

# Spire

Barre Congregational Church, UCC

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# July

## 2016

### Reflections from the Pastor's Desk

*"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid." - John 14:27*

The finished pastoral time brings about change for this church, change that is familiar as you have gone through this before, and change that is new because you are different people since I arrived in March. We have grown together through the experiences the last four month has brought. Change can be scary, but it doesn't have to be. Bestselling spiritual author, Eckhart Tolle, reminds us that "Some changes look negative on the surface but you will soon realize that space is being created in your life for something new to emerge." This new chapter in the Barre Church's life is going to be new, exciting, and joyous.

This church can be thankful that you do not go into this unknown future alone, but with God. And God has plans for this church. Big plans. Great plans. Let us focus on what could be in store for both us. As a mentor once told me, "Keep some room in your heart for the unimaginable." We cannot even begin to conceive what the coming years will bring. The people we will meet. The lives we will touch. And the joy we will find.

Church life can be challenging at times. It can be exhausting and downright frustrating. The poet Tyler Knott Gregson speaks to us of the Church today, "Promise me you will not spend so much time treading water and trying to keep your head above the waves that your forget, truly forget, how much you have always loved to swim." We gather together, not because of Church Suppers, the Christmas Fair, the endless agendas, or the committee meetings. We gather to worship our Lord, who has done marvelous and wonderful things in this church and in our personal lives. Let us never forget how much we've always loved this church, and the God who gathers us under the protective wing of peace and assurance. Remember that this church has stood for centuries and has many good years ahead.

Over and over again in scripture we read of people who, in parting, remind one another of the promises of God. How else can we leave those we care about, unless we entrust them to the care of God! That is, after all, what the word *good-bye* means—"God be with you." So in my good-bye I will leave you with the following: God be with you, because if God is with you and with me, somehow still we will be together; God be with you, because though none of our lives is much more than a collection of fragments, some of them with jagged edges, God promises to make them complete and make us whole, in God's time. So my good-bye prayer for the Barre Church is this: May God be with all of you and hold you close while we are absent one from another.

Your Sister in Christ,

Rev. Dr. Charlotte Wright

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## Summer Hours for Staff

Just like last year, the Church Secretary has volunteered to take Tuesdays off this summer from June 19th to September 4th **to give back to the church.** The money donated will go toward the operations of the church. The summer is a slow time and this worked out well last year. Also, the Church Sextons will be donating \$500 of their pay check back to the church. This will also be used for operations. Please thank the secretary and sextons for these generous donations.

**This summer Wendy's hours will be Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9-1. In case of an emergency, church matters or concerns please call Wendy at home any time at 978-928-5180.**

### From the Church Committee

On June 12th there was a very successful clean up day at the church. Thank you to all who participated and a great big thank you to Ann Clark for coordinating the cleaning! There will be some follow up over the summer to complete this big project.

A huge thank you to our Church Secretary, Wendy Isgro. She will be taking Tuesdays off this summer and giving this part of her salary back to the church to be used for operating costs. Wendy will be flexible with her schedule and is will to receive call at home especially in an emergency. She is doing this over the summer because this is really the down time of the church Please do be patient with her though as we will not have an interim pastor until the fall and many of the pastor's office duties will fall on her.

Another big thank you to the Clark family who will be giving back \$500. of their sexton money to the church which will also be used for operating costs.

Over the summer, the Church Committee will be reviewing the job descriptions of the Church Secretary, Organist, Choir Director, Sexton, and Treasurer. This should make the support staff's roles clear during our upcoming transition. We will also be updating "rules for Church Usage" and User Agreement" which have not been updated since 2002.

The Cummings loan has been paid back in full.

When you are closing up the church for the day or night, please check that all lights are off and all doors are closed and LOCKED. Thank you!

Lisa Holloway, Chair Church committee

## Service Auction—

**March 25, 2017**



The Church Committee has approved plans to renovate the 1st floor bathrooms. The approximate cost is \$4,000.00. In order to help with the cost the a

Service Auction is being planned. The last time we held a Service Auction was in 2009, which was a great success Once again, the supper committee will serve dinner and then the laughter, fun and bidding will start with auctioneer, Paul Varney.

Please let Shirley Lewis, 978-355-9019 know if you can donate a service, perhaps you could sell baked goods, donate a dinner for 4-6 people, donate a round of golf, yard clean up, donate a gift certificate possibilities are endless just put your thinking cap on. Nothing is too big or too small.

Remember, this is a night of friendship, fellowship and fun and a way for us to gather as a church family. Call your friends, your relatives to join us.

### **From the Supper Committee**

#### **Mark your Calendars for the Fall**

We would like to give you all to mark your calendars dates have been set-up through the fall:

**Saturday, September 24th 5:30 pm —**  
Chicken Barbecue

**Saturday, October 22nd 5:30 pm—**  
Turkey dinner and entertainment following the dinner. Ted Reinsten from Chronicle , channel 5 WCVB will be here to give a presentation about his new book. *Wicked Pissed New England's Most Famous Feuds.*

**Saturday, November 12th 5:30 pm—**  
Roast Pork Dinner

*The Supper Committee is looking for help if you are interested please call Wendy, 978-928-5180 or Beth, 978-355-2796*

## Barre Food Pantry

### Barre Food Pantry volunteer opportunity.

The Barre Food Pantry at the Barre Congregational Church on the common in Barre center welcomes volunteers between 6:30 pm and 8:30 pm. Volunteers are needed to help set up the room and sort, date and pre-bag donated groceries for free distribution the next day.

**Note:** We no longer need donations of egg cartons. We have so many at this time that storage is a challenge. When more are needed in the future, we will post a request in our calendar notice.

For more information call Sonja @ (978) 355-6921 or Chuck @ (978) 355-6463.

**Wednesday, July 13th, 2016**

### Barre Food Pantry volunteer opportunity.

The Barre Food Pantry at the Barre Congregational Church on the common in Barre center welcomes volunteers from 9:30 am to 12:00 noon to help staff the tables, help clients "shop" the food bank offerings and help carry groceries to clients' cars.

**Note:** We no longer need donations of egg cartons. We have so many at this time that storage is a challenge. When more are needed in the future, we will post a request in our calendar notice.

For additional information call Sonja @ (978) 355-6921 or Chuck @ (978) 355-6463.

### Barre Food Pantry monthly distribution to clients.

People in need of food assistance are welcome at the Barre Congregational Church on the common in Barre center from 10:00 am to noon for free monthly distribution of fresh, frozen and canned food made available through local and regional donations and state and federal government programs.

**Note:** The Barre Food Pantry would like to encourage clients to bring their reusable grocery tote bags with them when they come to pick up food at distribution.

For additional information call Sonja @ (978) 355-6921 or Chuck @ (978) 355-6463.

## Community Friendship Suppers

Everyone is welcome! Bring a friend and or family members.

The Community Friendship Suppers are a free supper, our menu changes every month.

Serving time is from 5:30 pm—6:30 pm on the third Thursday of the month

A free will offering may be given. The offering is used by the mission Committee of our church to help those in need in our community and far away. Next supper is July 21st!

### **To All Members of the Church & Committee Chairperson**

It is very important that we communicate what is going on in the life of the Barre Congregational Church. Please make sure that all

committee meetings or events are posted in the Spire calendar and the Sunday Bulletin any information about your committee be sent to the office to be published in the next Spire .



The Barre Women's Club will hold a Flea Market on the Barre Common in September (date will be announced in the next *Spire*.)

Our church will rent a space. So please start saving items to donate—**no clothes, no shoes, no stuffed animals, no throw away items.**

Please mark a price on each item and bring it to the common at 8:00 am the morning of the Flea Market.

Proceeds will go toward renovations of the first floor bathrooms.

Any questions please call Shirley Lewis, 978-355-9019.

*Just a thought.....*

*When you come to the edge of all the light you know and are about to step off into the darkness of the unknown, FAITH is knowing one of 2 things will happen: there will be something solid to stand on or you will be taught how to fly.*

## Collector's Report

Loose	279.66
Current	8,748.00
Missions	396.00
UCC Dues	80.00
Salary payback Wendy	575.00
Sat AA	100.00
Tuesday NA	20.00
Thursday NA	30.00
Total	10,228.66

### Welcome to the Stewardship Committee

Thank you for being a part of the Stewardship Committee. Oh, I know your name isn't printed under Stewardship. But just taking the *time* to read this makes you a steward. When you take the *time* to come to worship, you also lend your *talents* by participating in worship as well as giving of your *treasures*. Thank you to those who give of their *time & talents* attending formal church meetings, doing work behind the scenes. Thank you to those who send in their pledges to share their *treasures* for the mission work of this church.

Yes, you are a wonderful steward. (And there are other ways you've served in this capacity. Not just what was mentioned.) Thank you for being a part of this committee and sharing your *time, talents & treasures*.

Deb Page

## Treasurer's Report

### Expenses: 1/1/16-3/31/16

Payroll	36,398.00
Office Supplies	1,560.00
Telephone & Internet	1,252.00
Equipment Maintenance	00
Diaconate	104.00
General Maintenance	3,868.00
Christian Ed.	107.00
Miscellaneous	641.00
Flowers	.00
Water & Sewer	355.00
Heat & Gas	1,800.00
Insurance	5,891.00
Electricity	1,924.00
Snow Removal	840.00
Piano/Organ	1,495.00
Alarm	748.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$56,983.00</b>

<b>Income</b>	
Loose	2,050.00
Pledges	34,688.00
Other***	7,877.00
Investment Interest	13,100.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$57,715.00</b>
****Women's Fellowship donated \$3,000.	

Transferred from savings for ordinary expenses:  
\$3,,617.00

Operating Surplus \$732.00

Beginning balance in checkbook: \$2,504.48

# July 2016

*Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honor to Him. Revelation 19:7*

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> 7:00 AA
<b>3</b> 9:30 Service / Communion	<b>4</b> 	<b>5</b> <b>Wendy off</b>	<b>6</b> 9-1 Wendy's hours <b>7:00 Church Committee</b>	<b>7</b> 9-1 Wendy's hours 7:00 AA	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> 7:00 AA
<b>10</b> 9:30 Service / Dedication of the Sue Ful- lam Garden/ Pastor Char- lotte's last day with us.	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> <b>Wendy Off</b> 9:00 Food Pan- try set-up 6:00 Food Pan- try set-up	<b>13</b> 9-1 Wendy's hours 10-12 Food Pantry	<b>14</b> 9-1 Wendy's hours 7:00 AA	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> 7:00 AA
<b>17</b> 9:30 Service	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> <b>Wendy Off</b>	<b>20</b> 9-1 Wendy's hours	<b>21</b> 9-1 Wendy's hours <b>5:30 Com- munity Friendship Supper</b> 7:00 AA	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 7:00 AA
<b>24</b> 9:30 Service	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> <b>Wendy Off</b>	<b>27</b> 9-1 Wendy's hours	<b>28</b> 9-1 Wendy's hours	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 7:00 AA
<b>31</b> 9:30 Service						

## Daily Lectionary Scripture References July 2016 (Year C)

**Fri., July 1**  
Psalm 30  
2 Kings 4:18-31  
2 Corinthians 8:1-7

**Sat., July 2**  
Psalm 30  
2 Kings 4:32-37  
Luke 9:1-6

**Sun., July 3**  
2 Kings 5:1-14  
Psalm 30  
Galatians 6:[1-6] 7-16  
Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

**Mon., July 4**  
Psalm 6  
2 Kings 5:15-19a  
Acts 19:21-27

**Tues., July 5**  
Psalm 6  
2 Kings 5:19b-27  
Acts 19:28-41

**Wed., July 6**  
Psalm 6  
2 Kings 6:1-7  
Luke 10:13-16

**Thurs., July 7**  
Psalm 82  
Amos 1:1—2:3  
James 2:14-26

**Fri., July 8**  
Psalm 82  
Amos 2:4-11  
Acts 7:9-16

**Sat., July 9**  
Psalm 82  
Amos 2:12—3:8  
John 3:16-21

**Sun., July 10**  
Amos 7:7-17  
Psalm 82  
Colossians 1:1-14  
Luke 10:25-37

**Mon., July 11**  
Psalm 7  
Amos 3:9—4:5  
James 2:1-7

**Tues., July 12**  
Psalm 7  
Amos 4:6-13  
1 John 3:11-17

**Wed., July 13**  
Psalm 7  
Amos 5:1-9  
Matthew 25:31-46

**Thurs., July 14**  
Psalm 52  
Amos 5:10-17  
Hebrews 5:1-6

**Fri., July 15**  
Psalm 52  
Amos 5:18-27  
Ephesians 3:14-21

**Sat., July 16**  
Psalm 52  
Amos 6:1-14  
Luke 8:4-10

**Sun., July 17**  
Amos 8:1-12  
Psalm 52  
Colossians 1:15-28  
Luke 10:38-42

**Mon., July 18**  
Psalm 119:17-32  
Amos 7:1-6  
Colossians 1:27—2:7

**Tues., July 19**  
Psalm 119:17-32  
Amos 8:13—9:4  
1 John 2:1-6

**Wed., July 20**  
Psalm 119:17-32  
Amos 9:5-15  
John 6:41-51

**Thurs., July 21**  
Psalm 85  
Hosea 4:1-19  
Acts 1:15-20

**Fri., July 22**  
Psalm 85  
Hosea 5:1-15  
Acts 2:22-36

**Sat., July 23**  
Psalm 85  
Hosea 1:11—2:15  
Luke 8:22-25

**Sun., July 24**  
Hosea 1:2-10  
Psalm 85  
Colossians 2:6-15 [16-19]  
Luke 11:1-13

**Mon., July 25**  
Psalm 44  
Hosea 2:14—3:5  
Colossians 2:16—3:1

**Tues., July 26**  
Psalm 44  
Hosea 6:1-10  
Romans 9:30—10:4

**Wed., July 27**  
Psalm 44  
Hosea 6:11—7:16  
Matthew 5:43-48

**Thurs., July 28**  
Psalm 107:1-9, 43  
Hosea 8:1-14  
Romans 11:33-36

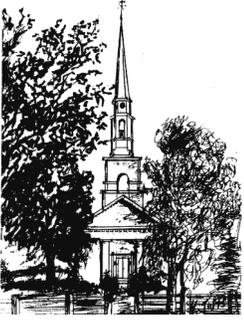
**Fri., July 29**  
Psalm 107:1-9, 43  
Hosea 9:1-17  
Ephesians 4:17-24

**Sat., July 30**  
Psalm 107:1-9, 43  
Hosea 10:1-15  
Mark 10:17-22

**Sun., July 31**  
Hosea 11:1-11  
Psalm 107:1-9, 43  
Colossians 3:1-11  
Luke 12:13-21



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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.*