

Spire

Barre Congregational Church, UCC

Pastor – Margaret Keyser

Organist – Deborah Page

Choir Director – Karla Peterson & Scott Bryant

Sexton – Clark Family

Office Manager – Wendy Isgro

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2018

Our seasons of life and loss...

The last three weeks have been a lovely experience for me and my husband as we witnessed the coming-to-life of three little Robins right outside our living room window. I was in total awe one morning when I opened the window and saw the most beautiful blue eggs in the neatest looking nest. Since then I've been following the process of the mother brooding over her eggs, feeding them after they were born, seeing them grow before they will soon leave the nest to fly. What an incredible experience to be part of...

There are signs of life and growth everywhere during this season of Spring. Spring brings with it a beauty of subtle, fresh colors, comfortable air, and the invitation to be joyful and grateful for life. This gift of Spring keeps us literally grounded in ways other seasons don't, as we tend to the soil... cleaning up, tilling, seeding and planting...all signs of life to come.

We enjoy Summer, because it brings maturity and fullness to the vegetation, and gives us the freshness of our harvest. It also brings us outside more, to enjoy the warmth of the sun, either at the beach or up in the mountains where we breathe in the fresh air and marvel at the beautiful waterfalls; or simply enjoying a barbecue outside in the backyard.

Many also enjoy the Fall and Winter seasons with its awesome colors and exquisite beauty of snow. While we enjoy these two seasons, we also know that Fall brings changes to the vegetation...moving it from growth to dormancy. Things quiet down for many, moving to the indoors, seeking warmth as the days get shorter and darker earlier.

I have seen the beauty of life in our congregation, when I look into the eyes of our children, and hear their voices when they sing, or the vibrant conversations and laughter during coffee hour, or suppers. We have seen births, and we rejoice in birthdays and anniversaries.

The process of life and growth naturally leads to the season of dormancy, or the closing of a chapter in our lives and the lives of our loved ones as well. We have seen some of us getting injured, falling ill, becoming more home bound, or moving into rehabilitation facilities, and we have, sadly, seen the loss of life as well.

May we always remember that God is with us during every season, and that we too have been given the gift of being present with those whose experience of loss and sorrow brought them indoors, removed from the vibrancy of life. My prayer is that we will be a presence they may need, a presence of comfort and peace.

May God sustain us during our seasons of loss and may we find the strength to look outside our windows to see the beauty and blessings of life right there.

Peace and blessings to all,

Pastor Margaret

COMMUNITY FRIENDSHIP SUPPER

Mexican Meal

Everyone is welcome!

Bring a friend and or family members.

Thursday, June 21, 2018

5:30 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.

FOOD PANTRY

A reminder the Food Pantry is always looking for volunteers. You can volunteer on the Tuesday before the Food Pantry, Tuesday, May 8th from 9-11 or evening 6:30 and or Wednesday, May 9th from 9:30—noon, distribution day. If you have any questions please call the church office, 978-355-4041.

Food Pantry could use donations of :

- egg cartoons
- Canned green beans
- Canned Tomatoes
- Canned Beef Stew
- Canned pasta with meat sauce
(Chef Boyardee)
- Rice
- Fruit Juices
- Plastic Market Bags

FROM THE DEACONS

The deacons have been working closely with Pastor Margaret Keyser. We were so proud to welcome Ella Lawrence, who was baptized on May 20, 2018. Rev. Charles Page assisted with the baptism.

We are in need of lay people to bring their life journey or just share how God has worked in your life. We are planning to have two Sunday's in July and August that we will need someone to step forward. Please speak to anyone on the deacons.

On behalf of the Barre Congregational Church we send our condolences to the family of Walter Morrison, the family of Mrs. Sleeper, Kathy Fritscher's mother, and the family of Mrs. Skodis, Deb and Charlie Page's mother. Our prayers are with all of you.

On June 5, the children of our church will be conducting the service. It is Children's Day.

On June 17, we will have the confirmation of Ward Holloway, this is a big step in Wards life, he has been working very hard to complete this course.

If anyone is in need of a visit please call Marsha Bray 978-355-2304.

Continued prayers for Elly Rival as she is getting stronger at her home. Prayers for Betty Snyder as she is still fighting to eliminate her infection.

In Christ,

Marsha Bray

CHINA TEACUPS

The Women's Fellowship would like to thank all of you who donated Tea Cups to our collection. It is greatly appreciated.



THANK YOU BELLS!!!

A big thank you to the Bell Choir. Their dedication was very much appreciated. They are the best!!!

We'll be starting again in September.

Thank you, Deb Page



JUST A FEW REMINDERS

When you leave the church please make sure all lights are **turned off** and the doors are **locked**.

Please make sure if you bring food into the church, please make sure after your event you take home what you don't use. Don't leave it in the refrigerator.

Please check with Ann Clark or Wendy Isgro if you would like to donate an item to the church. Thank you for your co-

Barre Family Fun Day
Saturday, June 16, 2018
11:00 am – 2:00 pm

Strawberry Shortcake
\$3.00

&

Popcorn
\$1.00 a bag

The Barre Congregational Church will be selling
strawberry shortcake and popcorn on the front
lawn of the church.

The Church Committee would like your help!!

Donations needed of:
strawberries (cut-up),
biscuits or whipped cream.

Please let Ann Clark, 978-355-6362 know if you
can **HELP** or can donate one of the items needed.

This is a fundraiser for the church!!!



FINANCIAL PAGE

EXPENSES: 1/1/18 – 5/31/18

Payroll	30,995.00
Office Supplies	410.00
Telephone & Internet	1,079.00
Postage	78.00
General Maintenance	1,534.00
Diaconate	168.00
Music	0.00
Misc.	14.00
Trash Pickup	0.00
Sewer	150.00
Water	231.00
Heat & Gas	3,670.00
Electricity	2,018.00
Insurance	5,035.00
Snow Removal	2,930.00
Piano / Organ	0.00
Alarm	480.00
TOTAL	\$48,792.00

<u>INCOME</u>	
Loose	3,216.00
Pledges – current	22,333.00
Other	2,142.00
Investment Income	5,619.00
Total	\$33,310.00

Retained Deficit: (\$15,482.00)

Average Weekly Giving: \$1,217

Weekly Giving Needed to meet budget \$1,792

Remaining Balance of roof fund loan: \$6,991

COLLECTORS REPORT

Loose	361.00
Current	4,919.00
Missions	166.00
UCC Dues	42.00
Oil Bill	75..00
UBS	961.98
Discretionary Fund	7.00
Tuesday NA	20.00
Thursday AA	55.00
Lathrop	112.45
Friendship Supper	40.00
Roof	2000..00
Donation for Baptism	100.00
Total	\$7,058.43

**THE STEWARDSHIP
COMMITTEE
&
THE COLLECTORS**

Would like to remind you as summer approaches and we tend to have summer obligations, please remember to pay your pledges because the church is still up and running.

JUNE 2018

The grass withers, the flowers fade, but the Word of God stands FOREVER. Isaiah 40:8

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 7:00 AA
3 8:30 Choir warm-up 8:45 Sunday School Choir warm-up 9:30 Service/ Communion/ Sunday School	4	5 9-1 Wendy's hours 4:00 Bell Choir rehearsal 7:00 Choir rehearsal 7:00 NA	6 9-1 Wendy's Hours 4:30 Maplewinds Orchestra prac. 7:00 Boy Scouts	7 9-1 Wendy's hours 7:00AA	8	9 7:00 AA
10 8:30 Bell Choir warm-up 9:30 Service/ Sunday School	11	12 9-1 Wendy's hours 9:00 Food Pantry set-up 6:00 Food Pantry set-up 7:00 Choir rehearsal 7:00 NA	13 9-1 Wendy's Hours 10-12 Food Pantry 12 Food Pantry Lunch 4:30 Maplewinds Orchestra prac. 7:00 Boy Scouts	14 9-1 Wendy's hours 7:00 AA <i>Flag Day</i>	15	16 Family Fun Day on the Common 7:00 AA
17 8:30 Choir warm-up 9:30 Service/ Confirmation <i>Father's Day</i>	18	19 9-1 Wendy's hours 7:00 NA	20 9-1 Wendy's Hours 4:30 Maplewinds Orchestra prac.	21 9-1 Wendy's hours 5:30 Friendship Community Supper 7:00AA	22	23 7:00 AA
24 9:30 Service/NO Sunday School 11:00 Church Council	25	26 9-1 Wendy's hours 7:00 NA	27 9-1 Wendy's Hours	28 9-1 Wendy's hours 7:00 AA	29	30 7:00 AA

Daily Lectionary Scripture References June 2018 (Year B)

Fri., Jun. 1,
Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18
1 Samuel 1:19-27
Romans 8:31-39

Sat., Jun. 2
Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18
1 Samuel 2:1-10
John 7:19-24

Sun., Jun. 3
1 Samuel 3:1-10 [11-20]
Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18
2 Corinthians 4:5-12
Mark 2:23-3:6

Mon., Jun. 4
Psalm 99
1 Samuel 2:11-17
Romans 9:19-29

Tues., Jun. 5
Psalm 99
1 Samuel 2:18-21
Acts 15:1-5, 22-35

Wed., Jun. 6
Psalm 99
1 Samuel 2:22-36
John 5:1-18

Thurs., Jun. 7
Psalm 138
1 Samuel 4:1-22
1 Peter 4:7-19

Fri., Jun. 8
Psalm 138
1 Samuel 5:1-12
2 Corinthians 5:1-5

Sat., Jun. 9
Psalm 138
1 Samuel 6:1-18
Luke 8:4-15

Sun., Jun. 10
1 Samuel 8:4-11 [12-15] 16-20 [11:14-15]
Psalm 138
2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1
Mark 3:20-35

Mon., Jun. 11
Psalm 108
1 Samuel 7:3-15
Revelation 20:1-6

Tues., Jun. 12
Psalm 108
1 Samuel 8:1-22
Revelation 20:7-15

Wed., Jun. 13
Psalm 108
1 Samuel 9:1-14
Luke 11:14-28

Thurs., Jun. 14
Psalm 20
1 Samuel 9:15-27
Hebrews 2:5-9

Fri., Jun. 15
Psalm 20
1 Samuel 10:1-8
Hebrews 11:4-7

Sat., Jun. 16
Psalm 20
1 Samuel 13:1-15a
Mark 4:1-20

Sun., Jun. 17
1 Samuel 15:34-16:13
Psalm 20
2 Corinthians 5:6-10 [11-13]
14-17
Mark 4:26-34

Mon., Jun. 18
Psalm 53
1 Samuel 13:23-14:23
Galatians 6:11-18

Tues., Jun. 19
Psalm 53
1 Samuel 15:10-23
Revelation 21:22-22:5

Wed., Jun. 20
Psalm 53
1 Samuel 15:24-31
Luke 6:43-45

Thurs., Jun. 21
Psalm 9:9-20
1 Samuel 16:14-23
Acts 20:1-16

Fri., Jun. 22
Psalm 9:9-20
1 Samuel 17:55-18:5
Acts 21:1-16

Sat., Jun. 23
Psalm 9:9-20
1 Samuel 18:1-4
Luke 21:25-28

Sun., Jun. 24
1 Samuel 17:[1a, 4-11, 19-23] 32-49
or 1 Samuel 17:57-18:5, 10-16
Psalm 9:9-20 or Psalm 133
2 Corinthians 6:1-13
Mark 4:35-41

Mon., Jun. 25
Psalm 119:113-128
1 Samuel 18:6-30
Acts 27:13-38

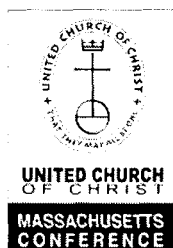
Tues., Jun. 26
Psalm 119:113-128
1 Samuel 19:1-7
Acts 27:39-44

Wed., Jun. 27
Psalm 119:113-128
1 Samuel 19:8-17
Mark 6:45-52

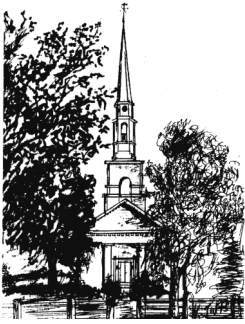
Thurs., Jun. 28
Psalm 130
1 Samuel 19:18-24
2 Corinthians 7:2-16

Fri., Jun. 29
Psalm 130
1 Samuel 20:1-25
2 Corinthians 8:1-7

Sat., Jun. 30
Psalm 130
1 Samuel 20:27-42
Luke 4:31-37



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Barre Congregational Church

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

Extravagant Welcome. Changing Lives.