

Dear Friends,

Kathleen and I have a long personal connection to the Boston Marathon. Runners ourselves for many years, both having lived in Boston at one time, upper-level friends at John Hancock who got us seats in the finish line stands for many years. Every year we know well at least 3-4 people running and have assisted their families down back alleys to get good views along the route. This year we were out in Wellesley as my parents live right along the route. We took the bombings very personally and worried into the evening until we knew friends were safe.



From the

**SENIOR MINISTER**

So many reactions (and because of publication deadlines this note is being written some time before you read it)...is this just one random act that slipped through the net of normal security such as the bomb-sniffing dogs that walked those streets just before the race, or have we taken one more step down the road to having to live like many others around the world living in places like Syria, Gaza, Jerusalem every day?

We already lock the church office building more often when only 1 or 2 are alone in the building. Clergy have already had discussions about what to do if someone walks into worship with a gun some Sunday.

I grew up in Lexington, MA and Patriot's Day was a holy day of obligation in my family, just ahead of Opening Day of baseball and then 3<sup>rd</sup> was Easter. And while Concord gets better press, we all know that Lexington is where the war REALLY started. But it is hard for me not to ask what bombs on Patriot's Day mean now. 238 years ago the explosions meant a break from the old way of living. Perhaps the explosions this year meant the same thing? Or will we forget soon just as we already have about Newtown and other places? Will the initial questions about why we are such a violent culture get co-opted by those who say such talk threatens 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment rights? What do you think?

With prayers for peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink that appears to read "Jeff".

#### DEACONS FOR MAY

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

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

#### Did you know?

In the last 15 years we've spent \$669,000 on maintaining our physical plant – 2 church buildings and 2 parsonages. \$380,000 of that came from normal annual budgets, \$290,000 from fund drives or donations. Of all the spending the only significant funding from outside the church family was the \$25,000 grant for storm windows. Please be aware of this when you make your financial contributions to your church.



The Rev. Jeff Larsen will be away  
from the office May 24-27.

## From our Associate Minister .....



It was a true delight to be presented with a brick during worship last month! I love that it will become part of the outdoor labyrinth on the grounds here at church. I heard that there were signs around the education building proclaiming, “Elizabeth loves labyrinths!” It is true. I do. I have walked many labyrinths over the years, in many locations, some indoors but mostly outdoors. One of my favorites was located in Vermont where someone’s neighbor had mowed the pathways of the labyrinth through tall grass of a backyard nestled in a hillside. I also recall walking a labyrinth at college the week that I received an acceptance letter to divinity school. A few years ago, I borrowed a colleague’s cloth labyrinth that we used for a Deacons’ Retreat and a 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade church school session.

It is an honor that the idea to build an outdoor labyrinth was generated as a celebration of my five-year anniversary of ministry here. But what I especially value about this project is that it is a gift for everyone – a tool for anyone to use for a variety of reasons, whether personal and/or collective, meditative and/or playful, reflective and/or decisive, a practice of the here-and-now and/or a practice symbolic of life’s journey.

Our program year starts to wind down after Memorial Day but first, there are several celebrations and important milestones along the journey to celebrate. I especially call your attention to May 19<sup>th</sup>, Pentecost Sunday, when we’ll worship together in the sanctuary to celebrate church school programs and witness the affirmation of baptism by this year’s Confirmation class.

A line from Psalm 139 often comes to mind when I start walking a labyrinth, “You search out my path...” God searches out your paths, God traces your journeys, and, (as the 9<sup>th</sup> graders heard repeatedly at the Confirmation Retreat at Craigville), “God loves you and there’s nothing you can do about it.”

May that love grace each step you take this month.

Peace,

### Sunday Services



- |        |         |   |
|--------|---------|---|
| May 5  | 10 a.m. | Worship Service with Communion and Mission Trip reflections,<br>Church School for PreK—Grade 6 only                       |
| May 12 | 10 a.m. | Worship Service, Church School  |
| May 19 |         | <i>Pentecost — Jubilation and Confirmation Sunday</i> (see page 3)<br><i>Strengthen the Church offering</i> (see page 12) |
|        | 10 a.m. | Worship Service for All Ages with Confirmation, Nursery care only   |
| May 26 | 10 a.m. | Worship Service for All Ages, Nursery Care only   |

*Church School for Pre-School through Grade 8 (unless otherwise noted)*

*Nursery Care Available*

*Handicapped Accessible*



Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup> is a VERY special Sunday!

Worship for EVERYONE  
in the Sanctuary at 10 a.m.



**Confirmation Sunday!      Jubilation Sunday!      Pentecost Sunday!**

The Holy Spirit is moving among us... We'll worship together, we'll celebrate church school programs, and we'll witness the affirmation of baptism by this year's Confirmation Class. This Sunday also concludes the 50 Great Days of Mission 4/1 Earth [see pg. 6 for more information about May activities, etc...]

Join us for a picnic for EVERYONE hosted by the Christian Education & Youth Ministries Team on the terrace and in Fellowship Hall.



Confirmation Families: Please refer to your special invitation from the Membership Team for a special breakfast prior to worship.

There will also be a special collection for the U.C.C. **Strengthen the Church offering** - one of four special mission offerings within the United Church of Christ. Each day, visions and dreams are created in the hearts of many in the United Church of Christ. Through this offering they can become a reality. As God calls our congregations to be "church" in new ways, your gift will plant new churches and awaken new ideas in existing churches and develop the spiritual life in our youth and young adults. See pg. 12 for more information about this offering or visit <http://www.ucc.org/stc>

### JUNIOR PILGRIM FELLOWSHIP (JPF)

All youth in grades 6-8 are invited to participate. Bring your friends!

**Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup>**

#### Building of our Labyrinth



Join us on May 5<sup>th</sup> as we collaborate with church members to build a labyrinth by the water to commemorate Rev. Elizabeth's 5 years of service with us. See page 5 for more information.

Questions? Contact Laurie Dubel (787-3190 or [dubel@cox.net](mailto:dubel@cox.net)) or Ginger Stabach (246-1640 or [gstabach@gmail.com](mailto:gstabach@gmail.com)).

### 2013-2014 CHURCH SCHOOL REGISTRATION

Registration for the 2013-2014 Church School year will begin on Jubilation Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup>. This year we are asking all families to please fill out NEW registration forms for each of their children. It has been four years since we last asked to have new forms filled out and some of them are becoming difficult to read. There will be a table set up in the foyer on the way into Fellowship Hall where you can fill out the forms or drop off forms down loaded from the website. Thank you for your help.



## Godly Play Stories (PreK – 6)

plus schedule for Grades 7 & 8



May 5	PreK & K Gds 2—6 Gds 7 & 8	<i>A Lord's Prayer Lesson</i> <i>The Mystery of Pentecost</i> NO Church School
May. 12	All grades	Jubilation rehearsal
May. 19	JUBILATION SUNDAY	
May. 26	Worship for All Ages NO Church School — Nursery Care only	

## Confirmation Schedule



### Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup>

11:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m.

Last Confirmation Class in Room 6 and  
Sanctuary

### Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup>

9:15 a.m. Special breakfast in Fellowship  
Hall for confirmands and their families

10 a.m. Confirmation during the worship  
service

Come to church on Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup> to hear reflections on the 2013 Mission Trip  
to Washington D.C. during the 10 a.m. worship service.



Mark your calendar for .....



## BACCALAUREATE SUNDAY June 9<sup>th</sup>

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, honored and celebrated.

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](mailto: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 Friday, May 10<sup>th</sup>.**



## 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 9<sup>th</sup>.

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, on the church website [www.bccucc.org](http://www.bccucc.org) on the 'Information for Church Members' page, or at [this link](#). **The deadline is June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2013.** We encourage all who are eligible to apply. Questions? Call Andrea Bullard at (401) 246-0111.

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

Get outside!  
Celebrate Mission 4/1 Earth!  
Celebrate Elizabeth's Service to BCCUCC!



Join us on **Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup>** after the worship service to build the **outdoor labyrinth** in honor of Elizabeth's five years as our Associate Minister.

Labyrinths have been around for over 5000 years, the most famous being the labyrinth set in the floor of the nave of Chartres Cathedral in France in 1201. Outdoor labyrinths make spirituality accessible to all. "The labyrinth takes us beyond our limited conditioned personality and learning to a deeper place of awareness and revelation. In that state, we can practice being in the presence of God. What we learn in the labyrinth we then take back into our lives." (*From 12 Reasons to Have a Church Labyrinth*).

Labyrinth building will begin during coffee hour and continue throughout the afternoon until it is complete. After coffee hour lunch items will be available for labyrinth workers throughout the afternoon (see paragraph below).

To incorporate our Mission 4/1 Earth theme, we encourage you to bring an item to share for lunch that has a local connection, for instance, anything made in your own kitchens, soup from Blount, breads from local bakeries, RI cheeses. Use your imaginations but don't let the challenge deter you, we need all the help we can get to build the labyrinth! There will be a sign up sheet at the Mission 4/1 Earth station in Fellowship Hall. Give us an idea of what you plan to bring so that the J&W and CEYM Teams can fill in items as needed. Items especially needed include sandwich ingredients such as bread, rolls, deli meats and cheese; Blount soup (in a crockpot), lettuce, tomatoes, condiments, and beverages.



Volunteers are free to join us for all or any portion of the late morning and afternoon. Also, you are encouraged to wear comfortable clothes for digging and bring along a trowel and edger if you have them. Questions? Contact Kristen Westmoreland 245-9901 or [kristenjw@verizon.net](mailto:kristenjw@verizon.net).



Rain date: If it rains, we will reschedule for Saturday 5/18 starting at 1pm with no potluck lunch as there will be a Dine Out for lunch that day (see page 9 for details of the Dine Out).

**Banners Up!** At their retreat last fall, the Deacons discussed how the sanctuary could be changed to stimulate new ideas of worship and reflection. We asked the Reverend Katrina Clinton of *Magnificat Liturgical Artwork*, to lead us in a discussion of the importance of the visual in worship. Katrina is well known in the Massachusetts Conference and beyond for her liturgical fabric art.

Having decided that our worship experience could be enhanced by banners, we've asked Katrina back to lead us in a .....

### BANNER-MAKING WORKSHOP

on Saturday, May 11<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am – Noon in Fellowship Hall.

We hope to have many of you there to participate in creating the banners designed by Francis Seader. Katrina assures us that no experience is needed. We just need you to let us know if you can help us out in this learning and growing time together.

ALL ARE WELCOME

Sign up by calling or e-mailing the church office (246-0111 or [office@bccucc.org](mailto:office@bccucc.org)) or Helen Schall (245-4724, [helenschall@hotmail.com](mailto:helenschall@hotmail.com)). Questions? Contact Helen.



## Mission for One Earth: 50 Days of Caring for God's Creation

This is a UCC-wide initiative that began on Easter Sunday, April 1, and runs through Pentecost, May 19. We invite you to join us for these 50 Great Days of greening up, powering down, and shouting out for the environment! We will report earth care hours, trees planted, and letters written. Together, with more than 5,000 other UCC churches, we hope to log more than 1 million hours of earth care activities.

We're collecting our efforts on 'green leaves' and hanging them in Fellowship Hall. Each week, we have a theme, a pledge, inspirational reflection and ideas as simple as a waste-free coffee hour, invite a friend to walk, feed the birds, carpool/ride your bike to church, or simply explore the shore. Every day is a new day! Look at the world around you and find God in unexpected places, in the natural beauty that is everywhere. And let's all leave a small footprint!

### Themes and Significant Dates in May:

**MISSION 4/1 EARTH:**  
50 Great Days

#### Sun. May 5: *In the Garden*

- Perennial swap! Bring in a some perennials from home, take home a new variety
- Mary Anne Brady from Cranesbill Nursery will give a 20 minute perennial talk
- Labyrinth-building and lunch



#### Sun. May 12 (Mother's Day): *Giving Back to Mother Earth*

- Children will plant a special gift for their mothers at coffee hour
- Mothers will receive an invitation to a free yoga session on an upcoming Saturday morning
- Earth Machine composter, worms and homemade rain barrel will be on display
- All-natural health and beauty products from Ava Anderson will be on display

#### Sat. May 18

- 11:00 am. Dine-out Group will meet at the Blue Kangaroo Restaurant, 328 County Rd. for lunch. We will walk, bike or carpool for this occasion. The restaurant serves organic, homemade and local "comfort foods." ALL ARE WELCOME. **Please sign up** with Stephanie Edwards ([sedwards@rwu.edu](mailto:sedwards@rwu.edu))

#### Sun. May 19 (Pentecost) Jubilation and Confirmation Sunday: *Celebrate and Give Thanks*

- Church school picnic and celebration



#### Coffee Hour Hosts in May

The **Justice and Witness Ministry Team** will host coffee hour in May.

The hosts often appreciate assistance so feel free to volunteer to help - by serving or providing food.

*To learn more about the work of the team, be sure to talk to the servers.*

#### Waste-Free Coffee Hour continues

Rather than use paper cups which get used once then thrown away, everyone is being asked to bring a mug from home for coffee hour. But don't worry if you forget – you're still welcome to come to coffee hour as some cups will be provided!



This is part of the *Mission 4/1 Earth* initiative.

## More Recycling Tips from your Justice and Witness Team



### Recycling Guide to Caps, Lids and Tops

Small items such as plastic caps and tops, and metal lids fall through the spaces in between conveyer belts at the Central Landfill's recycling facility and cause mechanical problems. However, there are ways to safely recycle them, depending on the type of cap, lid or top. Information needed for recycling these items can be picked up from the table at the back of Fellowship Hall, or downloaded from our church website at [www.bccucc.org](http://www.bccucc.org) or by [clicking on this link](#).

### How can pantyhose be counted as caring for the earth hours?

You probably haven't thought about how many pantyhose and other nylons go into our landfills, but the folks at *No nonsense* have. That's why they have a recycling program for pantyhose, nylon knee highs and tights. They know that these used products can be turned into such things as park benches, playground equipment, carpets and even toys.

The Justice and Witness Team will have a box in Fellowship Hall for you to leave off your nylon products. Then we'll package and ship them to *No nonsense*, who in turn will send them to a recycling facility.

And we can count the hours for Mission 4/1 Earth.



## RI CONFERENCE OF THE U.C.C. SPRING MEETING

Saturday, May 4, 2013

Smithfield Avenue Congregational UCC, 514 Smithfield Ave, Pawtucket RI 02860

Theme is '*The Future is in Each of Us*'.

Registration and Peace Breakfast begin at 8 a.m.

Meeting ends after lunch.

In addition to delegates and clergy, visitors are most welcome to attend but all need to register ahead of time by completing a registration form. The 'Official Call' including the registration form is available from the rack outside the church office. Alternatively, e-mail the church office at [office@bccucc.org](mailto:office@bccucc.org) and we can e-mail it to you.

The fee is \$20 before April 22, \$25 after, and includes all materials, breakfast pastries, coffee and tea, catered lunch with desserts.

**Important Note:** We are short of delegates to represent BCCUCC at the Conference level. Please contact the church office if you might be interested in being a delegate and attending this meeting. Thank you.



### SANCTUARY WINDOWS RESTORATION PROJECT



The much needed restoration of the sanctuary windows and shutters is now complete and each window cost approx. \$1800.

Donations from the congregation to pay for this project are welcomed and will be noted on a special donation plaque.

Many thanks to those who have already donated.

### Bereavement Support Group

Meets on Mondays in the church library from 1:30—2:30 p.m., except on holidays. The group is for anyone who has experienced the loss of a loved one—all are welcome including new people. The group is facilitated by Betsy Brenner, a Certified Hospice Volunteer.

For more information or questions contact Betsy Brenner at [jsbeeb@aol.com](mailto:jsbeeb@aol.com) or 245-8031.



Does the church office have your current e-mail address? Don't know? Then please send it to [office@bccucc.org](mailto:office@bccucc.org) and be sure to include your name. Thanks!

## We want YOU in our new Pictorial Church Directory!

Many have already signed up, but we want to make sure that **everyone** who considers BCCUCC to be their church home be included. The directory will help us to connect names with faces, be an ideal outreach tool, and capture the history of our church congregation. **Please participate and have your photo taken to be included!** All we ask is that you have your picture taken by the Lifetouch professional photographer at the church.

You can make a photography appointment in any of the following ways:

- At coffee hour after worship on Sunday mornings
- During office hours, call Christine at the church office at 246-0111
- After hours (evenings and weekends) call Jane Tonn at 289-2349



Every participating family/household that selects a pose for the directory will receive a free directory and a complimentary 8x10 portrait. You will come to the church only once for photography and for portrait viewing.

The program is available at no cost to the church. You will have the opportunity to order additional portraits during your scheduled appointment time. Whether you decide to dress formally or casually, you will want to make the most of this opportunity.

The following dates are scheduled for photography and portrait viewing:

**Thursday and Friday, April 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> from 2:30—8:40 p.m.**

**Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup> from 10 a.m.—4:40 p.m.**

**Thursday and Friday, May 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> from 2:30—8:40 p.m.**

**Saturday, July 20<sup>th</sup> from 11:30 a.m.—4:40 p.m.**

If you have questions please contact Jane Tonn (289-2349) or Joanne Ela (413-262-3880) of your Membership Team.

We look forward to seeing everyone in the directory. Our new pictorial directory won't be complete without you!

## WELCOME to our NEW MEMBERS

On Palm Sunday, March 24<sup>th</sup> we welcomed six new members when they joined our church.

**Cynthia Frost** – Cynthia lives in Barrington and enjoys kayaking.

**Mark and Diane Mason** – enjoy spending time with family and friends. Their hobbies include travel and boating.

**Sarah Powers** – Sarah lived in Barrington in the 70s. In the nineties she and her husband moved to New Hampshire. Now a widow Sarah moved back to Barrington where she is very happy to be near her son and many old friends.

**Sam and Trish Sylvester** – Sam and Trish live in Bristol. They enjoy biking, boating, reading and spending time with their grandchildren.



## Wanted! A new BLOOD DRIVE COORDINATOR for BCCUCC

The position requires very little work — especially now that they send the Bloodmobile rather than set up in Fellowship Hall. Anyone interested in volunteering should call Dave Gregory at 246-1294.



The 2013 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](mailto: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.



The Dine-Out Group invites you to join them for LUNCH on Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup> at 11 a.m.

at The Blue Kangaroo  
328 County Road, Barrington  
*the former location of Madigan's Cafe*

The Blue Kangaroo serves organic, homemade and local "comfort foods".

Those going are encouraged to walk, bike, or carpool to the restaurant as part of the Mission 4/1 Earth initiative.

ALL ARE WELCOME

Please sign up with Stephanie Edwards at [sedwards@rwu.edu](mailto:sedwards@rwu.edu) or 245-9719.

The Women's Faith Group will meet on

**Thursdays, May 2<sup>nd</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>**  
from **1:30—3 p.m.** in the **library**.

To continue their discussion of the book

*The J.M. Barrie Ladies Swimming Society*

by Barbara Zitwer.



2

They will also meet for a special lunch on

**Thursday, May 30<sup>th</sup>**  
at **Noon** at the church



Sandwiches, salad and strawberry shortcake will be served. This will be the group's last meeting until the fall.

The Women's Faith Group welcomes all women from BCCUCC as well as women from other faith traditions.

### Senior Women Invited to Lunch

For this gathering we especially welcome senior women from the congregation to share lunch and fellowship.

There will also be an opportunity to have a photo taken for inclusion in the new church directory for those folks who cannot make the scheduled dates.

**RSVP by May 23<sup>rd</sup>.** Please contact the church office 246-0111, Nancy Martin 273-1078, Carol Louttit 245-2299 or Jane Tonn 289-2349 to let us know if you plan to attend and if you need transportation.



### Book Group

next meets on

**Tuesday, May 14<sup>th</sup>**

at **7:00 p.m.** (note the time change)

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

**All are welcome!**

They will discuss the book  
**The Leftovers** by Tom Perrotta

October 14 looked like any other day in the leafy New England enclave of Mapleton—until it didn't. Eighty-seven townspeople and millions more around the world simply disappeared. (*Library Journal*)

For more information on the group contact Helen Schall at 245-4724 or [helenschall@hotmail.com](mailto:helenschall@hotmail.com)

### Knitting (and Crocheting) for Others

The group will next meet on **Tuesday, May 7<sup>th</sup>** from **7 - 9 p.m.**  
at the home of **Mary Lou Slicker**, 9 Hilltop Ave., Barrington

This will be our last gathering before the summer. Let's finish off some items and think about some projects we can do in the summer or plan for the fall. At our last meeting we dedicated the items that had been knit this year including prayer shawls and scarves for the UCC synod meeting (see photo right).

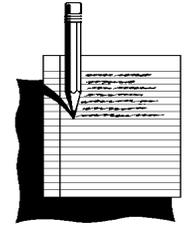
Contact Mary Lou at 245 0085 or [RISlick@fullchannel.net](mailto:RISlick@fullchannel.net) if you have questions, or want to be added to and/or dropped from the email list for next year.



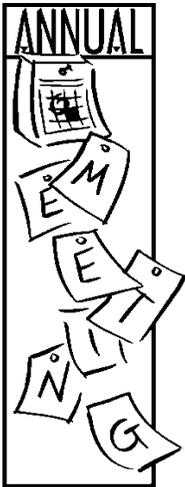
Rainbow Scarves knit by the group for the UCC Scarf Project

## ANNUAL REPORTS due MAY 15<sup>th</sup>

The leaders of the various ministry teams, together with the church officers are reminded that the **deadline for submitting annual reports is Wednesday, May 15<sup>th</sup>** (the same as the June Bridge deadline). If possible, reports should be submitted by e-mail *as an attachment* to the church office at [office@bccucc.org](mailto:office@bccucc.org). However, reports are accepted in any form.



*Note: The 2013 BCCUCC Annual Report will be posted on the church website and sent out by e-mail before the end of May so congregation members may read it prior to the Annual Meeting. Some printed copies will also be available for pick up on Sunday, May 26<sup>th</sup> (if you don't have a computer).*



All are invited to attend the  
Barrington Congregational Church, United Church of Christ

## Annual Meeting

SUNDAY, JUNE 2, 2013

immediately following worship in the Sanctuary

As always, church members are encouraged to make every effort to attend this very important church meeting. In addition to other business, the proposed church budget for July 2013 through June 2014 will be presented for approval by the membership.

*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 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2013** in the Sanctuary **immediately after Worship**.

**Article I:** To call the meeting to order.

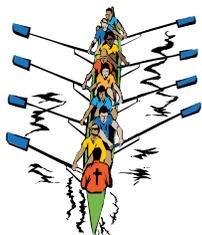
**Article II:** To receive and vote upon the Nominating Team's Report.

**Article III:** To review and vote on the proposed church budget for July 1, 2013—June 30, 2014.

**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



MINISTRY TEAM

## Are you willing to serve?

Volunteers interested in serving on a ministry team or as a church officer for the next church year (beginning June 2<sup>nd</sup>) should contact our church moderator, Pat Cordeiro ([patcordeiro@verizon.net](mailto:patcordeiro@verizon.net) or (401) 433-1713) or the church office ([office@bccucc.org](mailto:office@bccucc.org) or 246-0111). Some vacancies will be opening up and we would love you to consider serving in a ministry that interests you.

Information on all of the teams can be found in **'Opportunities for Getting Involved in Our Church'** that is available from a link on the home page of our church's website at [www.bccucc.org](http://www.bccucc.org). Copies are also available from the rack outside the church office. We look forward to hearing from you.

NewsLetter  
**DEADLINE**

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

Wednesday, May 15<sup>th</sup>.



## In the Footsteps of Paul

Consideration is being given to organizing an “In the Footsteps of Paul” tour of Turkey, including such places as Istanbul, Ephesus, Cappadocia, Troy, and Ankara, possibly including a couple of the Greek islands. This trip would be led by Jeff and Kathleen Larsen, possibly in the fall of 2014, be for about 13 days, and cost approximately \$4000 each. If you are interested in learning more contact Jeff at the church office, 246-0111 or [jeff@bccucc.org](mailto:jeff@bccucc.org)



## Report from Stewardship on “Special Coffees”

Over 100 different people attended the 3 “Special Coffees” held in the Vestry in February and March. Many very positive things were shared by people about the life of our faith community.

But an important question was asked at each: How can we do things better? Below is the list of over 30 specific suggestions made. These will be shared with the appropriate Ministry Teams for their discussion and action.

Your Stewardship Team thanks everyone for their participation and ideas.

- . Note to congregation on Monday morning about prayers and announcements made during Sunday worship
- . Explain different religious traditions
- . More adult education opportunities
- . Expose congregation to more diversity
- . Even greater musical diversity
- . Greater relationship with Crossroads
- . More advocacy on issues
- . Take even more advantage of our iconic location—Be part of Barrington house tours
- . Connect with newcomers to attract new people, devise new ways
- . Keep older kids involved
- . More publicity
- . Greeters in Fellowship Hall
- . Specific invites for people to get involved
- . More guided meditations during worship
- . Less having children come forward for their own time
- . Use word “Prayer” instead of “Worship”
- . Planned giving program
- . Make \$ needs more real
- . Charge tuition for church school
- . Look at other non-profits to see how they raise money
- . Offering box
- . More things like Fair, Quilt Show
- . Job Fair during coffee
- . Better use of technology – ask what people want and want to do
- . Use outside consultant for fund raising
- . Short term projects instead of long commitments for committees
- . Get news out
- . More events after church
- . Better website
- . More outdoor fellowship activities
- . Better use of nametags

## It’s not too late to make a pledge!



We ask that everyone who considers BCCUCC their church home make a financial commitment to support it. The best way to do this—for the church and for you—is to make a pledge. A pledge is a promise to give a certain amount of money over the course of the year. We rely on donations from our congregation to keep our doors open and it costs \$1200 a day to run our church!

If you haven’t yet made a pledge for our next fiscal year (July 2013—June 2014) we ask that you prayerfully consider what you can give to financially support BCCUCC, and then fill out your pledge card accordingly. Blank pledge cards are available from the rack outside the church office, the narthex table and the table at the back of Fellowship Hall— or we will be happy to mail you one.

## THE CHANCEL FUND

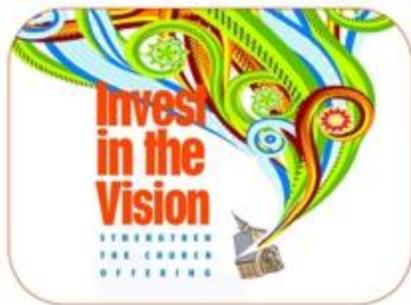


The Chancel Fund was established in 2009 for the purpose of providing a fund to use to "enhance the worship service." The contributions from the congregation at Easter and Christmas provide flowers to beautify the chancel and sanctuary and are acknowledged by a list of dedications in the bulletin. Before the Fund was established, a plant was provided for each donation (of a set amount) which people could later take home.

The purpose of enhancing the worship service takes many forms and the Chancel Team would like the congregation to know that money from the Chancel Fund has been contributed towards such things as new flags, a stipend to help Elizabeth on her sabbatical, a contribution to the CEYM team for the labyrinth, the purchase of new receivers and microphones for the sound system in the church, flowers on the altar for occasions when a donor cannot be found, plants for the Deacons to take to shut-ins on holidays, and of course the flowers on holidays which add to the beauty of our sanctuary.

While many remember that in the past the flowers could be taken if they had contributed, there are not enough now for everyone to take. They are donating to the FUND and we are not buying a plant for each donation. The dedication in the bulletin is the acknowledgement of the donation.

We hope you are enjoying the Easter flowers that have been left in the sanctuary to enjoy until they are no longer healthy plants. Some of the plants that were past their prime have been planted in the church grounds for future enjoyment by all when they bloom again next year.



On **Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup>** we will collect the **Strengthen the Church** offering. Special envelopes and inserts will be included in the bulletin that day.

This is one of the 4 national UCC offerings that we collect each year and the money from this offering is directed to our church's Conference (RICUCC), Local Church Ministries, and The Still Speaking Ministry.

Make an investment in the United Church of Christ through the Strengthen the Church offering. Give generously to help God's Spirit move and speak in our congregations for years to come.

Checks may be made payable to 'BCCUCC' and mark the memo line "Strengthen the Church". Thank you.

## THE DEACONS' FUND

On the first Sunday of every month we ask the congregation to consider making a contribution to the Deacons' Fund with envelopes included in the Sunday bulletin. The contributions are collected and deposited into the Deacons Fund. As the Treasurer of the Fund, I am asked to provide Shaw's cards to the church office. These cards are given to individuals who come into the office, desperate for a healthy meal or basics like bread and milk.

From time to time, there are requests from people in the community who are in need of resources to cover a fuel bill, rent, a utility bill or a square meal. These funds are disbursed to assist these individuals who are truly appreciative of our generosity. We hope that you give some thought and consideration to continuing to help those who are less fortunate.

In addition, the Deacons' Fund provides relief to members of our congregation when needed, but we also look to help our community at large and your contributions continue to allow us to be a necessary resource for many.

Thank you to the congregation of BCCUCC for your continued generosity.

Sam Sylvester

*Note: Donations may be made at any time—checks should be made payable to BCCUCC and mark the memo line 'Deacons' Fund'.*



## Barrington Farmers Market... **Go Local**

**Opening Saturday, June 1<sup>st</sup> 9 AM – 12 Noon**

The church's farmers market opens Saturday, June 1<sup>st</sup>, 9 am – 12 noon in the parking lot outside of Fellowship Hall and will be open every Saturday from June through October. This is the market's fourth year!

We not only believe we are providing our customers with fresh, delicious and nutritious food but we also believe it is important to support local farmers who are our neighbors. This helps improve our local economic climate.

We believe our local farmers market is good for the community and our church. It's fun to come and get a cup of coffee, do your shopping and see your neighbors.

Last, our goal is to make money for the church. We do this by charging our vendors for leasing space at the market. We work very hard to keep our vendors happy. The more they sell, the happier they are and the more likely they are to continue to lease space at our market. It takes years to establish a successful market and we are working toward that end. Last year we gave the church \$5,300 from the proceeds of the market.

Thank you to those people who came to the market, and we look forward to your continued support this year. Please spread the word and encourage others to come!

### **Looking for a fun way to spend your Saturday morning?**

We are usually well staffed at the Saturday morning Farmers Market (every Saturday, 9 am – noon, June through October) but occasionally need a little extra help. If interested, I will put your name on our call list in the event we need an extra hand. Please email me (include your phone numbers) if you are interested in helping out when needed.

Thank you, *Lisa Browning* [golocalmarket@gmail.com](mailto:golocalmarket@gmail.com)



.....to Cathleen Joachim, Alexa Bullard, Betsy Restituyo, Kim Zeleznik, Greg Knight, Evan Shoaf, Kathy Sullivan, Ginger Stabach, Van Edwards, Melissa Alschuler, Laurie Dubel, Jennifer Silva, Carol Strakosch, Michael Collins, Elizabeth Barnum, Phyllis Buckley, Kristen Westmoreland & AJ Mayo for volunteering in Church School.

.....to CEYM for the awesome French toast breakfast & Lenten Lollapalooza

.....to AJ & Zane Maio for helping the Easter Bunny get the job done!

.....to Dwight McMillan, Leslie & Steve Peck for being volunteer drivers to/from the Confirmation Retreat at Craigville

.....to Kathy Sullivan for being an additional volunteer chaperone for the Confirmation Retreat at Craigville

.....to the Massachusetts Conference of the U.C.C. for hosting a fabulous Confirmation retreat at Craigville

.....to parents of OWL participants for donating snacks for our spring retreat

.....to the Rev. Charlie Simonson for being guest preacher on April 7<sup>th</sup>

.....to all who have made a pledge to financially support BCCUCC in our next fiscal year

.....to those who donated money to help pay for the recent restoration work on the sanctuary windows and shutters

.....to Sheila Hutton who comes in each week to return the nametags to the rack in the vestry hallway

.....and to Helen Schall for being a chaperone for the Mission Trip to Washington DC

*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*

*A message from Jeff.....*

"Getting old is not for wimps!" How many times have I heard that over the years? Now I know it to be true. Here is an interesting article that I share with you about "5 Wishes" that some may find helpful.

<http://www.allianceforlivinganddyingwell.org/conversations5wishes.html>

I propose that we make time (to be announced soon) for gathering together and talking about it. I hope it is helpful.

2 2 2

*Five Wishes resources help you express how you want to be treated if you are seriously ill and unable to speak for yourself. The Five Wishes process was developed by Aging with Dignity to lead your conversation and help formulate the decisions you put into your Advanced Care Directive. The Five Wishes process guides you through conversations with loved ones to let them and your doctors know: who you want to make health care decisions for you when you can't make them; the kind of medical treatment you want or don't want; how comfortable you want to be; how you want people to treat you; and what you want your loved ones to know.*

*Introduced in 1997, more than 18 million people have completed Five Wishes in all 50 states and all over the world. It is unique among all other advance directives and living wills because it is written in everyday language and helps start and structure important conversations about care in times of serious illness.*



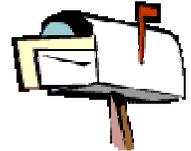
**Pastoral Visit Reminder**

If you or a church member you know is ill, in hospital, or in need of a pastoral visit of any kind, please let us know. You can call the church office (246-0111) or contact the ministers directly to leave a confidential message:

Jeff - ext 103, [jeff@bccucc.org](mailto:jeff@bccucc.org)

Elizabeth - ext 104 [elizabeth@bccucc.org](mailto:elizabeth@bccucc.org)

Letters from our mailbox



What a delightful treat to get the lovely plant brought by Barbara Smith. It is so very nice to be remembered by the Deacons. Thank you so much—it is so kind of you.

Fondly,

Barbara McWhirter



Dear White Church,

It was nice to have a visit with Liz White and I'm still enjoying the 'Easter Plant' she brought from the church: thank you. So many memories from years past.

Bette Reid

**Family Footnotes**



We welcome the following new members who joined our church on March 24, 2013.

*Cynthia Frost*

*Mark and Diane Mason*

*Sarah Powers*

*Sam and Trish Sylvester*



Marie McGlory  
Jim McCartney

Lisa Browning has moved and has a new address:

16 Oyster Point  
Warren RI 02885

Her phone number remains the same.



**NOTE!  
ADDRESS CHANGE**



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

Doug Roach and family on the death of his father, Donald Roach.



Did you read all about everything that's happening this month .....

May 1 - 19.....Mission 4/1 Earth activities (p. 6)

Sunday, May 5.....Building an Outdoor Labyrinth (p. 5)

Saturday, May 11.....Banner Workshop (p. 5)

Thurs & Fri, May 16 & 17.....Photo sessions for new church photo directory (p. 8)

Saturday, May 18.....Walk, bike or carpool for lunch at The Blue Kangaroo (p. 9)

Sunday, May 19.....Jubilation and Confirmation Sunday (p. 3)

Thursday, May 30.....Women's Faith Group lunch for all senior women (p. 9)

ALL ARE ENCOURAGED TO PARTICIPATE!



[www.facebook.com/bccucc](http://www.facebook.com/bccucc)

Be sure to 'Like' us to get our news feeds including the *Bridge* newsletter and Ennouncements that are posted to it.

And suggest our Facebook page to your friends!

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

### Our Mission Statement

The Barrington Congregational Church, UCC, 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.



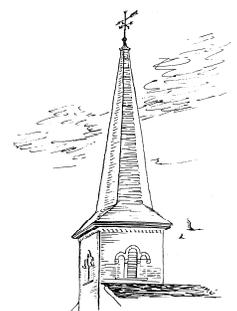
**Have you made an appointment to have your picture taken?**

We're creating a new Church Photo Directory and we want YOU in it!

*See page 8 for all the details*

Barrington Congregational Church,  
United Church of Christ.  
461 County Road, Barrington, RI 02806  
Telephone: (401) 246-0111  
E-mail: [office@bccucc.org](mailto:office@bccucc.org)  
Website: [www.bccucc.org](http://www.bccucc.org)  
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/bccucc](http://www.facebook.com/bccucc)

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>
Financial Secretary:	Patricia Stoddard	<a href="mailto:pat@bccucc.org">pat@bccucc.org</a>
Christian Education Assistant:	Andrea Terni Bullard	<a href="mailto:andrea@bccucc.org">andrea@bccucc.org</a>
Custodians:	Jack Salvaggio, Jim Salvaggio, Paul Dziedzic, John Cordeiro	



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>May 2013</b>			<b>1</b> 7 pm Marijuana Anonymous (MA), Rm 8 7:30 pm Choir, Vestry	<b>2</b> 1:30 – 3 pm Women’s Faith Group, Library	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 8 a.m. RICUCC Ann Spring Meeting at Smithfield Ave UCC 9am – 1pm BS Tp 6 Car Wash, Park Lot 11:30 am Wedding Randazzo/Ashley Sanctuary
<b>5</b> EASTER 6 8:30 am CEYM meeting, Library 10 am Worship Service with Communion and Mission Trip reflections, Church School for PreK – Gd 6 only 11:30-12:30 Last Confirmation Class, Room 6 & Sanctuary After coffee hour thru afternoon Outdoor Labyrinth building	<b>6</b> 1:30-2:30 pm Bereavement Group, Library 6 pm PPRT, Jeff’s office 7:30 pm Deacons, Rm6	<b>7</b> 10:30 am Staff mtg 7 pm Knitting Group, Mary Lou Slicker’s	<b>8</b> 7-9 pm AA Mtg, Rm 9 7 pm MA, Rm 8 7:30 pm Choir, Vestry	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> Deadline for info on 2013 graduates	<b>11</b> 9 am – Noon Banner workshop, Fellowship Hall
<b>12</b> Mothers’ Day EASTER 7 10 am Worship Service, Church School	<b>13</b> 1:30-2:30 pm Bereavement Group, Library 3:30 pm Lay Visit’n Library 7 pm B&G mtg, Rm 6	<b>14</b> 10:30 am Staff mtg 7pm Stewardship mtg, Jeff’s office 7 pm Book Group, Coffee Depot	<b>15</b> Deadline for June Bridge and Annual Reports 7 pm MA, Rm 8 7:30 pm J&W mtg, Library 5-9 pm Outside use of Fellowship Hall 7:30 pm Choir, Vestry	<b>16</b> 1:30 – 3 pm Women’s Faith Group, Library 2:30-8:40 pm Directory Photo session, F’ship Hall	<b>17</b> 2:30-8:40 pm Directory Photo session, F’ship Hall	<b>18</b> 11 am Dine out at The Blue Kangaroo
<b>19</b> Jubilation & Confirmation Sunday PENTECOST 10 am Worship Service for All Ages with Confirmation, Nursery Care only After Worship All Church Picnic Strengthen the Church Offering	<b>20</b> 1:30-2:30 pm Bereavement Group, Library 7:15 pm Church Council, Room 6	<b>21</b> 10:30 am Staff mtg	<b>22</b> 7 pm MA, Rm 8 7:30 pm Choir, Vestry	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> TRINITY SUNDAY/PENTECOST 1 10 am Worship Service for All Ages, Nursery Care only	<b>27</b> Memorial Day OFFICE CLOSED	<b>28</b> 10:30 am Staff mtg	<b>29</b> 7 pm MA, Rm 8 7:30 pm Choir, Vestry	<b>30</b> Noon Women’s Faith Group Lunch, Fellowship Hall	<b>31</b>	