

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

2019 Annual Report



All church members are encouraged to attend the

ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, June 9th, 2019

in the Sanctuary

immediately after the 10 a.m. worship service

Child care will be provided

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WARRANT
for the 2019 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 9TH, 2019 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 2018 ANNUAL MEETING
of the BARRINGTON CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC
held JUNE 10TH, 2018

The annual meeting of the Barrington Congregational Church, UCC, took place in the sanctuary following the regular 10:00 a.m. worship service on Sunday, June 10th, 2018. The business transacted was as follows:

ARTICLE I: To call the meeting to order. Steve Peck, Moderator, called the meeting to order at 11:10 AM; Pat Cordeiro, Clerk, read the Warrant.

ARTICLE II: To receive and vote on the slate of nominees for officers, ministry teams, and delegates. A motion to accept the slate of nominees was made (Vici Belmont, Bernie Hawes); the vote to accept was unanimous. Steve Peck spoke about his four-year tenure as Moderator, with thanks to everyone.

ARTICLE III: To consider any other business that may properly come before the meeting. The Renewal Team made a report to the membership. Heather Williamson spoke for the Renewal Team, noting that the full report will be posted on the BCCUCC website and the Renewal Team welcomes any inquiries for more information. Seven Strategic Teams collected data and made reports to the Core Renewal Team, providing information for the report. As the Renewal Team continues its work over the summer, reviewing data collected, reports will be

made to the congregation. Heather noted the enthusiasm and hard work of all who have worked on the Renewal Team and thanked them for their contributions.

ARTICLE IV: To adjourn the meeting. A motion to adjourn the meeting (Larry Ashley, Dale Azevedo) was approved unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 11:33 AM as Steve Peck passed the keys to the church over to Kathy Sullivan as next Moderator.

Respectfully submitted: Pat Cordeiro, Clerk



MINUTES of the ANNUAL BUDGET MEETING
of the BARRINGTON CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC
held JANUARY 27TH, 2019

ARTICLE I: To call the meeting to order. The meeting was called to order at 10:51 AM Pat Cordeiro (Clerk) read the Warrant for the Annual Budget Meeting. Pat Cordeiro made a motion to have Steve Peck, Past Moderator, approved as Moderator Pro Tempore, as per the BCCUCC Bylaws, since Kathy Sullivan, Moderator, was not available for this meeting (Cordeiro, Tom Colby). The motion was approved unanimously.

ARTICLE II: To review and vote on the proposed church budget for Jan 1—Dec 31, 2019 Motion to accept the budget (Lynne Lehman, Dick McWhirter).

Tom Colby reviewed the budget. Income: pledge and investment income about the same as last year. Expenditures: proposed is a 2.5% increase for personnel; Buildings & Grounds anticipates probably higher energy costs; office expense is up – Treasurer is charged to try to reduce this item; other teams are trying to hold expenses same as last year;

Questions: Dale asked Tom to explain any items that did not make it into the budget. Tom noted items generated by the Renewal Team, such as consultancies; also Buildings & Grounds has items that must be addressed. Some of these will be answered by dedicated donations/ special gifts. Dale then rose to explain that some Renewal items come from the Renewal report that includes interest in formalizing BCCUCC's Public Relations efforts – how do we communicate our message outside these walls? We may need professional help beyond volunteers in order to do this. Expenditures tied to this would be a few hours a month only. Dale thanked those who have made special gifts.

Dick McWhirter asked that a church door that is rusty be fixed. Motion to accept the 2019 budget was approved unanimously.

ARTICLE III: To consider any other business that may properly come before the meeting No other business was brought forward.

ARTICLE IV: To adjourn the meeting. Motion was made to adjourn (Dale Azevedo, Clyde Slicker), the meeting was adjourned at 11:04 AM.

Respectfully submitted: *Pat Cordeiro*, Clerk

Reports From Our Ministers

Senior Minister

Dale Azevedo

This past program year has been a good one for BCCUCC. We have seen a number of initiatives begin or come to fruition. We continue to explore what it means to be “the church” in Barrington, RI, in the 21st century. And we are continuing to deepen our relationships with one another and God.

Looking at where we stand right now, I feel a renewed sense of vitality in our congregation. For those looking for hard data, our worship and church school numbers are up. We have welcomed several new families (not all have chosen to formally “join” the church) across the demographic spectrum and have, at times, seen double digit attendance in the nursery during worship. These are exciting things! In addition, there just seems to be a sense of enthusiasm about who we are and where we are headed. This, too, is exciting!

One of our primary accomplishments over the past year (18 months actually) is the completion of our renewal process. Working with a pair of consultants with the Center for Progressive Renewal, we discovered numerous helpful insights about ourselves and the broader community. Among our conclusions were the need to consider a capital campaign to address building safety, maintenance, and usability issues; the plan to hold quarterly visioning meetings among the leadership to explore ministry issues “from the balcony;” and the desire to create an Innovative Ministries Team that will help shepherd congregants with inspired ministries to bring them to reality. These, along with our many other insights, are helping to set our direction going forward. Be sure to read the included report from the Renewal Team for further details on this process and its results.

I would be remiss if I didn’t also address some of the challenges of this past year as well. The largest challenge we face is the changing role of church in our larger society. In recent decades we have discovered that the church of the mid-20th Century, the church we all grew up in or where born into, was an anomaly. The booming church growth and attendance witnessed through the better part of that century was not consistent with the prior centuries of American Christendom, nor are they representative of our modern culture. American culture, for a large part, has moved on and left “the church” behind. This reality is evident across denominational, theological, and even interfaith lines. It is our new reality. Sadly, faith communities are all struggling to catch up with this reality and understand what it means to be the church in today’s society.

The good news is that BCCUCC is well positioned, compared to many other churches, to make this transition. Despite our challenges, we are on relatively solid financial footing, we have a diverse age population, and we are moving forward intentionally into this world. By working together with God and listening to the movement of the Spirit around us, we hope to continue to be the Body of Christ, living out God’s mission, going forward for a long time.

Rev. Dr. Dale Azevedo

Associate Minister

Brendan Curran

“There is one body, but it has many parts. But all its many parts make up one body. It is the same with Christ. We were all baptized by one Holy Spirit. And so, we are formed into one body.” - 1 Corinthians 12:12-13

I am always inspired this time of the year looking back and seeing what we accomplished together. As we gather together every Sunday throughout the year, we place the Love of God at the center of our lives. We grow in that Love together. As we share our time and our gifts, we become the Body of Christ for each other, the surrounding community, and our world, making God’s Love felt in our part of the world.

We just celebrated the culmination of our church school year with an interactive and inter-generational Jubilation Sunday Service. We were able to create a beautiful mandala together by sharing our gifts. The mandala served as a good metaphor for our ministries together. It has been another meaningful and exciting year in the church school, working with our dedicated C.E. coordinator and team of volunteers. The nursery is full on Sunday mornings! Young families are joining the church and their children are being nurtured by our enriching church school programs. We continue to be on a trajectory of growth thanks to the work of many.

It has been another active year with the Youth Group. They met bi-monthly throughout the year with one of those meetings being a service initiative. The youth group provided opportunities for fun like mountain climbing trips and parties. As the body of Christ, they provided meals for the homeless, cards and company for people in need, and helped with the Loaves and Fishes ministry. Some members of our youth group went on a mission trip to the H.O.M.E. cooperative in Orland, Maine where they refurbished the co-op’s buildings. We also got to catch a glimpse of God’s beautiful creation together in Acadia National Park! It has been an enriching year of faith formation with the confirmation class. On the confirmation retreat this year, our 8 confirmands learned a song, “Lord Prepare me to be a Sanctuary,” that they still have not stopped singing! And that’s appropriate because throughout this year we have learned to be, “living sanctuaries,” of warmth and kindness for each other, as the Body of Christ.

Serving in my capacity as VP for Justice and Witness for the RI conference of the UCC has provided opportunities for connecting our church’s wider mission to the life of the church, and vice versa. As VP for justice and witness, I organized community water/eco-justice vigils and popular education programs in partnership with community groups working to end environmental injustice. Our mission and justice team hosted some of those groups. Our work together joined our church, the interfaith community in town, and the Pokanoket tribe in a beautiful round dance right in our Fellowship Hall. If that isn’t a picture of how we are one body with many parts, one body of Christ together, I don’t know what is. Forging community partnerships like this continues to be one of many ways that we make a meaningful and lasting impact on each other and make the Love and Justice of Jesus real in our corner of the world. I’m so grateful to witness the blessings that occur when we join one another on this path of Growing in the Love of Jesus and being the Body of Christ together.

Love,

Brendan

Reports From Church Officers

Moderator's Report

Kathleen Sullivan

In my first year as Church Moderator, I want to reflect upon the amazing commitment by so many. The Church Council is comprised of dedicated members of the church who spend hours of time within their respective committees and teams, constantly working to improve the function of this church community. I am awed by their love of this church community and willingness to roll up their sleeves and work through the challenges of keeping our church functioning – where it be decisions to about plumbing or navigating the best way to grow the endowment – these members quietly and humbly work to make this church the welcoming place it can be today and for years to come.

The council members represent the ministry teams and the work they achieve throughout the year, from the work of the many teams that make this church an exciting, inviting, and engaging place. We reflect on how to best promote our church to the wider community through social media and being a presence at community events, such as the Barrington Day of Caring. The benefits of this work can be seen in the number of new young faces at Children's time or during the lively discussions at coffee hour with new families.

The Council has had to wrestle with a few of today's challenges, such as church safety and rising anti-Semitism, and the group has done this in a reflective and thoughtful manner with leadership and coaching from Dale.

On an exciting note, the Council has been part of the Church Renewal process and has had reports and updates from the Renewal Team. We are now working carefully on the recommendations, exploring the facility and looking to the future for creative and innovative ways we can preserve and strengthen, not only the physical property, but our congregation. This is being done through policy change and physical updates. These are exciting times and it is wonderful to watch the seeds of the process taking root.

We are now implementing Visioning sessions which are open to all. These sessions are an opportunity to reflect on our purpose as a church community. Stay tuned as we look to the congregation for input into this valuable reflection on why we come together each week as community, as people of faith, as a beacon for others during such turbulent times.

I am humbled by the work of the Church Council members and grateful for the opportunity to be trusted with its leadership and guidance.



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.

Historian**Liz Rosenholm**

Three hundred years ago the White Church was a main focus of community affairs for the town of Barrington and we are becoming more involved again in the same activities. The Renewal Team has spawned several projects for community services.

Youth activities such as, the Mission trips, continue to educate our young people in the values of giving of themselves to others. We all look forward to their heartfelt reports on these activities.

The Church Historian’s job is to record all happenings of the church; however the Committee Chairs reports have done that already. Our Church office staff keeps accurate records of all concerns of the church in the community, therefore making this job easier.

Treasurer’s Report**John Loerke & Barbara Wuth****Operations**

Operating results were generally in line with expectations. Greater than estimated electricity and natural gas expenses contributed to a slight (\$1,514) operating deficit, a smidge above the (\$168) budget number, but largely achieving our balanced-budget objective.

The most significant change in 2018 compared to 2017 was the much higher Endowment income (covered below), offset by reduced Pledge and Gift income, higher Staff cost (insurance and pensions) and higher Buildings and Grounds (the aforementioned electricity and gas cost increases).

Capital Improvements

Major capital improvement highlights:

Automatic Doors	\$7,251
Driveway Seal-coating	3,300
Riverwalk Project Fencing	3,216
Hallway Painting	<u>2,902</u>
Total	\$16,669

Generous support from the congregation provided \$19,244 toward these projects and the annual transfer from the Operating Budget plus an unspent portion of the Maintenance budget added another \$20,000, leaving a \$22,575 surplus for the year.

Endowment

Following last year’s huge additions to the Endowment fund, donations in 2018 were a more modest \$2,240. During a lackluster year for financial markets, the Endowment’s investment performance matched the broader averages, declining roughly 5%.

The outsized recent additions to the Endowment enabled its contribution to 2018 operations to rise to \$77,000, representing 16% of total income. A year ago the Endowment added to \$48,000 to operations, 10% of total income.

Summary of Financial Activity and Financial Position for 2018

Statement of Activities for the Year Ended December 31, 2018

	Operations	Capital Improvements	Endowment ^{Note A}	Total
Revenues				
Pledges, Gifts and Offerings	\$374,442	\$39,244 ^{Note B}	\$6,848	\$420,534
Investment Income or Loss	78,187 ^{Note C}		-114,709	-36,522
Rentals	21,806			21,806
Other	<u>11,901</u>			<u>11,901</u>
Total Revenues	\$486,336	\$39,244	\$-107,861	\$417,719
Expenses				
Staff	\$328,550			\$328,550
Office	13,517			13,517
Church Life/Christian Education	13,566			13,566
Buildings & Grounds	76,179			76,179
Capital Improvement	20,000	16,669		36,669
Missions	<u>36,038</u>		<u>77,678</u> ^{Note D}	<u>113,716</u>
Total Expenses	\$487,850	\$16,669	\$77,878	\$582,197
Change in Net Assets	-1,514	22,575	-185,539	-164,478
Net Assets 12/31/17	<u>104,157</u>	<u>16,478</u>	<u>2,011,097</u>	<u>2,131,732</u>
Net Assets 12/31/18	\$102,643	\$39,053	\$1,825,558	\$1,967,254

Statement of Financial Position for the Year Ended December 31, 2018

Assets				
Cash and Investments	\$165,751	\$39,178	\$1,825,558	\$2,030,487
Receivables and Other Assets	<u>17,420</u>	<u>17,499</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>34,919</u>
Total Assets	\$183,171	\$56,677	\$1,825,558	\$2,065,406
Deferred Income & Liabilities				
Funds for Designated Purposes	80,528	17,624 ^{Note E}	0	98,152
Other	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>80,528</u>	<u>17,624</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>98,152</u>
Net Assets	\$102,643	\$39,053	\$1,825,558	\$1,967,254

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 \$77,000.
- D Includes disbursements to Operations Investment Income of \$77,000.
- E Consists of reserves against possible flood damage and property insurance deductible.

Auditor's Report

None submitted.

Special Reports

Church Renewal Team

Heather Williamson

Fall marked the Period of time when the Renewal Team was winding up its work and creating several working documents that were shared with the larger church community. We provided a Dynamic Plan, Press Release, and a video presentation to represent the work that has been accomplished.


At the February Church Council meeting the Renewal team presented a report that suggested two action items to allow us to explore how we can expand our outreach to the larger community. These ideas are being examined by Council and any results will be shared in the next few months. It is important to note that the Renewal Team has reached the stage in the work with the Center for Progressive Renewal when it is time to pass the baton on to the larger community of the church, those who attend our services, and perhaps bring in members of the East Bay community to build on our successes with mission and expand them.

From this point forward the hope is that we can create community of disciples as well as a community of members.

Respectfully Submitted,

Heather Williamson, Dale Azevedo, Larry Ashley, Tom Colby, Erik Ela, Marion Fodor, Helen Schall



	<p>Our Mission Statement 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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Reports From Our Ministry Teams

Building and Grounds Ministry Team

Lawrence Ashley

As a follow on to the Renewal Project, the second half 2018 and the first half of 2019 has been spent collecting data and obtaining estimates for the various building needs of our Sanctuary, Education Building, Fireside Parsonage, Nathaniel Parsonage and our Grounds. While our building exteriors have been maintained with ongoing work, the interiors of the buildings are showing wear and require attention. While some of the projects could be completed using regular budgetary funds, there are a number of sizable projects that will require alternative funding. As the list is completed, it will be submitted to Church Council by Building & Grounds for action.

Maintenance Update

From a maintenance/project perspective the River Walkway was completed with the addition of a new aluminum fence with gates. This fence replaces the chain link fence that was removed during the walkway project and will help to keep children from wandering outside the playground area. Additionally, the parking lot in front to of the Education Building and around the Sanctuary as well as the driveways at the two parsonages were sealed to extend their lives. The parking lot was also restriped as part of the work. The contractor noted that the driveway at the Nathaniel Drive Parsonage (Associate Minister's) was in poor shape and should be replaced.

Additionally, the two garage doors at the Fireside Parsonage (Senior Minister's) were replaced due the failure of the doors to open or close. Both systems were replaced due their age and along with the cost of on-going maintenance. The new systems also include door sensors that will prevent the door from closing if someone is in the way.

The condensate pump, which returns cold water from the steam heating system in the Sanctuary to the Boiler Room located in the Education Building failed and was replaced. As part of this project, the cold-water return pipe was also replaced. B & G will continue to monitor the piping system for a possible leak in the steam pipe system in the tunnel between the buildings.

Maintenance Planned

The next few months, following the planning and obtaining estimates phases, will see the beginning of work phases. In addition to mulching around the buildings, bushes around the Sanctuary will be trimmed and those on the north side will be removed as they are overgrown and contributing to the mildew problem. The Brick Façade of the Sanctuary will see the replacement of foundation bricks that are spalling (cracking and falling out) or require repointing.

Additionally, each entrance on the Education Building will see an upgrade of the lighting to brighter LEDs. This should help solve a long-standing problem with the dim lighting on the stairs. We'll also be replacing/improving the security system including the cameras in the Education Building.

The front and north sides of the Sanctuary will see a fresh coat of paint along with LED's replacing the broken BCC sign lights. We continue to seek estimates on replacing the side door and repair of the front doors, both of which require work and/or replacement.

From a Ground's perspective, we've consolidated our plowing and grass cutting with one landscaper who will also be putting down new mulch on the Church Grounds as well as at each of the parsonages. While we're always dependent on our volunteers there have just been some things that require a professional company to provide an assist with due to timing and size.

While the list of projects continues to grow, due to lack of funding B&G has decided to hold off on smaller projects such as the seawall bollards, the stone wall on the north side of the education building as well as replacing roof and repairs to the Carriage Shed.

Building and Grounds continue to be thankful to our custodians, Paul Dziejczak and John Cordeiro, for their continued dedication to the maintenance work which keeps our buildings clean and neat as well our volunteers who spend the time keeping the flower beds looking nice.

And a special Thank You to Jay Buckley and Steve Cipoletti who are stepping down after spending many years on the Building and Grounds Team. We are grateful for their service.

Chancel Ministry Team

Beth Buckley & Liz Rosenholm

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 their subsequent distribution. They are given 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 have been provided by Quality Fruitland Florist (IN BLOOM) in Seekonk. Members of the Chancel Team meet on the Saturday prior to the special holiday and arrange the flowers. The Thanksgiving arrangements are locally grown and fill a cornucopia at the altar table. The fresh fruit and vegetables used at Thanksgiving are donated to Tap-In. Any extra money from the Chancel Fund is used for anything that might enhance the worship service.

Chancel Team serves at Coffee Hour one month per year. We also help with the Soup Kitchen as scheduled. We are under the umbrella of the Deacons. We do not have regular meetings but stay in touch at Coffee Hour, through phone calls and emails.

Christian Education and Youth Ministries Team

Paul Roberti, Amy Barkat and Andrea Bullard

CEYM celebrated the start of our church school year on Homecoming Sunday with the theme “Mandalas: Being the Body of Christ Together”. Goodies from an ice cream truck added excitement to the morning. Other events during the year included an Advent Craft Fair, Lenten Lollapalooza, a pancake breakfast and the annual Easter Egg Hunt which was open to the community at large. The Team also supported the plan to bring “Pew Pals” into the sanctuary for the children. On Jubilation Sunday, CEYM celebrated our theme for the year with a special service that included having the congregation create a mandala. We also enjoyed ice cream treats and henna art at coffee hour.

CEYM continued to get the word out about our church community by handing out goodie bags to the children and “Be the Church” bags at the Christmas Eve service. The “Be the Church” bags are also being handed out at TAP-IN and at the East Bay Kid’s Clothes Swap. The Team will also have a presence at the 2019 AIDS Run/Walk for Life by handing out the bags and other BCCUCC “swag”.

We began our Church School year in September 2018 with increased numbers in the nursery and the Godly Play classroom. Our campaign to interest new families in discovering what we have to offer seems to be gradually working. Godly Play is geared toward PreK, Kindergarten and 1st graders. New families with young children are participating regularly and attendance has been strong. The Godly Players visited the meditation room several time this year. It was a nice way to enrich the program. We will do more of that next year and perhaps include the older grades. Our rotation model curriculum, Deep Blue (for 2nd, 3rd and 4th graders), remains popular with the students. They particularly enjoyed the cooking component. Low numbers in the 5th and 6th grades this year led to having those students join the Deep Blue group. Most of the 7th & 8th graders participated in the Our Whole Lives (OWL) program which met during church school time. On “non-OWL” Sundays they watched and then discussed the “nooma” DVD series by Rob Bell.

The OWL program (Our Whole Lives) started off with ten participants in 7th & 8th grades who met for ten, 3.25 - hour sessions over the year. We sponsored Kathy Sullivan and Carol Strakosch who went for training to become OWL facilitators. Attendance was strong and eight OWLers completed the program.

The Youth Service Trip went to HOME in Maine for four days. Fund raiser responsibilities were shared by participants and included two bake sales, a jazz concert (proceeds were shared with the Barrington High School) and a pancake breakfast that was sponsored by the CEYM.

The Confirmation class met regularly and went on a retreat to Craigville, MA in March. In April CEYM sponsored a workshop on body image for the Confirmands and other young women in the community. On June 2nd the eight Confirmands will become our newest church members.

This year there was one youth group that included children from six to twelfth grades. They met twice a month and enjoyed fellowship and service time. There was an average of six participants.

Looking ahead, “Class on the Grass” will be the Church School format for the month of June with activities that will involve all age groups. One of the activities will be assisting with coffee hour since the team is responsible for those duties during that month. The team is also responsible for the Soup Kitchen in October so the kiddos will help with that as well. Our last meeting before the summer break is June 9th. We will have our first meeting of the “year” at the end of August with our new team members in place. The Team will continue to support our Church School programs and to look for opportunities to share information about our vibrant church community. We look forward to an exciting 2019 – 2020 Church School year.

Deacons

Bernie Hawes

The 2018-2019 year ushered in two new Deacons to bring our count to 11.

Pat Stoddard and Carol Strakosch were installed on October 14 as the rest of the Deacons were rededicated. Both Pat and Carol contribute strong voices, working knowledge and the willingness to contribute to our team. The upcoming 2019-2020 year will be challenging as we are losing four Deacons: Stephanie Edwards, Jon Stabach, Abby Ashley and Susan Seader. We need to focus on placing four to five new Deacons as soon as possible.

Each of our monthly Deacons meetings opens with a devotional time which strengthens our spiritual trust and allows us to learn about each other.

Our Deacons Retreat was again held at Abby Ashley’s home on October 12 with a potluck dinner. We shared food and fellowship and were happy to welcome Carol and Pat to our group.

From the resources collected through the Deacons’ Fund each communion Sunday, we continue to help our neighbors in need with grocery gift cards. We also continue to support the Loaves and Fishes Rhode Island mission which our church now runs six times per year.

The Deacons have a strong role in the worship service, and provide other services as is our tradition:

- Serving communion the first Sunday of each month
- Assisting with baptisms
- Participating in the worship service when one of our ministers is away, or as needed
- Being the point of contact for church members in crisis if our ministers are unavailable
- Reading the Passion story/Last Supper at Maundy Thursday’s Tenebrae Service
- Overseeing the creation of Valentines and sending them to college students and homebound members
- At both Easter and Christmas time, delivering plants to and visiting with homebound members and those who have experienced a loss or a major health problem
- Serving at the soup kitchen
- Serving at coffee hour

While we face the challenge of populating the Deacons' roster with four to five new members in the upcoming year, we look forward to bringing in new perspectives and energy, and we look forward to strengthening our faith as we continue to work closely with Dale and Brendan.

Endowment Ministry Team

Kate Colby

The end of 2018 was difficult for investments and our investments were no exception. We ended 2018 with a total of \$1,803,419 under management; down from \$1,990,613. Of the 2018 total, \$103,449 are designated for specific use. On a more positive note, investments rebounded at the beginning of 2019 and by the end of February our total endowment was back above \$1.9 million.

The decrease in funds at the end of 2018 was due in part to preplanned distributions of \$77,000 for church operations and in part to negative returns from our managers. Rhode Island foundation had returns of -4.2%, while Rhode Island Conference's were -6.51% and Ocean State Incubator Fund's were -4.02%. All three funds were near or better than their benchmarks.

Among the endowment team's duties, is the determination of the rate of distribution from the funds and the approval of the final distribution amount for the budget. We are in the process of refining this formula to allow for a more timely and accurate calculation and a somewhat less volatile resulting budget value. Each year we also attend fund managers' annual investment reviews and present an annual report to council.

The endowment team has begun an outreach program, and to that end ran a few meetings for membership. The first meetings were designed to be conversations with members, to remind members that we have endowment funds, and to help the team understand what we might do to make endowment more relevant to our member's giving. We also sponsored an Estate Planning Workshop. We will continue to work toward holding regular events that remind members of the meaningful work our church is doing, and that giving to our Endowment Funds is a viable option to help finance those important efforts.

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

Finance Ministry Team

Tom Colby

Probably the most important accomplishment was the compilation, review and presentation to the congregation of the 2019 budget. Although we worked to get to a balanced budget, it proved too difficult. In light of this the finance team is starting to look ways to improve financial sustainability.

Tom Colby, Chair,

Steve Fodor, Sam Sylvester

and Co-Treasurers John Loerke and Barbara Wuth

2019 Operations Budget *

BCCUCC budget 2019

1	Income	
2	Pledges	
3	Pledges	368,000
4	Prior year	500
5	Shrinkage	<u>-10,000</u>
6	Total Pledges	<u>358,500</u>
7	Offerings and Gifts	18,300
8	Investment income	79,900
9	Rental income	<u>21,730</u>
10	Total Unrestricted Income	<u>478,430</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>488,380</u>
15	Expense	
16	Personnel	<u>334,486</u>
17	Buildings & Grounds	
18	Capital	17,500
19	C&E building	40,400
20	Parsonages	15,750
21	Insurance	<u>22,838</u>
22	Total Buildings & Grounds	<u>96,488</u>
23	Office	<u>14,700</u>
24	Church Life	
25	Christian Education	4,800
26	Chancel	4,000
27	Other teams	<u>7,350</u>
28	Total Church life	<u>16,150</u>
29	Mission-General Funds	
30	RICUCC	24,200
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>28,850</u>
35	Total Expense	<u>490,674</u>
36	Surplus/-deficit	<u><u>-2,293</u></u>

Lay Visitation Ministry 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 Monday of the month from September thru June at 11a.m. in the Library.

Cindy Racinski

Lay Visitation Team Member

Membership Ministry Team

Elizabeth Azevedo

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

The membership ministry organizes greeters for every Sunday service during the year.

Our big fall project was the creation of new welcome folders that are now available in several locations on the church campus for any visitors interested in learning more about our church and congregation. All the included documents were updated to reflect current programs, ministries and contact information.

The welcome folders were finalized and displayed for the first week of Advent and within a short time, the team needed to replenish the displays. More folders were taken by visitors within the first month than during all the previous year. Several response cards have now been received and were followed up by the appropriate church staff.

In addition, we maintain a Welcome Table in Fellowship Hall where information is available about our church.

The team is involved in hosting new members as they join the church family. This involves 2 New Member Sundays and Confirmation Sunday. Cake, boutonnieres and signing the official membership book are part of our welcoming traditions in addition to smiles and welcoming faces. Confirmands and their families are invited to a continental breakfast before the worship service.

Each year we host a Senior Luncheon in the Fellowship Hall during early December. About 45 senior adults attended. A Christmas Carol sing-along was led by Christine Wallis on piano. We then help the Women of Faith host a Ladies' Luncheon in the Fellowship Hall during the late Spring.

One of the biggest tasks of the membership ministry team is working through the nominations process for both church council and the church's ministry teams. After determining what spots are open, the process of recruiting council officers requires many phone conversations, emails and apologies. At this point, the team is presenting an incomplete slate for church council as the team has been unable to find willing members to serve. There are also many open positions on ministry teams due to the same issue.

As the church moves through the coming year, the membership team encourages the congregation to consider which of their time and talents they are willing to share.

Mission and Justice Ministry Team

Leslie Peck

In the spirit of the church, the Mission & Justice Committee (M&J) has kept informed of the current events on a local, national and global level with an eye on issues and activities in which we felt we could make an impact - assisting those in need, supporting our youth and helping to bring awareness to environmental causes.

Mission & Justice is not only a group that takes action when feasible, but is also used for education purposes and discussion on the decisions that influence the world around us. Members have had lively conversations on such topics as human rights, climate change and sustainability, politics, government policies both locally and nationally, hunger and poverty, reproductive rights and any other topics that were worth noting.

With regard to education of the congregation and public, M&J hosted speakers, which included:

- Holocaust survivor and author, Andreas Algave, who wrote 600 Days of Hiding presented by the East Bay Citizens for Peace and co-sponsored by Temple Habonim
- Christine Cabrera who spoke for the Water is Life Rhode Island
- Marlene Davis who spoke on behalf of The Birthing Center
- Ed Fitzpatrick, Former Providence Journal Columnist speaking about First Amendment Rights, co-sponsored by East Bay Citizens for Peace
- Caroline Morgan, activist and BCC UCC member, spoke on behalf of the Womxn Project bringing awareness to reproductive rights and the bills being presented to Congress

Organizations M&J has supported with fundraisers, activities or sponsorship included:

- Dorcas International Institute (financial contribution) – providing education, legal and social services to immigrants and refugees in RI
- Mobil Loaves & Fishes (financial contribution and mittens/hats) – food truck providing meals to homeless and low income individuals in RI
- The Barrington Farm School (financial contribution and awareness dinner) – tuition free educational resource for students of all ages to learn about farming, food and environment
- Our Faith, Our Vote, Our Voice (education at coffee hour) – non-partisan movement providing information and activating Christians to vote

- Barrington Interfaith Partners (co-sponsored events) – Coalition of diverse religious partners addressing the needs of the local community
- The Womxns Project – a RI non-profit focused on building a strong movement to further human rights by using art and activism
- TapIn (Thanksgiving Food Drive) – Barrington non-profit offering rides to doctor’s appointments for senior citizens and food assistance
- International Day of Peace Recognition – celebrating the universal declaration of Human Rights – The Right to Peace
- The Women’s Resource Center (Christmas Giving Tree) – Leading domestic violence prevention through the empowerment of individuals by providing advocacy, education and support services
- Bread for the World’s Offering of Letters – offering letters to Congress asking to accelerate progress toward ending hunger and increase funding for nutrition programs
- BCC UCC Youth Mission Trip to H.O.M.E. – Fundraising to help offset costs of trip and collecting toiletries and other items for the H.O.M.E. population. This organization Serves first those who suffer the most, keeping and enhancing life for low-income and homeless families
- Hosted a BHS Jazz Christmas Concert Fundraiser for BCC UCC Youth Ministry
- Park Place UCC Soup Kitchen – donated a meal and served the homeless and low income
- Gun Violence Awareness Month (June) – we will be illuminating the church steeple in orange to help bring awareness to gun violence and need for tighter regulation
- Letters to Congressional Leaders (on-going) – requests to bring awareness to climate change and necessary actions to reverse its effects
- Ramadan Signage in front of BCC – bring awareness to the inclusivity of the UCC in wishing the Muslim community well during Ramadan

With regard to the budget, M&J uses its discretion in determining the recipients and donation amounts, trying to exercise careful judgment and sensitivity to important issues when making a financial contribution.

Financial donations were made to:

- Birthing Center, Newport Hospital - \$75
- The Womxn Project - \$75
- Land & Water Sovereignty Campaign - \$75
- RI State Council of Churches - \$200
- Mathewson Street Church Ministries - \$150
- Dorcas International Institute of RI - \$150
- Pawtucket Soup Kitchen - \$150
- Mobile Loaves & Fishes - \$150
- Barrington Farm School - \$150
- TapIn - \$150
- BCC UCC Mission Trip Fund - \$271.44

Music Ministry Team

Patricia Stoddard

The Music Ministry is an essential part of the worship life of our church. For those that participate, it is both a musical and spiritual experience. In addition, we hope that the musical offerings lend additional spiritual context to the worship service for the congregation. The Holy Spirit is at work when the scripture, the reflection and the musical selections complement one another in the delivery of the weekly message.

Organist and Choir Director Marina Zabinski continues to amaze us with her musical skill. She is the spiritual leader and teacher for the vocal choirs. The choir sings every Sunday from early September through the 3rd Sunday in June. The highlight for the year was presenting a moving Christmas Cantata during Advent, accompanied by a guest musician and several congregation members as musicians and readers. They also presented special anthems for Christmas Eve, Easter and Choir Celebration Sunday.

The Sing and Celebrate Choir, directed by Kate Colby, participated in worship services during the year; somewhat unpredictable participation necessitates flexibility which Kate has ably handled. Kate and the choir bring a different perspective and energy to worship, so important to enhancing the worship experience.

Additional offerings from church members and friends complement the weekly offerings. The summer is a particularly nice time for solo or small group offerings.

The congregation is invited to be in touch with Marina with any musical 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.

Staff Parish Relations Team

Marion Fodor

The SPRT is responsible for facilitating communications and fostering relationships of trust and understanding among our ministers, our staff and members of the congregation. We are required to meet quarterly but are always available to provide a forum for the church membership, ministers, and staff to discuss all aspects relevant to staff-parish relationships. The SPRT reports to the Church Council.

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 will have met four times this year to listen to and support Dale and Brendan in their ministries and the goals that they have given us.

The SPRT also oversees the personnel policies of the church. This year we have established a subcommittee to review the church's personnel handbook. The handbook is still under re-vision. In May and June we manage the church's evaluation process conducted by the relevant church bodies as established in the Bylaws.

Stewardship Ministry Team

Bill Block

In 2019 the Stewardship Ministry Team made some modifications to the previously utilized New Consecration Sunday Stewardship Program. The Team of Bill Block, Michael Collins, and Pat Stoddard, with Dale's support, modified the program to reflect a more personal approach, incorporating ideas we learned during the church renewal process. 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."

121 Giving Cards were received prior to the budget meeting, totaling \$ 367,958.

Analysis of the financial commitments includes:

New commitments – 15 – 12% of the total

Commitments with increase over 2018 – 42 – 35% of the total [9.8% increase vs. 2018]

Commitments with same amount as 2018 – 51 – 42% of the total

Commitments with decrease from 2018 – 13 – 11% of the total [39% decrease vs. 2018]

Lost commitments due to attrition & other factors - 17

Two additional pledges were received and 1 pledge was increased after the budget meeting. Given all of the factors noted above, the commitment total was essentially flat from 2018 to 2019.

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

Ushering Ministry Team

Tom Colby

The Ushering Ministry team has 13 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 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 reviewed best practice and the entire ushering team has been trained based on this information.

2019 - 2020 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.



Office	Term Expires	Year#	Office	Term Expires	Year#
MODERATOR			AUDITOR		
Kathy Sullivan	2020	2		2020	1
CLERK			CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS AT LARGE (2)		
	2020	1	Cheryl Muth	2020	3
CO-TREASURERS			Jane Tonn	2020	2
John Loerke	2020	8	DELEGATES TO TRI-CONFERENCE		
Barbara Wuth	2020	3	<i>To be determined at a later date, as we become part of the Tri-Conference on January 1st, 2020</i>		
HISTORIAN					
Liz Rosenholm	2020	2			

MINISTRY TEAMS

Term Expires

DEACONS (10 - 12)

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

Chris Brady	2020	2 nd Term
Bernie Hawes	2020	
Kim Zeleznik	2020	
*	2020	
Joe Judge	2021	2 nd Term
Patricia Stoddard	2021	
Carol Strakosch	2021	
*	2021	
Steve Fodor	2022	
*	2022	
*	2022	
*	2022	

Term Expires Year#

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS MINISTRY TEAM (8)

Louise House	2020	6
Paula Rooks	2020	5
Larry Ashley	2020	3
Sue Terhune	2020	2
Sim Hawes	2020	2
Paul Dennis	2021	1
*	2021	
*	2021	

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

Kathy Sullivan	2020	4
Paul Roberti	2020	2
Greg Voigt	2020	2
Cathleen Joachim	2021	1
Kristen Westmoreland	2021	1
*	2021	
* (youth)	2021	1

Term Expires Year#

ENDOWMENT MINISTRY TEAM (4-6)

Bob Mason	2020	6
Kate Colby	2020	4
Dick McWhirter	2020	2
Lynne Lehman	2020	2
Seth Forman	2021	1
*	2021	

FINANCE MINISTRY TEAM (4-6)

Tom Colby	2020	6
Sam Sylvester	2020	4
Steve Fodor	2020	2
*	2021	

MEMBERSHIP MINISTRY TEAM (8)

Liz White	2020	4
Libardo DeLaTorre	2020	3
Elizabeth Azevedo	2020	2
Wendy Forman	2020	2
*	2021	
*	2021	
*	2021	
*	2021	

MISSION and JUSTICE MINISTRY TEAM (4)

Helen Schall	2020	2
Leslie Peck	2020	3
Nancy Arena	2020	2
Susan Rotblat-Walker	2020	2
Caroline Morgan	2020	2
Seth Forman	2021	1
Bernie Bowdoin	2021	1

DEACONS SUBGROUPS:

Term Expires Year#
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

CHANCEL TEAM (4)

Bethia Rosner
Liz Rosenholm
Cindy Racinski
Beth Buckley
Jen Melker

STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY TEAM (5)

Bill Block	2020	4
Michael Collins	2020	2
Abby Ashley	2020	1
*	2021	
*	2021	

MUSIC TEAM (2)

Pat Stoddard
Heather Williamson

USHER TEAM (2)

Bethia Rosner
Tom Colby

LAY VISITATION TEAM

This is a non-elected group of people.

Kathy Block
George Bolton
Rose Marie Bolton
Joan Miller
Cheryl Muth
Cindy Racinski
Helen Schall
Clyde Slicker
Miriam Duvel



REPRESENTATION AT RI CONFERENCE

The following individuals from Barrington Congregational Church, UCC, are currently serving in the capacity indicated:

RI CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST (RICUCC)

Rev. Dale Azevedo Board Member-at-Large, Convener of the RI Ministers' Association
Rev. Brendan Curran VP of Justice and Witness

FROM THE CHURCH RECORDS

June 1st, 2018 – May 18th, 2019

This report covers the approx. 12-month period from the beginning of June 2018 through mid-May, 2019. The categories shown are also requested each December for the United Church of Christ Yearbook Report.

NEW MEMBERS (6)

11/18/18

Erik Sheets
Maggie Slane
Stephen Duvel
Miriam Duvel

5/12/19

Lynda Lupis
Gloria Hwang-Forzano

CONFIRMATIONS (0)

The 2018 Confirmation occurred in mid May 2018 so was included in last year's (2018) Annual Report.

Confirmation Sunday is June 2nd, 2019 which is after the period for this report. The list of 2019 Confirmations will therefore appear in next year's (2020) Annual Report.

MARRIAGES (1)

Kathleen Mahoney Dwyer and Eric Joseph Yablonski

BAPTISMS

Infants and Children (6)

Rory Hart Imhoff
Owen Clark Fernandez
Sophia Hye-Jin Forzano
Daniel Lemos Jr
James Gifford Horvet
Vivian Lorraine Peters

Adult (1)

Gloria Hwang-Forzano

DEATHS

Active Members (3)

Sheila R. Hutton
Heather MacQuattie Sugg
Jean Parker Stover

Others (2)

Marion Primiano
Margaret Marie Bjork Swenson

◇

ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP AS OF JUNE 1, 2018 was 290

Between June 1, 2018 and May 18, 2019 the following changes occurred:

Additions to Active Membership (13)

0 - Confirmation

6- New Members

7 - Return to Active Membership

Losses to Active Membership (5)

4 - Death

0 - Transfer Out

1 - other reasons (moved away,
were inactive, etc)

ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP AS OF MAY 18, 2019: $290 + 13 - 5 = 298$

(see below for further explanation)



Membership Statistics

reflecting changes in the membership that occurred between Jan 1st and Dec 31st, 2018

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 12/31/2018 was 296 (see following table for breakdown).

<i>From the Yearbook Report Form:</i>	
Statistics for January 1 – December 31, 2018	
Active Membership as of 12/31/2017	275
Additions during year:	
Confirmation	5
Confession of Faith	1
Letters of Transfer	5
Reaffirmation of Faith	13
Losses during year:	
Death	3
Transfer	0
Other removals	0
Active Membership as of 12/31/2018	296

Note: The information listed on pages 23 and 24 reflect those changes that took place between June 1, 2018 and May 18, 2019, as opposed to the information directly above, which is for changes between January 1 and December 31, 2018.

Between January 1, 2019 and May 18, 2019 there were the following changes in ACTIVE membership:

- + 2 New Members
- + 0 New Members (by Confirmation)
- + 1 Return to Active Membership
- 1 Death of Active Member
- 0 Removals

ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP AS OF MAY 18, 2019 is $296 + 2 + 1 - 1 = 298$

A Reminder....

All are invited to attend the
ANNUAL MEETING
of the Barrington Congregational Church, UCC on
Sunday, June 9th, 2019
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 Dziedzic, John Cordeiro