,there are times when we are confident and strong and times we are insecure and weak” fits well with my emotions over the past few weeks.

How wonderful to know that I am in your thoughts and prayers and that God is here to guide me. I appreciate your thoughtfulness!

Lorraine (Keeney)

2

A group of 25 boys and 12 adults from Boy Scout Troop 6 recently cleaned up the church grounds, including the removal of all the sand from the parking lots. We later received the following email:

Thanks for coordinating the clean-up for Troop 6 on Saturday.

We had great weather and everyone enjoyed getting out in the fresh air after that long winter.

It was a great opportunity to spruce up the grounds and to show our appreciation for the church’s hospitality. We really thank you for providing us a place to have our meetings and for supporting scouting in the community.

Best regards,

Marc Millspaugh – Committee Chairman - Troop 6 Barrington

Some end of April reminders.....

Have you signed up to help? It's not too late !!

CHURCH CLEAN-UP DAY

Sat., April 30th 9 a.m.—1 p.m.



Volunteers — both skilled and unskilled — are welcome, so please consider volunteering some of your time on April 30th to help with some much needed work around the church and grounds - even if it's for only an hour or so.

So that they have some idea of how many people will be participating and what jobs can be scheduled, please sign up ahead of time by contacting Maureen Jean (632-4437) of Buildings and Grounds or the church office (246-0111 or office@bccucc.org). However, last minute volunteers are also most welcome!

MAY BREAKFAST at St. John's Episcopal Church, 191 County Road, Barrington RI 02806 on Friday, April 29th, 2011 from 6:30 to 9:30 a.m. Full breakfast - all you can eat.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC - all welcome! Adults - \$8 Children under 12 - \$5

Family Footnotes



We welcome the following new members who joined our church in April 2011

*Doug Bireley
Maya Bireley
Laurie Dubel
Stephanie Wohlrab*



Lorraine Keeney, Barbara McWhirter,
Betsy Broome (Peg Welch's daughter),
and Sally Church (Sue Terhune's mother).

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

Rich Simpson and family on the death of his mother,
Barbara Simpson.



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

Telephone: (401) 246-0111

E-mail: office@bccucc.org

Website: www.bccucc.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/bccucc

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, Paul Dziedzic	



*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.*