

**Barrington Congregational Church, U.C.C.
Barrington, Rhode Island**

2018 ANNUAL REPORT



All church members are encouraged to attend the

ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, June 10th, 2018

in the Sanctuary

immediately after the 10 a.m. worship service

Child care will be provided

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WARRANT
for the 2018 ANNUAL MEETING
of the Barrington Congregational Church, UCC
Barrington, Rhode Island

The annual meeting of the Barrington Congregational Church, UCC, Barrington RI, is hereby called to take place on

SUNDAY, JUNE 10TH, 2018 in the Sanctuary **immediately after worship.**

The business to be transacted is as follows:

- ARTICLE I: To call the meeting to order.
- ARTICLE II: To receive and vote on the slate of nominees for officers, ministry teams, and delegates.
- ARTICLE III: To consider any other business that may properly come before the meeting.
- ARTICLE IV: To adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted:
Pat Cordeiro, Clerk



MINUTES of the 2017 ANNUAL MEETING
of the BARRINGTON CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC
held JUNE 11TH, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 11:06 AM by Moderator Steve Peck.
Pat Cordeiro, Clerk, read the warrant. A quorum of the membership was present.

ARTICLE II: A motion was made to receive and vote on the slate of nominees for officers, ministry teams, and delegates, as posted in the BCCUCC Bridge and distributed during the meeting (Joanne Ela moved, Larry Ashley seconded). Steve explained the slate of nominees, noting that there are still open slots on ministry teams; he asked for volunteers. Motion to accept was approved unanimously with thanks to the Membership Team.

ARTICLE III: A motion was made to approve the proposed by-law amendments related to the Endowment Fund (Dick McWhirter moved, Helen McDonald seconded).

Dick McWhirter explained changes to the by-laws. Larry Ashley commended the Endowment Committee for their maintenance of the endowment. Larry Ashley made a motion that the words “extraordinary circumstances” be struck from Article XII Finances.i. in the Bylaws; and that the words, “two special meetings,” be struck from Article XIII, 2. Property and Borrowings, Paragraph A, Real Estate, and that the words “a meeting” be retained. (Abby Ashley seconded).

Larry then cited some examples of current needs, asked about the annual distribution, and noted that the church’s wider mission should be considered. Dick responded that other churches do have two meetings when a withdrawal from the principal of the Endowment is being considered; this provision is in there to slow us down. Dick noted that it is tempting to use the principal from the Endowment for repairs, but the reason there is this much money in the

Endowment is because the principal has not been used. He noted that this is why we have \$48,000 in dividends this year, with a projected \$70,000 in dividends for next year. Helen McDonald pointed out that each year funds are drawn from the dividends from the Endowment for the general fund. Paul Dennis pointed out that contributions to the Endowment are sometimes given by the donor for a specific purpose. Bernie Hawes asked what the percentage from the Endowment is given each year. Dick responded that the average balance for the past three years is multiplied by 4.5% to find each year's contribution to the funds available for the church's general funds. Abby Ashley noted that we shouldn't be saving money for the sake of having money; repairs should be done when needed, citing examples such as removal of asbestos tiles in Fellowship Hall and newer access to the education building. Larry thanked Dick for clarification but was concerned about how the future money might be used, asking for more details on the process. Dick explained that there is an Endowment policy, approved by the Church Council and that this policy will be reviewed. He also noted that \$700,000-800,000 has already been spent on maintaining the buildings. Kate Colby asked if that money was from the Endowment; Dick responded that it was not, for example, heating, air conditioning, etc. Joe Judge asked what defines an extraordinary circumstance, when is it decided and how is it established. Paul Dennis noted that removal of tiles is a large job and would cost approximately \$200,000. He said this is not an immediate issue because the asbestos tiles are covered and old tiles are sealed, and remain undisturbed. Money for a repair like this may come from special donations. Steve noted that the term "extraordinary circumstances" is designed to be undefined, giving a team time to investigate, and any needed definition would be determined by Church Council. Chris Brady noted he agrees with the By-Law changes as written and leaves definition of "extraordinary circumstances" up to Church Council. Larry noted that he feels that removal of asbestos tiles in Fellowship Hall is an extraordinary circumstance, the cost is already high and will go higher. George Bolton rose to thank the Endowment Committee for the current balance and to credit the late Lee Miller for his wise judgment in regards to the growth of the Endowment Fund.

The amendment by Larry Ashley to the original motion was restated. The amendment would strike the added language in Article XII.I. of "extraordinary circumstances" and the words, "two special meetings," from Article XIII, 2. Property and Borrowings, Paragraph A, Real Estate, retaining the words "a meeting." The amendment was defeated (9 for, 36 against, 3 abstaining).

A vote was then taken on the original amendments from the Endowment Team and passed (36 for, 1 against, 2 abstaining).

Dick memorialized Lee Miller as "the Father of the Endowment." George Bolton remembered a time when the Endowment was in "terrible shape" with a balance in 1990 of only \$93,000, and it was Lee Miller who helped grow the Endowment to its current balance in 2017 of \$1,700,000.

ARTICLE IV: A motion was made to request formal approval for the change to a calendar fiscal year implemented in 2016, and authority for the Clerk to make appropriate changes to the by-laws (Steve Peck moved, Dale Azevedo seconded). The motion passed unanimously.

ARTICLE V: No other business was raised to properly come before the meeting. George Bolton reminded the meeting of the 1717 Society. Recording a contribution to the 1717 Society from your estate makes you a member of the 1717 Society. Dale Azevedo noted that the church is hoping to reinvigorate the 1717 Society in the upcoming year.

Moderator Peck thanked everyone who is involved in making the business of the church work as well as it does and noted that Church Council is “very lively” at this time, with many strong and useful discussions.

ARTICLE VI: The meeting was adjourned at 11:36 AM by unanimous approval of a motion made by Barbara Wuth and seconded by Abby Ashley.

Respectfully submitted: *Pat Cordeiro*, Clerk

By-Law Changes:

that were approved at the 2017 Annual Meeting (see Article III above)

Comment: Two paragraphs in the 2009 by-laws related to distributions from the endowment from and the treatment of certain gifts and donations were inadvertently omitted from the 2014 by-laws revision. Proposed additions to Section XII are Paragraphs i. and j. below which are taken from the 2009 by-laws with the addition of the underscored words in bold type face.

XII Finances

- i. Distributions from the Endowment Fund’s assets are to be made only **under extraordinary circumstances** subject to such distribution being approved by the church membership as provided in Section XIII Properties and Borrowings Paragraph A, Real Estate. However, no funds designated as permanent gifts to the Endowment Fund are subject to distribution.
- j. Unless otherwise provided by the donor or family involved in memorial gifts, any funds or property gifted, bequeathed or devised to the church **over \$5,000** are placed in the Endowment Fund for investment.

Paragraph XII. i. above refers to XIII Property and Borrowings. Proposed additions to that section of the current by-laws are shown in Paragraph 2, underscored and in bold type face.

XIII Property and Borrowings, Paragraph A, Real Estate

Any sale, lease, mortgage, purchase or substantial improvement of any real estate, including buildings thereon, which is owned or is to be acquired by this church, is authorized in accordance with the following procedures:

1. The Moderator or the Clerk calls a joint meeting of the Church Council and the Finance Ministry Team by giving each member thereof at least seven (7) days prior written notice (either by post or e-mail) of such meeting and its purpose, and a majority of such members adopt a resolution at the joint meeting approving the transaction; and
2. The resolution approved in (1) above is submitted to the membership at **two a special meetings** called for that purpose, and a resolution authorizing the transaction receives the affirmative vote of two-thirds of those members present, entitled to vote, and voting **at each of the meetings scheduled at a two-week interval.**



**MINUTES of the ANNUAL BUDGET MEETING
of the BARRINGTON CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC
held SUNDAY, JANUARY 28TH, 2018**

ARTICLE I: To call the meeting to order.

Moderator Steve Peck called the meeting to order at 11:08 a.m.

ARTICLE II: To review and vote on the proposed church budget for January 1—December 31, 2018

Dick McWhirter, chair of the Finance Ministry Team, led the congregation through items on the budget. Copies of the budget were distributed at the meeting and also had been sent out earlier. Dick noted both surpluses and differences. 2018 pledges are almost the same as 2017; however, a note of caution: number of pledges is down from 2017, Stewardship Team will be asked to investigate this. Money from Endowment is up due to \$650,000 in donations last summer; 4 1/2% comes from interest on the Endowment. Personnel is largest cost in budget; budget for Personnel last year was lower due to additional costs this year for pension increase, health care increase, and cost-of-living for staff. Total budget nearly breaks even. Steve Fodor then asked if money sent to the Conference/missions could be increased and when will Assembly Hall floor be repaired; is this built into capital expenses. Dick replied that funds for repairs will have to be raised separately. Steve Peck noted that Renewal Team is considering repairs as part of renewal; and that we are waiting for the joining together of the three state conferences. A question was asked about amount of Endowment at this time; Dick replied that end-of-year total has not yet been determined but has increased. Susan Rotblat-Walker commented on the amount of money sent to the Conference, and the joining together of the three conferences.

Motion to accept the 2018 budget (Dick McWhirter, Steve Fodor) was approved with 3 abstentions.

ARTICLE III: To review and vote on the proposed changes to the By-Laws (see page 5)

Steve Peck distributed copies of the proposed changes to the By-Laws. Steve explained that in the last By-Law review, the Personnel Team was eliminated and no direction was provided to assuming the duties of the past Personnel Team, such as cost-of-living and pay increases for staff, grievances, etc. An ad hoc team was formed to consider how to resolve these issues. Pastor-Parish Relations Team (PPRT) would become Staff-Parish Relations Team (SPRT) and this would give a voice to staff that need to resolve a problem. It also puts responsibility across all teams for staff assigned to them. SPRT is a team that would now compile information, bring issues to Church Council, but the team would continue to act as liaison between congregation and staff.

Dale offered a friendly amendment, last page, Section K2b: if someone is recused from an action of the PPRT/SPRT, "In this event, a member of the church will be chosen to replace the recused individual temporarily by consensus of the Moderator, Ministers, and Deacons." This friendly amendment was accepted by Susan Rotblat-Walker and Marion Fodor who originated the motion.

Steve Fodor had a concern that if the PPRT/SPRT acts as a hearing board then other relationships might be compromised. Steve Peck responded that the PPRT/SPRT acts as a conduit, Team is also charged with revising the Grievance Procedure. Bernie Hawes asked about why the Personnel Team wasn't reconvened so that the burden was shared. Steve Peck

responded that issues have come to the Moderator that should go elsewhere, to a team that knows that is their responsibility and that attempts to reconvene the Personnel Team were unsuccessful. Motion to accept changes to By-Laws (Susan Rotblat-Walker, Marion Fodor) was approved unanimously.

ARTICLE IV: To consider any other business that may properly come before the meeting. None at this time.

ARTICLE V: To adjourn the meeting.

Motion to adjourn (Larry Ashley, Clyde Slicker) passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted: *Pat Cordeiro*, Clerk

By-Law Revisions*

that were approved at the 2018 Budget Meeting on 1/28/18 (see Article III on p. 4)

* The “Personnel Team” Exploratory Ad-hoc Committee who recommended these By-Law changes, consisted of Steve Peck, Pat Cordeiro, and Dale Azevedo

KEY

Original text that was kept
~~Original text that was struck~~
New text that was added

ARTICLE VII. THE ORDAINED MINISTRY

B.6. The Senior Minister, *in conjunction with the Moderator*, is responsible for ~~the guidance and supervision~~ all oversight of the staff, except *as provided for the Financial Secretary (see Finance Team), the Custodians, (see Buildings and Grounds Ministry Team) the Director of Music (see Music Ministry Team), and the Christian Education Coordinator (see Christian Education and Youth Ministries Team).* elsewhere in these bylaws. ~~The hiring, annual evaluation and termination of the office administrator is the responsibility of the Senior Minister in consultation with the Moderator.~~ *This oversight includes but is not limited to maintaining a current job description, the hiring, supervision, evaluation, and termination of said employees, and making annual compensation recommendations. In addition, the Senior Minister will provide written copies of the job description, annual evaluation, and annual compensation recommendations to the S.P.R.T.*

~~7. The Senior Minister, with the help of the Finance Ministry Team, recommends an annual budget for the ordained ministry and the church office.~~

ARTICLE VIII. OFFICERS AND DELEGATES

C.1. Moderator

e. *The Moderator works with the Senior Minister to manage staff as outlined in Article VII.B.6.*

C.3. Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer (or Co-Treasurers)

a.iii. ~~The Treasurer manages the activities of the Financial Secretary.~~

a.viii. The Assistant Treasurer performs the duties delegated by the Treasurer and such duties as may be required in the absence of the Treasurer

ARTICLE X. MINISTRY TEAMS

A. BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS MINISTRY TEAM

3.a. ~~It establishes the job description and oversees the work content of the custodian(s). The hiring, annual evaluation and termination of the custodian(s) is the responsibility of the Buildings and Grounds Ministry Team. is responsible, in consultation with the Sr. Minister, for all oversight of the custodian(s) including but not limited to maintaining a current job description, the hiring, supervision, evaluation, and termination of said employees, and making annual compensation recommendations. In addition, it will provide written copies of the job description, annual evaluation, and annual compensation recommendations to the S.P.R.T.~~

B. CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND YOUTH MINISTRIES TEAM (C.E.Y.M.)

3.a.b. It is responsible for Christian education programs and activities of the church, including church school, confirmation, youth fellowship and acolytes.

b.a. It is responsible, *in consultation* with the ordained ministers ~~for the hiring, supervision, and annual evaluation of the Christian Education Coordinator,~~ *for all oversight of the Christian Education Coordinator including but not limited to maintaining a current job description, the hiring, supervision, evaluation, and termination of said employees, and making annual compensation recommendations. In addition, it will provide written copies of the job description, annual evaluation, and annual compensation recommendations to the S.P.R.T.*

C. DEACONS

E. MUSIC

3.a. It is responsible, *in consultation* with the Senior Minister ~~for the hiring and supervision of the music staff of the church and any other musician,~~ *for all oversight of the music staff of the church including but not limited to maintaining a current job description, the hiring, supervision, evaluation, and termination of said employees, and making annual compensation*

recommendations. In addition, it will provide written copies of the job description, annual evaluation, and annual compensation recommendations to the S.P.R.T.

H. FINANCE MINISTRY TEAM

- 3.a.** *It is responsible, in consultation with the Sr. Minister, for all oversight of the financial secretary including but not limited to maintaining a current job description, the hiring, supervision, evaluation, and termination of said employees, and making annual compensation recommendations. In addition, it will provide written copies of the job description, annual evaluation, and annual compensation recommendations to the S.P.R.T.*
- a.b.** Develop, implement and monitor policies relating to the overall structure of accounts and the accounting treatment of transactions.
- b.c.** Prepare an annual budget based on expenditure requests from ministry teams, clergy and staff and projected income from pledges and other sources. After consultation with the Church Council present budget for approval by the membership at the Annual Budget Meeting.
- e.d.** Analyze financial results and periodically prepare revised financial estimates for the fiscal year. If necessary take or recommend action to the Church Council or membership to achieve the budget goal.
- d.e.** Provide direction to the Treasurer related to his or her responsibilities for funds management, accounting and reporting as stated in Article VIII.
- e.f.** Identify and manage financial risks and purchase insurance as appropriate.
- a.g.** Conduct special financial analysis as requested by teams, staff or clergy.

K. PASTORSTAFF-PARISH RELATIONS MINISTRY TEAM (PS.P.R.T.)

1. Purpose

It is responsible for facilitating communications, ~~and~~ fostering relationships of trust and understanding, *and overseeing the personnel policies of the church. within and among the congregation, the ministers and the staff.*

2. Organization

- a. It consists of five (5) *persons, comprised of the Senior Minister and four (4) members selected by an ongoing consensus of the Moderator, Ministers, and Deacons.*
- b. If at any time a member of the ministry team is unable to serve objectively that member is to be recused. *In this event, a member of the church will be chosen to replace the recused individual temporarily by consensus of the Moderator, Ministers, and Deacons.*

- c. Meetings of this ministry team may be called at any time as deemed appropriate by the Moderator, Ministers, the Deacons or a ~~member of another ministry team through the~~ ministry team chair. It meets no less frequently than quarterly.

3. Duties

- a. Provide a forum for the church membership, ~~the~~ ministers and staff *to discuss all aspects relevant to staff-parish relationships.*
- b. ~~Provide for~~ Develop, revise, and implement the ~~use of the~~ church's *Personnel Handbook and Grievance Procedure. Changes to these documents require approval of the Church Council.*
- c. *Maintain an archive of contacts and job descriptions for all staff members.*
- d. *Manage the church's evaluation process to be conducted by the relevant church bodies as established in these bylaws and maintain an archive of such reports. In the case of the Senior Minister, the S.P.R.T. will appoint an ad hoc team of 3-5 church leaders who will conduct the annual evaluation.*
- e. *Gather compensation recommendations annually for all staff from relevant church bodies as established in these bylaws and present a unified recommendation to the Finance Ministry Team for the preparing of the annual budget.*
- e.f. ~~It is accountable to the congregation and r~~Reports quarterly to the Church Council and to the congregation at its annual meeting *while maintaining appropriate levels of confidentiality.*



	<p style="text-align: center;">Our Mission Statement</p> <p>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.</p>
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SENIOR MINISTER

DALE AZEVEDO

“For surely, I know the plans I have for you, says the LORD, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.” (Jeremiah 29:11)

It has been a good year! I probably couldn't expect to be more thrilled than I am with my first full year as Senior Minister at BCCUCC. Sure, there were challenges, but there are supposed to be challenges. Jesus didn't say, “Chill out in your Lay-Z-Boy and take a break with me.” He said, “Pick up your cross and follow me.” So yes, ministry is hard work and we continually have new challenges to face. What has gone well this year is how we are addressing the challenges that we face as a church, a community, and a world. BCCUCC is doing some great things and making a difference!

I hope you take the time to look through these pages and see the many ways we are making a difference in our participants' lives, our surrounding community, and throughout the world. Although I can't reiterate them all here, I do want to highlight a few ministries that are symbolic of the many.

- Right off the bat last September, we were faced with multiple hurricanes that devastated parts of Texas and the entire island of Puerto Rico. So, on our first Sunday back in church, Gathering Sunday, we put together 35 flood buckets for Church World Service. In the weeks immediately following, we raised an additional \$2508 to go toward disaster relief.
- Twice this year we held healing services on Sunday mornings. During the second of these services, our church consultant was visiting, and he later shared with me how powerful it was to see dozens of people coming forward for prayers and a blessing. He noted that not only those coming forward, but also those who chose to stay in the pews found the experience to be deeply moving.
- We've been doing Loaves and Fishes truck runs to reach out to the homeless in Providence for years. However, prior to one of our trips this winter I was awestruck by the outpouring of donations we had collected. Piles of clothing and hygiene products were stacked upon numerous tables in fellowship hall to compliment the usual food we distribute. What an impact those simple items make in peoples' everyday lives.
- Nov 12 and May 6 were great days! We welcomed 16 new members on those Sundays. These families (of all demographics) were moved by our ministry and have intentionally chosen to become a part of our work. Their reasons were many, but a common theme I heard was that they desire a supportive and caring place where they, and their children, can grow and find purpose and meaning. Let make sure we remain that place!

Finally, I want to mention the Renewal Process. To an increasing extent, churches have become irrelevant in American society. At the same time, our society is begging for meaningful direction and leadership. Under the leadership of the Center for Progressive Renewal, we are working to clearly outline how it is that we can make a deeper impact in the lives of people throughout our changing community. Be sure to read more about this process either on the church web site, or elsewhere in this report.

Thank you for a blessed year and may God keep us aware of the challenges around us and how we together with God can continue to address them!

Dale

ASSOCIATE MINISTER

BRENDAN CURRAN

“Still other seed fell on good soil, where it produced a crop—a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown. Whoever has ears, let them hear.” –Matthew 13:8-9

2017-2018 has been a year of planting seeds and watching them grow. It has been a year of new projects and exploring new ways of being church. It has been rewarding to see some of our new initiatives enrich the life of the church while maintaining the successful ministries and programs that we already have in place. The renewal process that we have been engaging with through the Center for Progressive Renewal has affirmed the positive ways our ministries are serving the community. We are also discovering valuable insights on how we can connect and expand even more deeply and effectively. I look forward to seeing how we will continue to grow as a church in the coming year. It’s an exciting time to be the Barrington Congregational Church (UCC.)

In July of 2017 I began hosting community office hours at the coffee depot in Warren. The weekly meetings continue to serve as a time of fellowship for church members outside of church. The meetings have also functioned as a bridge between the church and the extended community and have welcomed new people into the life of the church.

In 2018 we welcomed 13 new members and we’ve had the joy of seeing some new faces in our church school programs. I continued to work closely with Andrea and the CEYM team to support quality church school programs for our children and youth. We offered O.W.L. for 10th-12th graders this year and we confirmed 5 new youth members of our church. I’m very grateful to all the people who volunteer to make our church school and youth programming possible.

Rev. Dale and I, with congregation members, have had opportunities to make a public witness for justice in a variety of ways this year. Together we made our church’s justice mission visible in the community at large. We are, in many ways, a community that prays with our legs and walks the walk!

This year saw new opportunities in the realm of faith formation for our church. At the beginning of the year I had the intention of beginning a contemplative/healing ministry at our church. This ministry would offer spiritual practices to enrich our prayer life, and tools to cope with stress and practice good self-care. By Lent, interested congregation members dedicated one of our classrooms as a meditation room and furnished it beautifully for this purpose. We began meeting on Monday evenings and had a healing spirituality retreat on Easter Saturday. “Mindful Mondays” continues as an on-going ministry. 7-10 people gather every Monday for a half an hour of guided meditation followed by tea and discussion. This ministry continues to act as a meaningful and effective bridge between the church and the community. It serves to help people cultivate stillness and peace, and deepen their spiritual lives.

I am amazed by the generosity of the congregation. Everyone has supported the service-learning/mission trip fundraisers this year in a variety of ways. Our delicious and friendly community dinners continued to be great community events that raised money for our mission trip while connecting the church with community groups like the Barrington Farm School. This year, a group of youth and adults have undergone a year of preparatory educational programming for their trip to the Navajo Nation from June 24th to July 2nd. During that week we will join a community of Navajo youth and elders in planting “edible landscapes.” We will be supporting and empowering efforts to preserve traditional and sustainable agricultural practices and food sovereignty. This will be a great way of learning and living into our church’s mission of

working for justice and peace and rendering loving service to God's world. Appropriately, our "theme parable" for our trip this year is the parable of the sower. It's a joy to be in this ministry of sowing seeds of God's Love with this beautiful and beloved community.

In Christ's Love, *Brendan*

MODERATOR

STEVE PECK

As I near the end of my 4th (and final) year as Church Moderator I am thinking about the incredible work done by so many people in this congregation. For those that don't know, Church Council meets monthly and consists of the chairs of the various teams that do the great work of the church. Because of this I am blessed to be able to listen to the stories about the happenings within each team. Thank you to all of you who work so hard to do so much good for our (and our wider) community. You can read more about many of their activities throughout this annual report.

Much is accomplished at our meetings. In addition to ministry updates, Church Council discusses matters related to the operation of the church. Among the matters discussed this year:

- Council debated and moved forward an important bylaw update, changing the PPRT to "SPRT."
- We participated in the Renewal Team process, hearing presentations from the team and the consultants from The Center for Progressive Renewal.
- The council has pledged support for the Irons Homestead Camping Ministry and voiced support for the new Meditation Room.
- Due to council suggestion a new church directory was published this year.

It has been a fulfilling four years, having been Moderator through Rev. Jeff Larsen's retirement into Rev. Dale Azevedo's tenure here at BCCUCC. As my time as Moderator is coming to an end, you can sense an exciting time coming. There is a palpable feeling of growth in the air and the future remains bright indeed!

Thank you all for the wonderful work that you do to make this such a vibrant, welcoming community.

CHURCH RENEWAL TEAM

HEATHER WILLIAMSON

The Renewal team started its work in September of 2017 with a core group of the following people: Larry Ashley, Tom Colby, Erik Ela, Marion Fodor, Helen Schall, Heather Williamson, and Rev. Dale Azevedo. A page on our church website was created to keep the congregation informed: <https://www.bccucc.org/church-life/renewal/>.

We organized listening sessions with the consultant Dr. William "Bill" McKinney from the Center for Progressive Renewal (CPR), to get a sense of where the church is today and where members of the congregation want the church to be in the future. These were held on the weekend of September 29th to October 1st, 2017. About 70 members of the congregation were able to participate either in individual or in group sessions. Bill met individually with the clergy and staff and was also able to meet with some members of the larger community, including the

school superintendent, other church leaders, and local non profits. As a result of these listening sessions and a report on those in combination with a demographic study of the East Bay, the team proposed a set of strategic directions to the Church Council on December 12th, 2017 which were approved.

At this point we began to work with our “Church Coach”, Rev. Steve Sterner from CPR. He has been assisting us in understanding how to look at the Strategic Directions. He has met with us, or someone from the church, about once a month.

Based on the strategic directions we recruited about 30 people to serve on seven subcommittees (Strategic Teams). They worked on the following themes: Congregational Care, Community Connection, Communication, Capital Improvement, Mission and Building Use, Grow Endowment, and Creative Stewardship.

Steve Sterner joined us for a working session with these committees on March 17th, 2018. Since then, each group has been working on producing reports that will be shared on June 2nd in a Strategic Teams Feedback Session to synthesize and collate all the information they have gathered. A larger report that summarizes and organizes all of the individual reports will be shared with the congregation at the Annual Meeting on June 10th.

This is Phase I of our work with the Center for Progressive Renewal. After sharing the original work from these seven groups the Renewal Team will be working over the summer to bring concrete proposals to Church Council in the Fall for Phase II, an action plan based on what the working groups have done. There will be ideas that will only require some minor tweaks or integrating some new workflows, without much structural change. There will be larger ideas that require systemic change as well as a financial commitment. The Renewal Team will prioritize and organize these proposals with the capacity of the church, finances and people resources in mind.

HISTORICAL GROUP

The ‘3 Centuries and Beyond’ Committee, ably led by Tom Wegner, continued their efforts through the third and fourth quarters of 2017, planning and executing various events as we celebrated our church’s 300th Anniversary.

Tours of the church were conducted by Bethia Rosner and Liz Rosenholm, dressed in period costume, on June 17th and 18th.

On September 11th we had a Harvest Exchange, as was done 300 years ago.

The last in our 300th Anniversary Concert Series took place on Sunday, September 24th when Elizabeth Von Trapp gave a concert in the sanctuary.

On Sunday, October 22nd, there was a display of church memorabilia in Fellowship Hall, including the new weathervane.

LIZ ROSENHOLM



The final event organized by the committee was a Gala Jazz Brunch held at the Barrington Yacht Club on Sunday, November 12th following a special 300th Anniversary worship service in the sanctuary. The committee had reached out and invited all former ministers who had served the church to attend. The brunch was sold out with 96 people in attendance, including 11 of our former ministers. The meal was prepared and presented lavishly by Amos House Catering, and music was provided by the Greg Silva Trio.

On November 21st, the new replacement weathervane was finally installed on top of the steeple after some much needed repairs to the support that holds it.

DEACONS

CHRIS BRADY

2017-2018 was our first full season with Dale as our settled senior minister. We attempted to shift the emphasis of our meetings to spiritual and devotional subjects, while trying to streamline the discussion of business matters.

Keeping the twelve roster spots for the deacons filled has been challenging. Steve Fodor, on his second go round with the deacons, and Bernie Hawes joined the deacons at the end of October. Both have been excellent additions bringing perspective and new energy. The new deacons were dedicated/installed and the rest of the team was rededicated during worship on October 29th, 2017. Tom Wegner and Chris Morton left the deacons at the end of 2017 bringing our numbers down to 9. Their spots were not filled in the church year. We are not losing any deacons at the end of their terms this year and have two new deacons identified to bring our count back up to eleven.

In November we had our annual Deacons' Retreat at Abby and Larry Ashley's home with an emphasis on food, fellowship and getting to know each other better. A good time was had by all.

We continue to support Loaves and Fishes three times a year and also help out our friends and neighbors in need with funds from our Deacons' Fund that is collected on communion Sundays. As is our tradition, the deacons distribute plants at Christmas and Easter to homebound parishioners and to families who experienced a loss or major health problems. Other activities included: Valentines cards for homebound folks and college students, serving in the soup kitchen, and hosting coffee hour.

The deacons continue to play a leading role in worship, serving communion the first Sunday of each month and helping with baptisms. We read the passion story in the Tenebrae service on Maundy Thursday, which as always was deeply moving. We did not lead a Lay People's Sunday during the 2017-2018 church year, but we plan to do so in 2018-2019

We are excited about the coming year and feel like we and the church as a whole are hitting our stride after a year of getting to know Dale. We are looking forward to a strong year and working with our ministers to continue to grow spiritually as individuals and as a group.

CHANCEL TEAM

CAROL LOUTTIT and AUDREY ROGERS

The Chancel Team is responsible for the care and maintenance of the sanctuary, altar cloths, communion linens and polishing of the brass altar rails. Money for this is provided by the donations of the congregation to the Chancel Fund at Christmas and Easter.

We also coordinate the donations of the weekly altar flowers and the subsequent distribution of these flowers to members and friends of the congregation who may be ill, bereaved, shut-in, or otherwise in need of remembrance. Weekly arrangements are provided by The Greenery in Warren at \$30/per vase. Our Easter altar flowers are provided by Quality Fruitland Florist (IN BLOOM) in Seekonk. Chancel team members meet on the Saturday before each of these holidays to decorate the altar, as well as at Thanksgiving to decorate with the cornucopia and fresh vegetables which are then donated to Tap-In.

Any extra money from the Chancel Fund is used for anything that might enhance the worship service, i.e. sound system, hearing devices, etc. In this past year the Chancel Fund has paid for a door for the sanctuary sound system to protect the controls from being inadvertently adjusted (especially since the bell pull rope is right next to the sound system). The Chancel Fund also covered the expense of having an altar table custom made for use on Communion Sundays when the communion table is brought down to the floor level. It can also be used at other times when needed. It has added to the beauty of the altar.

The Chancel Team is under the umbrella of the Deacons and assists them at coffee hour and the soup kitchen. We do not have regular meetings but touch base with each other at coffee hour on Sundays and occasionally get together for coffee to discuss our obligations.

MUSIC TEAM

PATRICIA STODDARD

The Music Ministry serves the church and its congregation in many different ways. For those that participate, it is both a musical and spiritual experience. While being part of the ministry feeds those that participate, the hope is that the musical offerings lend additional spiritual context to the worship service. It is quite amazing to see how the musical selections fit the service theme and the sermon or scripture message for a particular Sunday.

Organist and Choir Director Marina Zabinski not only “wows” us with her amazing and thoughtful skills, she is the guiding hand, spiritual leader and teacher for the vocal choirs. In addition to singing every Sunday from early September through the 3rd Sunday in June, the vocal choir added special anthems for Christmas Eve, Easter and Choir Celebration Sunday.

The Sing and Celebrate Choir, ably directed and guided by Kate Colby, participated in worship services during the year, highlighted by a piece for Jubilation Sunday that incorporated congregational participation. Kate and the choir bring an energy and enthusiasm to the worship service that demonstrates how different offerings are a vital part of the worship experience.

Additional offerings from Greg Voigt, Pat Stoddard and others complement the weekly offerings. Some choir members also offer solo pieces during summer worship services.

While we strive to offer varied selections, we invite the congregation to be in touch with Marina with suggestions. New members in either choir are always most welcome – we invite you to join us and reap the spiritual benefit of being part of a caring, talented group of people.

USHER TEAM

BETHIA ROSNER

The Ushering Ministry team has 15 members at present – more would be most welcome –with two substitutes. There are 3 separate schedules each year: September thru January, February thru June, and Summer (July to Labor Day weekend). During September thru June, there are four (4) ushers scheduled to be on duty each Sunday. During the summer months, only two (2) ushers are scheduled for each Sunday.

The ushers prepare the sanctuary prior to the service by opening the shutters, lighting the altar candles, and preparing the microphones and hearing devices. During the service the ushers provide microphones for announcements, present mementos – mugs, CD's, and pens provided by the Membership Team – to guests and/or visitors, and collect the offering and present it at the altar. The ushers also count attendance at each service and record the number categorizing adults, children, clergy and staff.

After the service has ended, the ushers restore order in the pews, close the shutters, turn off sanctuary lights, lock the offering in the safe, and lock up the church building.

This past year the ushers and Senior minister began looking at the question of safety and security in the sanctuary in light of recent violence in the country. A subgroup of ushers is currently studying our options and suggestions will be submitted to Church Council when complete.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND YOUTH MINISTRIES TEAM

CAROL STRAKOSCH and ANDREA BULLARD

The formal duties of the CEYM Team culminated in a celebration of “The Web of Life” on Jubilation Sunday, May 20, 2018, but our agenda continues with a number of activities in the coming months. “Class on the Grass” will be the Church School format for the month of June, with activities that will involve all age groups. Our team is responsible for Coffee Hour during June and Soup Kitchen outreach in July, so there is no school vacation for this team of educators.

We began our Church School year in September 2017 with increased numbers in the Godly Play classroom. A welcome change after low registration numbers in last year's class. Our campaign to interest new families in discovering what we have to offer seems to be gradually reaping interest. Godly Play is geared toward PreK, Kindergarten and 1st graders. New families with young children are participating regularly and attendance has been more consistent. Our Rotation Model Curriculum, Deep Blue, for 2nd, 3rd and 4th graders seems to be popular with the students and they particularly enjoy the cooking component. Low numbers in the 5th and 6th grades this year led to the cancellation of many classes and the idea of expanding the World Religions curriculum to include this age group as well as the 7th and 8th graders.

The O.W.L. program “Our Whole Lives” began with a renewed discussion of how to include students that are not part of our church in the program. Brendan brought this up with Church Council to decide on a policy that would be more inclusive. This year's leaders worked with a consistent group of 5 students who moved quickly through the condensed curriculum during 4 meetings with some held on school in-service days.

Mission Trip planning took off with group meetings of the student and adult participants. Their work with the Navajo Nation has been planned for the end of June. Our group has had

presentations and activities to prepare them, building awareness of how to respect traditions and work as a team to benefit the people and the project. Fundraiser responsibility was shared by participants and included community dinners, a jazz concert, and a benefit concert by Atwater-Donnelly.

The Confirmation class met regularly and recently participated in a Spiritual Retreat prior to Confirmation on May 13, 2018.

Church School Events included an Advent Craft Fair, Lenten Lollapalooza and the annual Easter Egg Hunt, as well as Jubilation Sunday with Ice Cream Sundaes served at Coffee Hour.

Junior Youth Group (JYG) and Senior Youth Group (SYG) had a quiet year with many outings cancelled due to low participation numbers or weather issues.

CEYM members continued our campaign to get the word out about our Church Community by participating in a variety of local events. Our door painting project that was completed on Jubilation Sunday 2017 were finally installed on the entrance to Fellowship Hall at the beginning of the program year. We are trying to let the whole community know who we are and what we stand for. We had a great group that participated in the Hampden Meadows Tough Tiger, and we distributed “Be the Church” Shopping Bags with information about our programs at the Pageant Service on Christmas Eve and at the Nayatt 5K where BCCUCC members and clergy were seen. We have plans to be at the Barrington Art Fair in June. We want to share our programs and generate interest in as many ways as possible and will continue to make sure people know our doors are always open.

MISSION AND JUSTICE MINISTRY TEAM

ANN DORAN

Our year began with a fall frenzy of planning events and speakers along with prepping for holiday collections. Brendan quickly organized a Community Healthcare Forum led by Dr. Michael Fine, former Director of the RI Department of Health and an advocate for community healthcare clinics. Dr. Fine’s expertise and vast knowledge of providing high quality care at the lowest cost possible is the ultimate goal. It was a very inspiring panel and discussion.

Our interest in helping refugees gained some momentum when we joined friends at Sts. Matthew & Mark to assist two families in Providence. We set up a collection for diapers for their youngest children, helped with shopping, and even spent a wonderful sunny day at Roger Williams Park Zoo with everyone. The tickets were generously given by zoo docent, Howard Rotblat-Walker.

Once again, we collaborated with EBCP (East Bay Citizens for Peace) for a speaking event. David Wood, a Pulitzer Prize winning journalist, came to talk about his 35 years of covering war and conflict around the world. His stories were compelling and heart wrenching and prompted many questions and comments from the audience, which consisted of quite a few veterans. During the reception following, we sold many copies of his latest book, “What Have We Done: The Moral Injury of Our Longest Wars”.

Next on the docket: TAPIN Thanksgiving Food Drive and Christmas Mitten Tree and Giving Tree. Once again, the congregation donated generously. The food items were delivered to TAPIN in plenty of time to be boxed up for the families. The hats, mittens, socks, and gloves

were delivered to Amos House in time for their holiday party; and the gift card donations were gratefully accepted by the Women’s Resource Center.

Our year-end donations included funds from a memorial gift as well as our annual budget of \$1000. We tried to donate to groups and organizations whose work advocates for and assists refugees, immigrants, and the homeless in RI. Disbursements were as follows:

Dorcas International	\$ 200
Mathewson Street Church	100
George Wiley Center.....	100
RISCC (RI State Council of Churches).....	100
Pawtucket Soup Kitchen.....	100
Loaves & Fishes RI.....	100
TAPIN	100
TOTAL	\$ 1000
Barrington Farm School	\$ 1100
Meditation Room	516
TOTAL Memorial Gift.....	\$ 1616

An additional gift of \$350 was given to Gabi Sclafani, a divinity student and member of BCCUCC, for her ‘education field trip’ to Mexico with the Church of the Living Hope of East Harlem, NY. These funds were to come from the remaining amount donated in memory of Regina Berenback; this would be honoring Regina’s passion for social justice in the world.

The Mission and Justice Ministry Team (M&J) joined the Chancel Team to serve dinner at the Pawtucket Soup Kitchen on Saturday, February 10th, 2018.

A Spring Speaker Series was organized by Helen Schall:

- #1 - We hosted Jennifer Geary of the Helen Hudson Foundation, Kathy Henry and two other volunteers from Mathewson Street Church Ministries and Friendship Breakfast group. We heard their stories of coping with poverty, homelessness and the shame and despair that accompany those struggling to survive. Each narrative opened our eyes to the monumental effort required to overcome the effects of being extremely poor. We are blessed to have these two organizations dedicated to providing shelter, meals, guidance and social support. Additionally, the Helen Hudson Foundation donated copies of *Dinner at Six* by Helen Hudson, which were offered for sale to the congregation. Money collected was then donated to Mathewson Street Friendship Breakfast and to Loaves and Fishes RI.
- #2 - Allen Scott, co-chair of Loaves & Fishes RI, was introduced by Phyllis Buckley. He gave us some background and history on the origins of “the truck” as well as information on their mission to offer meals and hot drinks to the hungry and homeless around the state. They have partner organizations and other churches who participate throughout the year, rain or shine, to feed and hand out warm clothes and toiletries to those in desperate need. Phyllis and Jay Buckley and Liz White have led BCCUCC’s Loaves and Fishes RI participation for many years, and we’re very proud and grateful for their leadership and selfless dedication.

- #3 - Our final guest in the speaker series was Rev. Don Anderson, Executive Minister of the R.I. State Council of Churches. He outlined the purpose of the council as a gathering of other denominations and individuals of faith to serve as a catalyst for ecumenical, cultural and interfaith dialogue. They offer many resources for other groups interested in public policy and social justice issues. They are passionate advocates for peace in every community. We should definitely take full advantage of their resources and contacts as we continue our own mission and justice outreach.

Other happenings included a Barrington Farm School celebration and thank you to everyone in the community who helped reach the financial goal they needed for purchasing the property. M&J gave a substantial amount to help preserve a valuable resource for all. It was one of our most well-attended events with free soups, stews, salads and homemade breads. In keeping with eco-friendly customs, we used no paper or plastic. Several St. Andrews student volunteers diligently washed and dried all the dishes to a sparkling finish. It was a community coming together, and the joy was palpable! Let's stay connected to BFS—lots of opportunities for kids and families to volunteer and learn about farming.

Earth Day! With the help of the Sylvesters, we draped the poles with greenery and branches and vines, bringing a taste of spring inside. It always looks fresh and natural. Thank you, Trish and Sam!

With a generous \$4500 gift from a BCCUCC donor, we were able to fund a pilot program proposed by Dorcas International for their clients—new refugees and immigrants. This proposal described a need for refugees seeking employment to apply for R.I. drivers licenses, and then outlined steps and costs associated with DMV requirements. We hope the program proves to be successful and one that can become a permanent part of the services offered by Dorcas International.

We are ending the year with many of our team members stepping down. There will be a new leader or co-chairs in the fall, and several new members of the congregation have expressed interest in joining. In conjunction with upcoming recommendations from the Renewal Team, there may be some changes in focus, advocacy, and promotional outreach to the wider community. We look forward to and welcome new energy and fresh ideas.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS MINISTRY TEAM

PAUL DENNIS

A major accomplishment for the Buildings and Grounds team (B&G) this year has been the completion of the Riverwalk project. This new sidewalk behind the Education Building is a paved ramp that meets ADA requirements connecting the driveway next to the sanctuary to Fellowship Hall at a door on the terrace. The door has a new ADA automatic door opener and new lockset. These improvements allow much better access to our “backyard” alongside the river for everyone. Most of the cost of this work was paid for by donations from the congregation. An automatic door opener was also installed at the door to the vestry.

The new weathervane was finally installed on the steeple on November 21st, 2017, using a very tall bucket truck with the help of Mike Catanzaro and the weathervane creator Dave Ferro.

Landscape improvements around the front of the church were completed as part of an Eagle project by scouts from BSA Troop 2. Cobblestone edging now separates the brick walkway and the planting beds. BSA Troop 6 again helped with Church Clean Up day this Spring.

The first phase of painting the hallway in the Education Building was completed outside the office. This will be an ongoing project to paint the entire hallway and eventually Fellowship Hall.

The old and obsolete electrical panel in the kitchen which serves that end of the Education Building was replaced.

The flat roof over the classrooms was replaced. All roofing on the Education Building and the Church has now been replaced within the last 12 years.

Improvements at the parsonages included new hard wired smoke detectors at Nathaniel and a new stove. A sewer pipe in the basement at Fireside was replaced.

Thanks to several dedicated members of the congregation for their continued help to maintain our shrubs and flower beds. Thanks also to our custodians Paul and John for their work to keep our facilities in good condition.

MEMBERSHIP MINISTRY TEAM

BETH BUCKLEY and JOANNE ELA

"...for I was a stranger and you welcomed me" Matthew 25:35

Our first priority is to welcome visitors and members to worship services. We organize greeters for every Sunday service. We provide information for visitors about the ministries along with a couple of small gifts inscribed with the church's address, phone, email and website.

As with other ministry teams we serve at coffee hour, participate in the soup kitchen and send a representative to the Church Council. Membership Team members wear bright green nametags to be easily identified to visitors and able to answer questions.

We maintain a Welcome Table in Fellowship Hall where information is available about our church. Photos of the newest members and confirmands are displayed there. New nametags can be requested, email addresses added, and there are sign-up sheets to volunteer for various events.

The team is involved in hosting new members as they join the church family. In conjunction with Pastor Dale, the Membership Team meets with prospective members for a session about joining BCCUCC. On New Member Sunday we meet with the new members in the vestry for a photo and to sign the official membership record book. A boutonniere is given, and a reception is hosted at Coffee Hour with a special "Welcome" cake. Photos and a short bio are posted near the Fellowship Hall entrance the following week. Sixteen new members joined us in the past year.

In early December we hosted a Senior Luncheon in the Fellowship Hall. About 45 senior adults attended. A Christmas Carol sing-a-long was led by Christine Wallis on piano while Barbara Wuth led the singing.

In May we welcomed 5 confirmands by hosting a breakfast for them and their families before the Confirmation worship service. We took individual photos, gave them boutonniere/corsages, and river rocks gathered from the shore behind the church as tokens of their commitment to being

confirmed and joining BCCUCC. At this time they signed the official membership record book. In June we will help the Women of Faith host a Ladies' Luncheon in the Fellowship Hall. Around 50 members and friends usually attend it.

The nominating activity started in February with monthly meetings to assess the needs of the teams and officers for the coming year. Discussions have been held with team chairs, and recruitment is an ongoing process.

LAY VISITATION TEAM

The Lay Visitation Team calls on those in our church community who are unable to attend church in our sanctuary. Whether an individual is homebound due to illness, injury, have restricted mobility, or are suffering from loss and grief, we reach out through phone calls, letters and visits to comfort these individuals and let them know that they are in the church community's thoughts and prayers. We are meant to be a presence in their lives with the hope of maintaining a connection with our church family.

If you know of someone who might be in need of our caring and prayers, or if you would like to be a part of our ministry please call the church office.

The Lay Visitation Team now meets on the third Wednesday of the month from September thru June at 11a.m. in the Library.

Cindy Racinski

STAFF PARISH RELATIONS TEAM

MARION FODOR

On January 28, 2018 the Pastor Parish Relations Team (PPRT) was renamed the Staff Parish Relations Team (SPRT) with a congregational vote of amendments to the 2014 Bylaws. The SPRT is responsible for facilitating communications, fostering relationships of trust and understanding, and overseeing the personnel policies of the church.

The SPRT is comprised of the Senior Minister and four members selected by an ongoing consensus of the Moderator, ministers and deacons. The five of us have met to listen to and support Dale and Brendan in their ministries and the goals that they have given us. We are always available to provide a forum for the church membership, ministers, and staff to discuss all aspects relevant to staff-parish relationships.

In overseeing personnel policies this year we have established a subcommittee to review the church's personnel handbook and grievance procedure. We are presently in the process of managing the church's evaluation process being conducted by the relevant church bodies as established in the Bylaws. We will continue to develop and facilitate overseeing personnel policies of the church next year.

STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY TEAM

SUSAN ROTBLAT-WALKER

In 2017 the Stewardship Ministry Team continued the New Consecration Sunday Stewardship Program. The Stewardship Team of Bill Block, Duncan Maio, Kristen Westmoreland, Pat Stoddard and Susan Rotblat-Walker with Dale's support implemented the program over a time limited period last fall. The program emphasizes the connection between our pledge commitments and our spiritual life. As Jonathan New of the Massachusetts Conference UCC explains, "stewardship is not about money but about people – about those who might be blessed by the sharing of our gifts and about the blessing received by us when we open our hearts, our hands and sometimes our wallets to others."

The program this year contributed to a balanced budget for 2018. 122 Estimate of Giving cards were received, totaling \$ 367,940.

We are grateful for the commitment of the congregation to the life-giving ministries of our church.

ENDOWMENT MINISTRY TEAM

KATE COLBY

2017 was a very good year for the church's general endowment funds. Total donations to the funds were an outstanding \$658,357, owing largely to two sizable bequests received during the year. These contributions plus an exceptionally good year for investments brought the total under management to \$1,990,613 at the end of 2017. Of this total \$114,463 are designated for specific use.

All three fund managers used by the church for endowment investments showed positive results. Rhode Island Foundation had returns of 17.4%, while Rhode Island Conference's were 14.0%, and Ocean State Incubator's were 14.7%. Distributions to BCCUCC from the endowment funds totaled \$48,000.

The Endowment Team has recorded the new donations and plans to develop a written process for the recording and disposition of future receipts. Transparency of financial information was a focus of the year. Toward that end, we participated in a presentation for membership that offered information across several areas of the church's finances including endowment. Additionally, the 2017 annual investment reviews of the Rhode Island Foundation Fund and Ocean State Incubator Fund were each attended, and an updated endowment presentation was given to council.

Aside from managing endowment funds, the Endowment Team is charged with managing a program of outreach to the membership. This area has been neglected for a number of years. We are anticipating a report from the Strategic Renewal Team for Endowment with ideas for re-implementing and managing such a program.

The Endowment Team: Kate Colby, Bob Mason and Dick McWhirter

FINANCE MINISTRY TEAM**DICK MCWHIRTER**

Probably the most important accomplishment was the compilation, review and presentation to the congregation of the balanced 2018 budget. Thanks to the Finance Team members, team chairs and others for making this happen.

The 2017 books were closed on time with a small surplus and, thanks to the able and generous efforts of Anne Black, the annual audit is underway as this is written.

To make the church's finances more transparent the Finance Team and others created a presentation given after church on March 18, 2018, which reviewed the revenues, expenses, assets and liabilities of the church.

Finally plans were put in place for an orderly transition of team members.

For the next year we plan to integrate the results of the Renewal process into the financial planning process.

*Dick McWhirter, Chair,
for Tom Colby, Lynne Lehman, Sam Sylvester, Craig Wood
and Co-Treasurers John Loerke and Barbara Wuth*

AUDITOR'S REPORT**ANN BLACK**

I have examined the Church's financial reports for the twelve months ended December 31, 2017 and have tested selected balances and transactions. No exceptions were found as a result of applying the tests. That is, for all transactions and balances tested, the amounts reported in the financial statements agreed to the underlying support documentation.

In addition, I have made recommendations to increase the strength of the Church's controls over the financial books and records.

**AFFIRMATION OF WELCOME**

(Adopted at the 2010 Annual Meeting)

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.



2018 OPERATIONS BUDGET *

BCCUCC budget 2018

1	Income	
2	Pledges	
3	Pledges	368,000
4	Prior year	500
5	Shrinkage	-10,000
6	Total Pledges	<u>358,500</u>
7	Offerings and Gifts	18,000
8	Investment income	77,500
9	Rental income	<u>21,360</u>
10	Total Unrestricted Income	<u>475,360</u>
11	Collections for missions	4,650
12	Other designated income	<u>5,300</u>
13	Total Restricted Income	<u>9,950</u>
14	Total Income	<u>485,310</u>
15	Expense	
16	Personnel	<u>335,236</u>
17	Buildings & Grounds	
18	Capital	17,500
19	C&E building	38,520
20	Parsonages	14,830
21	Insurance	<u>21,900</u>
22	Total Buildings & Grounds	<u>92,750</u>
23	Office	<u>10,050</u>
24	Church Life	
25	Christian Education	4,800
26	Chancel	4,500
27	Other teams	<u>9,350</u>
28	Total Church life	<u>18,650</u>
29	Mission-General Funds	
30	RICUCC	22,300
31	Other	<u>1,860</u>
32	Total Mission-General Funds	24,160
33	Missions-Restricted funds	<u>4,650</u>
34	Total Missions	<u>28,810</u>
35	Total Expense	<u>485,496</u>
36	Surplus/-deficit	<u><u>-186</u></u>

Summary of Financial Activity and Financial Position for 2017

Statement of Activities for the Year Ended December 31, 2017

	<u>Operations</u>	<u>Capital Improvements</u>	<u>Endowment</u> ^{Note A}	<u>Total</u>
Revenues				
Pledges, Gifts and Offerings	\$386,431	\$74,299 ^{Note B}	\$658,357	\$1,119,087
Investment Income or Loss	48,232 ^{Note C}		213,990	262,222
Rentals	23,319			23,319
Other	<u>17,395</u>			<u>17,395</u>
Total Revenues	<u>\$475,376</u>	<u>\$74,299</u>	<u>\$872,347</u>	<u>\$1,422,022</u>
Expenses				
Staff	\$314,689			\$314,689
Office	11,530			11,530
Church Life/Christian Education	21,023			21,023
Buildings & Grounds	72,083			72,083
Capital Improvement	20,000	92,148		112,148
Missions or Other Disbursements	<u>33,374</u>		<u>50,285</u> ^{Note D}	<u>83,659</u>
Total Expenses	<u>\$472,700</u>	<u>\$92,148</u>	<u>\$50,285</u>	<u>\$615,133</u>
Change in Net Assets	2,677	-17,849	822,062	806,889
Net Assets 12/31/16	<u>101,480</u>	<u>34,452</u>	<u>1,168,551</u>	<u>1,304,484</u>
Net Assets 12/31/17	<u>\$104,157</u>	<u>\$16,603</u>	<u>\$1,990,613</u>	<u>\$2,111,373</u>

Statement of Financial Position for the Year Ended December 31, 2017

Assets				
Cash and Investments	\$227,418	\$21,553	\$1,990,613	\$2,239,584
Receivables and Other Assets	<u>16,262</u>	<u>6,550</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>22,812</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$243,680</u>	<u>\$28,103</u>	<u>\$1,990,613</u>	<u>\$2,262,396</u>
Deferred Income & Liabilities				
Funds for Designated Purposes	139,420	11,500 ^{Note E}	0	150,920
Other	<u>103</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>103</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>139,523</u>	<u>11,500</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>151,023</u>
Net Assets	<u>\$104,157</u>	<u>\$16,603</u>	<u>\$1,990,613</u>	<u>\$2,111,373</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements

- A The Endowment account balance is held in various funds subject, in certain cases, to terms significantly restricting the Church's use of the principal balance.
- B Includes receipts from Operations of \$20,000.
- C Includes receipts from Endowment Funds of \$48,000.
- D Includes disbursements to Operations Investment Income of \$48,000.
- E Includes reserves against possible flood damage and property insurance deductible of \$11,500.

TREASURER'S DISCUSSION OF 2017 ACTIVITY

JOHN LOERKE
BARBARA WUTH

Operations

Operating results exceeded expectations, with actual pledge income of \$366,779 almost precisely matching the gross amount in the budget of \$367,500, before the allowance for shortfalls in pledge fulfillment, resulting in net pledge income \$11,000 over budget. Along with favorable variances in gifts and plate offerings, this produced total operating income of \$458,631, above plan by \$12,771. As a result, the change in net assets for 2017 was an increase of over \$2,600 compared to the budgeted decline of roundly -\$10,000.

Capital Improvements

Major capital improvement highlights:

Flat-roof replacement	\$38,600
Riverwalk Project	29,994
Pew cushions	12,128
Landscaping (trees and bushes)	5,371
Weathervane	3,665
Kitchen electrical	<u>2,390</u>
Total	\$92,148

Generous support from the congregation provided \$54,300 toward these projects and the annual transfer from the Operating Budget added another \$20,000, resulting in a -\$17,850 reduction in net assets.

Endowment

Our tricentennial year was exceptionally good for the Endowment. Two very large bequests were an important factor in contributions to the funds totaling \$658,357. Strong investment performance with a percentage total return in the mid-teens resulted in investment income of \$214,000. The total endowment balance ended 2017 at \$1,990,613 (of which \$114,463 was held in dedicated funds). Endowment contributed \$48,000 to the operating budget in 2017. Endowment's contribution to operations is calculated using a three-year moving average of fund balances, delaying the impact of the last year's major increase in assets. The contribution to operations from the endowment in 2018 is budgeted at \$77,000.

2018 – 2019 SLATE OF NOMINEES FOR OFFICERS, MINISTRY TEAMS etc

The slate of nominees to fill the various positions on the ministry teams and to serve as church officers is presented below.

* indicates a vacancy yet to be filled.

Year# indicates which year the person will be serving: 1 = first year, 2 = second year etc. (For officer or ministry team positions - with the exception of deacons - there is a limit of 4 years serving in the same position).

Please note that under the 2014 By-Laws:

- Officers and delegates are elected annually and cannot serve more than 4 consecutive years in the same capacity.
- Members at Large and Ministry Team members serve for a one or two year term (except for Deacons) and cannot serve in the same capacity for more than 4 consecutive years.
- The Deacons serve for a three year renewable term.
- Those who serve on Deacons, Finance, Endowment, and Pastor Parish Relations Teams and all ministry team chairs are to be active or associate members of this church.
- Those who serve on Buildings and Grounds, Christian Education and Youth Ministries, Mission and Justice, Membership, and Stewardship ministry teams are to be active participants in the life of this church.
- The number that appears in parentheses after a ministry team’s name indicates the number of members in the group according to the 2014 By-Laws.



<i>Office</i>	<i>Term Expires</i>	<i>Year#</i>
MODERATOR		
Kathy Sullivan	2019	1
CLERK		
Pat Cordeiro	2019	4
CO-TREASURERS		
John Loerke	2019	7
Barbara Wuth	2019	2
HISTORIAN		
Liz Rosenholm	2019	1

<i>Office</i>	<i>Term Expires</i>	<i>Year#</i>
AUDITOR		
*	2019	
CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS AT LARGE (2)		
Cheryl Muth	2019	2
Jane Tonn	2019	1
DELEGATES TO RI CONFERENCE (2 + one youth)		
Larry Ashley	2019	2
Abby Ashley	2019	2
* (youth)	2019	

MINISTRY TEAMS

DEACONS (10 - 12)

The deacons serve 3 year terms and can serve for 2 terms (a max of 6 years)

	<i>Term Expires</i>		
Stephanie Edwards	2019	2 nd	Term
Kim Zeleznik	2019		
Steve Fodor	2019		
*	2019		
Chris Brady	2020	2 nd	Term
Susan Seader	2020	2 nd	Term
Abby Ashley	2020	2 nd	Term
Bernie Hawes	2020		
Joe Judge	2021	2 nd	Term
Jon Stabach	2021	2 nd	Term
Patricia Stoddard	2021		
Carol Strakosch	2021		

Term Expires Year#

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS MINISTRY TEAM (8)

Steve Cipoletti	2019	5
Louise House	2019	5
Jay Buckley	2019	5
Paula Rooks	2019	3
Larry Ashley	2019	2
Sue Terhune	2020	1
Sim Hawes	2020	
*		

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION & YOUTH MINISTRIES TEAM (6 + one youth)

Francis Seader	2019	4
Kathy Sullivan	2019	3
Amy Barkat	2019	3
Paul Roberti	2020	1
Greg Voigt	2020	1
*		
* (youth)		
Cathleen Joachim	ex gratia	5

ENDOWMENT MINISTRY TEAM (4-6)

Bob Mason	2019	5
Kate Colby	2019	3
*		
*		

Term Expires Year#

FINANCE MINISTRY TEAM (4-6)

Tom Colby	2019	5
Dick McWhirter	2019	5
Sam Sylvester	2019	3
Steve Fodor	2019	1

MEMBERSHIP MINISTRY TEAM (8)

Moyne Cabbage	2019	5
Paula Rooks	2019	5
Liz White	2019	3
Libardo DeLaTorre	2019	2
Elizabeth Azevedo	2020	1
Wendy Forman	2020	1
*		
*		

MISSION & JUSTICE MINISTRY TEAM (4)

Helen Schall	2019	2
Leslie Peck	2019	2
Marlene Manchester	2019	2
Nancy Arena	2020	1
Susan Rotblat-Walker	2020	1
Caroline Morgan	2020	1
Sharon Sylvester	ex gratia	5
Ann Doran	ex gratia	5

STAFF-PARISH RELATIONS TEAM (4)

This team is selected by the Moderator, ministers, and Deacons

Marion Fodor	2019	5
John Muth	2019	5
Steve Peck	2019	5
Kim Zeleznik	2019	4

STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY TEAM (5)

Bill Block	2019	4
Michael Collins	2019	1
*		
*		
*		

LAY VISITATION TEAM

This is a non-elected group of people.

- Kathy Block
- George Bolton
- Rose Marie Bolton
- Nancy Martin
- Joan Miller
- Cheryl Muth
- Cindy Racinski
- Helen Schall
- Clyde Slicker
- Heather Sugg

DEACONS SUBGROUPS:

CHANCEL TEAM (4)

- Bethia Rosner
- Liz Rosenholm
- Heather Sugg
- Cindy Racinski

MUSIC TEAM (2)

- Pat Stoddard
- Heather Williamson

USHER TEAM (2)

- Bethia Rosner
- Tom Colby



REPRESENTATION AT RI CONFERENCE

The following members from Barrington Congregational Church, UCC, have been serving in the capacity indicated:

RI CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST (RICUCC)

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Rev. Dr. Dale Azevedo | Member-at-Large, Convener of the Ministers' Association, 'Together as One' (Conference Merger Team) |
| Rev. Brendan Curran | Racial Justice Ministry Team |
| Steve Fodor | Church and Ministry Committee |
| Rev. Jennifer Geary | Outdoor Ministries |
| Rev. Kathy Henry | Racial Justice Ministry Team |
| Susan Rotblat-Walker | VP of Stewardship Development |



FROM THE CHURCH RECORDS

June 8, 2017 – June 5, 2018

This report covers the 12 month period from early-June 2017 through early June, 2018. The categories shown are also requested each December for the United Church of Christ Yearbook Report (see page 31).

NEW MEMBERS (16)

11/19/17

Elizabeth Azevedo
Daniel Watts
Liz Wiedenhofer

5/6/18

Casundra Amundson
Mark Amundson
Aline Boulais
Mike Perry
Dan Drake
Seth Forman
Wendy Forman
Kara Humm
Robert Humm
Jennifer Melker
Fiona Nicholson
Cindy Racinski
Megan Sheehan

CONFIRMATIONS (5)

5/13/18

Douglas Dubel
John Marshall Lemos
Marcus Nicholson
Colin Stabach
Emily Waite

LETTERS OF TRANSFER RECEIVED FROM OTHER CHURCHES (2)

Elizabeth Azevedo
Jennifer Melker

MARRIAGES (1)

Megan Alicia Hoyt and Francis Kiyomasa Ogura

BAPTISMS

Infants and Children (5)

Maximus Joseph Lofaro
Elias Michael O'Brien
Adelina Hye-Yun Forzano
Joshua William Glass, Jr.
Sadie Lillian Oliveira

Adult (0)

DEATHS

Members (3)

Zoe Woodruff
Virginia H. Cater
Douglas A. Tonn

Inactive Members (1)

Ruth Leland

Others (3)

Georgia Eustis
Roland E. J. Stumpff
Don Paulhus



ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP AS OF JUNE 7, 2017 WAS 309

Between June 8th, 2017 and June 5th, 2018 the following changes occurred:

Additions to Active Membership (21)

5 - Confirmation
16 - New Members

Losses to Active Membership (40)

3 - Death
0 - Transfer Out
37 - other reasons (moved away,
were inactive, etc)

ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP AS OF JUNE 5TH, 2018: $309 + 21 - 40 = 290$

(see next page for further explanation)

MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

*reflecting changes in the membership that occurred
between January 1st and December 31st, 2017*

The membership statistics are collected at the end of each calendar year and reflect the changes that took place during that year. They are then submitted to the National Office of the United Church of Christ in the form of the Yearbook Report, and appear in the UCC Yearbook.

Active Membership as of 12/31/2017 was 275 (see following table for breakdown).

<i>From the Yearbook Report Form:</i>	
Statistics for January 1 – December 31, 2017	
Active Membership as of 12/31/2016	304
Additions during year:	
Confirmation	6
Confession of Faith	0
Letters of Transfer	1
Reaffirmation of Faith	4
Losses during year:	
Death	5
Transfer	0
Other removals	35
Active Membership as of 12/31/2017	275

Note: The information listed on pages 29 and 30 reflect those changes that took place between June 8, 2017 and June 5, 2018, as opposed to the information above, which is for changes between January 1 and December 31, 2017.



Between January 1, 2018 and June 5, 2018 there have been the following changes in ACTIVE membership:

- + 13 New Members
- + 5 New Members (by Confirmation)
- 1 Death of Active Member
- 2 Removals

ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP AS OF JUNE 1ST, 2018 is $275 + 13 + 5 - 1 - 2 = 290$

This agrees with the number of Active Members as listed on page 30 and also with what is in our database, Servant Keeper, on 6/5/2018.



All are invited to attend the
Annual Meeting

of the Barrington Congregational Church, UCC on
SUNDAY, JUNE 10TH, 2018

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.

Barrington Congregational Church

United Church of Christ

461 County Road,

Barrington, RI 02806

Telephone: (401) 246-0111

e-mail address: office@bccucc.org

website: www.bccucc.org

Facebook page: www.facebook.com/bccucc



Senior Minister: The Rev. Dr. Dale H. Azevedo

Associate Minister The Rev. Brendan J. Curran

Organist/Choir Director: Marina Zabinski

Office Administrator: Christine Wallis

Financial Secretary: Patricia Stoddard

Christian Education Coordinator: Andrea Terni Bullard

Custodians: Paul Dzedzic, John Cordeiro