

We are here together...

Grace and peace to you all, members of Barre Congregational Church. I am so grateful for the opportunity to join you as we share in the life of the congregation.

It has been an honor to work with you during the last year, when you were facing real challenging issues. I came to know many of you, and have grown to love you as a congregation.

When the deacons asked me to preach during Advent, I was honored, and felt blessed as we worshipped together and continued the journey through Lent and Easter. It was through much prayer and discernment that I agreed to accept the invitation to serve as Pastor here at Barre Congregational Church.

My understanding of pastoral ministry was developed and shaped early on in my home church in South Africa, by pastors who strongly believed in the spiritual growth and vitality of church life. That involved getting to know the congregation, creating vibrant worship experiences, providing opportunities for children and youth to grow and love God, encouraging deacons and elders to reach out and work with the wider congregation and committee leaders to engage members in creative ways. I valued being part of such a vibrant congregation, where I grew spiritually and learned so much about church life.

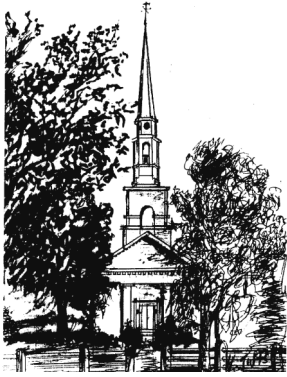
Hearing God's call to ministry at the tender age of 18, I became the first woman in the Dutch Reformed Mission Church in South Africa to be accepted into seminary, back in 1980. My six years in seminary was an important, formative time in my life, both theologically and practically, learning about preaching, pastoral ministry, conducting bible studies and so forth. During seminary, we were given many opportunities to be involved in our local congregations. We were also called to ask deep questions about God's involvement in our society during tumultuous times in South Africa. This was truly life-changing and theology took on a deeper and fuller meaning. We learned about the plight of Christ for those who suffer, for the poor, and for the outcast.

After seminary, when I did not receive a call to a local congregation because our church was not yet ready to ordain women, I found new directions in ministry, working in the field of conflict transformation and reconciliation, learning from leaders such as former President Nelson Mandela and Archbishop Desmond Tutu how to bring people together, and help them forgive, and be reconciled with, one another in a country bitterly and violently divided by conflicts over apartheid (racial segregation). I continued my involvement in the church throughout the years, expanding my ministry to include the ministry of reconciliation. Then, eighteen years ago, I brought those skills and experiences to the United States where I have worked in many different settings and institutions, including churches, to bring about peace and reconciliation. I came to learn that God leads us in ways we never imagined possible—in my case, for example, that pastoral ministry and the ministry of reconciliation can and should be part and parcel of the same work. I am constantly reminded that Christ is the One who teaches us to minister and to be reconciled with one another.

My hope is that we will have a blessed experience together, and that we will love one another as Christ would want us to. I hope that we will come together in worship and common ministry, that we will inspire one another in all we do, and that you will be inspired by my being here and working with you.

May God help us all.

In peace *Pastor Margaret*



Barre Congregational Roof Repair Restoration Project

Over the last several years the church committee has been working on restoring Sunday school. The classrooms were done by Emma Phillips and her father.

The windows were replaced and the Ladies' Parlor (the Upper Room) has been completely remodeled, thanks to the hard work and dedication of Shirley Lewis.

We have replaced the furnace and put in a well. We are upgrading the water pressure system this summer. Thanks to a generous donation from Women's Fellowship.

The chapel phase was completed with the help of Women's Fellowship.

Our current restoration phase is the **ROOF**. We need to replace the roof over the Sanctuary and the back of the church. We have a leak that started in the balcony and is spreading into the Sanctuary. We have lost many shingles from the back of the church during the early spring storms.

Now is the time to replace the roof to protect our lovely church and prevent further damage.

We have a firm proposal from TipTop Roofers for \$15,000.00. To date we have raised \$6,500.00. We will borrow \$8,500.00 from our savings, **BUT we must pay this back**. If we all work together we can replace this money in three years. The monthly cost over three years would be \$236.11/month.

IF twenty family units pledged, the cost per unit would be \$11.80/month or \$425.00 over three years.

However, any donation you can make will be greatly appreciated.

We need to work together to help keep our beautiful church a safe and welcoming place to worship for generations to come.

Yours in Christ.

Barre Congregational Church Committee

Ann Clark, chair, Sarah Dyer, Adam Knipe, Tom Posey, Scott Bryant



**Please Return to the Barre Congregational Church,
P.O Box 936, Barre, MA 01005**

NAME: _____

Yes, I would like to help with the roofing.

☐

One donation of \$425.00

☐

One donation once a year for 3 years of \$142.00

☐

Monthly donation for 3 years of \$11.80

☐

Other donation _____

☐

No, I can't help at this time

Food Pantry

Donations have been very low. Please try to donate the following items this month:

- canned beans
- baked beans
- canned pasta with meat sauce (like Chef Boyardee)
- cold cereal
- fruit juices are always welcome

We would like to thank those of you who donate to the food pantry and to those of you who volunteer.

Barre Food Pantry volunteer opportunity.

The Barre Food Pantry at the Barre Congregational Church on the common in Barre center welcomes volunteers 9:00 am-10:00 am and or 6:30 pm and 8:30 pm on the Tuesday before distribution which will be **July 11th this month**. Volunteers are needed to help set up the room and sort, date and pre-bag donated groceries for free distribution the next day.

A third opportunity to volunteer is from 9:30 am to 12:00 noon on the day of distribution which will be **Wednesday, July 12th**, to help staff the tables, help clients "shop" the food bank offerings and help carry groceries to clients' cars.

Note: We once again need your donations of clean, empty egg cartons. The eggs we purchase each month for distribution to our clients come in bulk. Our volunteers repackage them into dozen-egg cartons for our clients. Our supply has run very low so we need your donation of re-usable cartons. You may leave cartons at our food drop-off boxes at the Barre Senior Center, The Woods Memorial Library, The Barre Health Center or the Barre Congregational Church. For additional information call Sonja @ (978) 355-6921 or Chuck @ (978) 355-6463.

Thank you Volunteers

On Wednesday, June 14th after the regular monthly distribution of the Barre Food Pantry the volunteers said thank you to two long time volunteers, Barbara Menard and Herb Holmes both who have volunteered at the Food Pantry since its beginning at the Episcopal Church in South Barre. A pot luck was shared by all the volunteers and it was decided that each year in June there will be a thank you luncheon held to thank all of those who have helped during the year at the Food Pantry.

Again , thank you Herb and Barbara!!!!

Community Friendship Supper

Hamburgers and Hotdogs

Everyone is welcome!

Bring a friend and or family members.

Thursday, July 20, 2017

Served from 5:30 pm –6:30 pm

A free will offering may be given.

The offering is used by the Mission's Committee for those in need in our church and community.

Missions Committee

The Missions Committee has assembled 24 hygiene kits. Janice has left over items and will purchase goods to complete about 12 more. They were also able to complete two clean up buckets.

The Hygiene Kits and the clean up buckets will be sent to Church World Services.

What is Church World Service? Church World Service was born in 1946, in the aftermath of World War II. Seventeen denominations came together to form an agency "to do in partnership what none of us could hope to do as well alone." The mission: Feed the hungry, clothe the naked, heal the sick, comfort the aged, shelter the homeless.

Thanks to those who donated and to the Missions Committee for their work in this area.

From the Deacons

The deacons are planning services for the summer. Charlie Page has offered to do the first Sunday in July and August. Deb Page will help us out also. Sue Musnicki is planning on July 16. We are working with Margaret Keyser to visit members and help her to get to know our church and it's members. Margaret is at the church or visiting one day a week. If you would like to meet with her please call the church and make an appointment.

Margaret will be preaching the last two Sundays of each month, please come and worship with us.

Mark Your Calendars the Church Supper Schedule for the Fall has been Announced!!

Saturday, September 23, 2017 at 5:30 pm -
Roast Beef Dinner

Saturday, October 28, 2017 at 5:30 pm—
Baked Stuffed Chicken Dinner

Saturday, November 16, 2017 5:30 pm—
Roast Pork Dinner

All dinners will be \$12.00 for Adults and
\$5.00 for children under 12

FINANCIAL PAGE

Collector's Report

Loose	302.00
Current	4,317.00
Missions	186.00
Discretionary Fund	2.00
Beautification Fund In memory of Bob	
Friendship Supper	17.00
Thursday AA	50.00
UBS	596.15
Mutual Insurance	205.00
Mutual Insurance	350.00
NA Tuesday	20.00
Barre Women's Club Rent	180.00
McManus Flower Bill	38.00
For AA Liability	185.00
Total	\$6,582.15

What Is Our Purpose?

During her sermon, Margaret asked the question, "What is our purpose?" That statement alone was plenty of food for thought. As God's stewards, what is our purpose? The answer is between you & God. As good stewards of the faith, take time with God and follow where He leads.

Treasurer's Report Expenses 1/1/17—6/30/17

Payroll	26,720.00
Office Supplies	217.00
Telephone & Internet	1,276.00
Postage	44.00
Diaconate	0.00
General Maintenance	3,138.00
Stewardship	0.00
Music	0.00
Christian Ed	0.00
Misc	50.00
Flowers	0.00
Sewer	200.00
Water	225.00
Heat & Gas	1,000.00
Electricity	1,449.00
Insurance	5,997.00
Snow Removal	2,235.00
Piano / Organ	355.00
Trash Pickup	113.00
Alarm	480.00
TOTAL	\$43,499.00

INCOME	
Loose	3,092.00
Pledges	28,310.00
Other	3,891.00
Investment Income	7,826.00
Total	\$43,119.00

Deficit: (\$380)

Average Weekly Giving: \$1,208

Weekly Giving Needed to meet budget \$1,612

July 2017

Be still, and know that I am God....~Psalm 46:10

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 7:00 AA
2 9:30 Service/ Communion/ Charlie Page, preaching	3	4 	5 9-1 Wendy's hours	6 9-1 Wendy's hours 7:00AA	7	8 7:00 AA
9 9:30 Service	10	11 9:00 Food Pantry set-up 6:00 Food Pantry set-up 7:00 NA	12 9-1 Wendy's hours 10-12 Food Pantry 6:30 Church Committee & Diaconate Meeting	13 9-1 Wendy's hours 7:00 AA	14	15 5:30 AA Cookout
16 9:30 Service/ Sue Musnicki, leading the service	17	18 7:00 NA	19 9-1 Wendy's hours	20 9-1 Wendy's hours 5:30 Com- munity Friendship Supper 7:00 AA	21 Last Day of School	22 7:00 AA
23 9:30 Service/ Pastor Marga- ret Keyset, preaching	24	25 7:00 NA	26 9-1 Wendy's hours	26 9-1 Wendy's hours 7:00 AA	28	29
30 9:30 Service/ Pastor Marga- ret Keyser, preaching	31					

Starting July 1st—September 5th Wendy will not be in the office on Tuesdays.

Wendy will be checking the phone so please leave a message.

Wendy will be on vacation the week of September 10th.

Daily Lectionary Scripture References July 2017 (Year A)

Sat., July 1

Psalm 13
Genesis 26:23-25
Luke 17:1-4

Sun., July 2

Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Genesis 22:1-14
Psalm 13
Romans 6:12-23
Matthew 10:40-42

Mon., July 3

Psalm 47
Genesis 22:15-18
1 Thessalonians 4:9-12

Tues., July 4

Psalm 47
1 Kings 18:36-39
1 John 4:1-6

Wed., July 5

Psalm 47
Isaiah 51:1-3
Matthew 11:20-24

Thurs., July 6

Psalm 45:10-17
Genesis 25:19-27
Romans 7:1-6

Fri., July 7

Psalm 45:10-17
Genesis 27:1-17
Romans 7:7-20

Sat., July 8

Psalm 45:10-17
Genesis 27:18-29
Luke 10:21-24

Sun., July 9

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67
Psalm 45:10-17 or Song of Solomon 2:8-13
Romans 7:15-25a
Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

Mon., July 10

Song of Solomon 2:8-13
Genesis 27:30-46
Romans 1:18-25

Tues., July 11

Song of Solomon 2:8-13
Genesis 29:1-14
Romans 3:1-8

Wed., July 12

Song of Solomon 2:8-13
Genesis 29:31-35
John 13:1-17

Thurs., July 13

Psalm 119:105-112
Exodus 3:1-6
Romans 2:12-16

Fri., July 14

Psalm 119:105-112
Deuteronomy 32:1-10
Romans 15:14-21

Sat., July 15

Psalm 119:105-112
Isaiah 2:1-4
John 12:44-50

Sun., July 16

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Genesis 25:19-34
Psalm 119:105-112
Romans 8:1-11
Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

Mon., July 17

Psalm 142
Micah 1:1-5
1 Thessalonians 4:1-8

Tues., July 18

Psalm 142
Jeremiah 49:7-11
Ephesians 4:17-5:2

Wed., July 19

Psalm 142
Obadiah 15-21
Matthew 13:10-17

Thurs., July 20

Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24
Isaiah 44:1-5
Hebrews 2:1-9

Fri., July 21

Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24
Ezekiel 39:21-29
Hebrews 6:13-20

Sat., July 22

Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24
Exodus 14:9-25
Matthew 7:15-20

Sun., July 23

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Genesis 28:10-19a
Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24
Romans 8:12-25
Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

Mon., July 24

Psalm 139:13-18
Genesis 32:3-21
Revelation 14:12-20

Tues., July 25

Psalm 139:13-18
Genesis 33:1-17
Galatians 4:21-5:1

Wed., July 26

Psalm 139:13-18
Genesis 35:16-29
Matthew 12:15-21

Thurs., July 27

Psalm 105:1-11, 45b
Genesis 29:1-8
1 Corinthians 4:14-20

Fri., July 28

Psalm 105:1-11, 45b
Genesis 29:9-14
Acts 7:44-53

Sat., July 29

Psalm 105:1-11, 45b
Genesis 29:31-30:24
Matthew 12:38-42

Sun., July 30

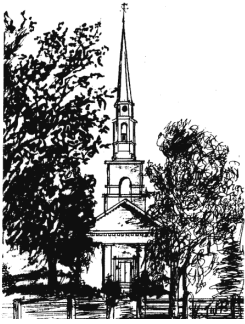
Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Genesis 29:15-28
Psalm 105:1-11, 45b or Psalm 128
Romans 8:26-39
Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

Mon., July 31

Psalm 65:8-13
Genesis 30:25-36
James 3:13-18



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Barre Congregational Church

P.O. Box 936

Barre, MA 01005

*The world needs the distinct values, vision
and voice of the United Church of Christ–
Continuing Testament.*

Extravagant Welcome. Changing Lives.