

Spire

Barre Congregational Church, UCC

Pastor – Margaret Keyser Organist – Deborah Page

Choir Director – Karla Peterson & Scott Bryant

Sexton – Clark Family Church Secretary – Wendy Isgro

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A Message Pastor Margaret

When the lake inspires, we pray and we act...

Today I accepted my husband's invitation to visit a lake nearby our home. I took my laptop with me to do this writing. It was my first visit to this beautiful, yet simple treasure. I overheard a few guys talking about the devastation hurricane Sandy brought to some of the trees around the lake, but one would not notice it, as they obviously had time to recover some. I am grateful for this spot. I am grateful for safety, and I am grateful for life. My eyes would disappear occasionally in the glimmer of the water as I'm gathering my thoughts...

It is sobering to think how much has gone wrong the last few weeks and months. We have seen natural disasters and human suffering on large scale. My heart is breaking for those in the Caribbean, parts of the US, and other parts of the world. One cannot pray and hope enough that the assistance that goes out to the affected areas, would bring people's lives to some form of normalcy as soon as possible. The opioid and many other health crises are shattering lives and bringing so much pain to families and loved ones. On the socio-political side, many issues, decisions and events have driven people apart, so that we are struggling to find common ground in the most basic human areas and needs.

I am thinking about Jesus disappearing into the garden, or the mountains, or even in the boat when the storm was raging, praying to find the strength from God, to carry on with His mission and message of love, peace and justice, during very difficult and challenging times. I am also thinking of Paul's words to the church in Galatia, in Galatians 3 verse 28 - 29, where he helped them understand that, as Christians, they needed to move beyond their divisions, and their legalistic approach in dealing with their differences; that, having been baptized and clothed with Christ, their physical and geographical differences have dissipated, and they are all one in Christ, not apart, not segregated.

These reflections inspire me to call us all to spend the time praying seriously for one another, to be there for one another, those close by, but also those further away from us; to move beyond our differences on issues that affect us all, and look deep inside the humanity of our fellow human beings to see ourselves in their souls. It is a time to pray, and a time to act, to help where we can, without thinking about how different we are. That is the life of Christ, and the life of the church.

I am glad I accepted my husband's invitation today. The lake inspired me and made me hear God's voice a little clearer. May we all continuously find quiet and prayerful moments at our own "lakes" and look to the Spirit of God to guide and shape our next word and action, and to help us be a merciful presence to all around us.

God's richest blessings.

Pastor Margaret

The Stewardship Committee

Invites you to Join us in **Our Journey of Renewal**

- October 1st (Spiritual Renewal)** –
Pastor Margaret Keyser and Rev. Charlie Page together will celebrate World Communion Sunday with the congregation.
- October 8th (Renewal of Joy)** –
The service will be led by Rev. Charlie Page and various committees of the church.
- October 15th (Renewal of Gratitude)** –
The service will be led by the Stewardship Committee
- October 22nd (Renewal of Community)** –
Led by Pastor Margaret. We will recognize the various organizations and leaders with in the community. A donation to the Food Pantry would be greatly appreciated.
- October 29th (Inspired Spiritual Renewal)** –
Led by Pastor Margaret. Pledge and Time and Talent cards will be collected.

Church Committee Update

This month the water pump has been replaced to allow the church more water pressure during busy usage times. A big thank you to Women's Fellowship for their help in paying this expense. We are busy putting together the 2018 budget.

Again, thank you to everyone for the help in the Roof Restoration, this is a three year commitment to pay the church back.

We meet the first Wednesday night of every month at 6:30 pm in the chapel. All meetings are open, come join us to see the work behind the scenes.

Ann Clark

Choir and Bell Choir

Bell choir is meeting on Tuesday's at 4:00 pm
Choir rehearsals are on Tuesday evenings at 7:00 pm.

You are always welcome to attend one or both of these rehearsals.

Women's Fellowship

First Meeting of the Season

Monday October 16, 2017

Potluck Dinner

6:00 pm

&

Presentation by Kellie Franklin

7:00 pm

Teacher at Ruggles Lane School

Our Majestic National Parks



We invite you to bring your families to see Kellie's presentation on her travels to the Majestic National Parks in this country.

Women's Fellowship 2017-2018 Meetings

Monday, November 7, 2017—6:30pm—Fair work meeting

Saturday December 3, 2017 10:00am –2:00 pm—Church Fair

Monday, March 12, 2018—noon—Luncheon and visit to the Historical Society

Saturday, April 7, 2018—noon—Tea & Program

Wednesday, May 9, 2018—Annual Dinner

BAKED STUFFED CHICKEN DINNER

Saturday, October 28, 2017

5:30 pm

\$12.00 Adults \$5.00 children over 12

Reservations please call

Lisa Holloway 978-355-0140

Or

The church office 978-355-4041

Food Pantry

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

- ◆ Macaroni and cheese
- ◆ Cereal (Hot or Cold)
- ◆ Tuna
- ◆ Canned chicken
- ◆ Pasta Sauce/Pasta
- ◆ **Personal Hygiene products**

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 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. Community Service hours can be provided for Quabbin Regional High School students who come to help.

Wednesday, October 11, 2017

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. Community Service hours can be provided for Quabbin Regional High School students who come to help.

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 Supper

Soup and Chowder

Everyone is welcome!

Bring a friend and or family members.

Thursday, October 19, 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.

Internet Information

The Wi-Fi has been secured with a password. If you would like the password please see Wendy and she will give it to you.

Spiritual

Joy

Gratitude

Community

Renewal

Psalm 100:1B-2, 3, 4, 5

Come with joy into the presence of the Lord.
Sing joyfully to the LORD all you lands;
serve the LORD with gladness;
come before him with joyful song.
Come with joy into the presence of the Lord.
Know that the LORD is God;
he made us, his we are;
his people, the flock he tends.
Come with joy into the presence of the Lord.
Enter his gates with thanksgiving,
his courts with praise;
Give thanks to him; bless his name.
Come with joy into the presence of the Lord.
For he is good:
the LORD, whose kindness endures forever,
and his faithfulness, to all generations.
Come with joy into the presence of the Lord.

FINANCIAL PAGE

**Treasurer's Report
Expenses 1/1/17—9/31/17**

Collector's Report

Loose	200.00
Current	5,034.00
Missions	304.00
Coffee	43.00
UBS	596.15
Roof Repairs	890.00
Lathrop QPW	112.45
Tuesday AA	71.00
US Treasury Rebate	614.99
Discretionary Fund	1.00
Total	\$7,866.59

Payroll	42,925.00
Office Supplies	355.00
Telephone & Internet	1,779.00
Postage	73.00
Diaconate	0.00
General Maintenance	3,297.00
Stewardship	0.00
Music	175.00
Christian Ed	0.00
Misc.	50.00
Trash Pickup	113.00
Sewer	350.00
Water	250.00
Heat & Gas	2,470.00
Electricity	1,995.00
Insurance	7,446.00
Snow Removal	2,235.00
Piano / Organ	355.00
Alarm	480.00
TOTAL	\$64,348.00
INCOME	
Loose	4,601.00
Pledges	42,136.00
Other	4,262.00
Investment Income	13,955.00
Total	\$64,954.00

Retained Earnings: (\$606.00)

Average Weekly Giving: \$1,198.00

Weekly Giving Needed to meet budget \$1,612

October 2017

Cast thy burden upon the Lord, and he shall sustain thee....Psalm 55:22

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 8:30 Choir warm-up 9:30 Service/ World Communion/Journey of Spiritual Renewal/ Sunday School	2 6:00 Girl Scouts	3 9-1 Wendy's hours 3:30 Music re- hearsal 4:00 Bell Choir rehearsal 7:00 Choir re- hearsal 7:00 NA	4 9-1 Wendy's hours 4:30 Maplewinds Or- chestra prac. 7:00 Church Committee 7:00 Deacons 7:00 Boy Scouts	5 9-1 Wendy's hours 2:00 Prayer Group 7:00AA	6	7 7:00 AA
8 8:45 Bell Choir warm up 9:30 Service/ Sunday School/ Renewal of Joy	9 Columbus Day	10 9-1 Wendy's hours 9:00 Food Pan- try set-up 6:00 Food Pan- try set-up 3:30 Music re- hearsal 4:00 Bell Choir rehearsal 7:00 Choir re- hearsal 7:00 NA	11 9-1 Wendy's Hours 10-12 Food Pantry 4:30 Maplewinds Or- chestra prac. 7:00 Boy Scouts	12 9-1 Wendy's hours 2:00 Prayer Group 7:00 Barre Women's Club 7:00AA	13	14 7:00 AA
15 8:30 Choir warm- up 9:30 Service/ Renewal of Grati- tude	16 6:00 Girl Scouts 6:00 Women's Fellowship Potluck Dinner and Presenta- tion –Our Ma- jestic National Parks	17 9-1 Wendy's hours 3:30 Music re- hearsal 4:00 Bell Choir rehearsal 7:00 Choir re- hearsal 7:00 NA	18 9-1 Wendy's hours 4:30 Maplewinds Or- chestra prac. 7:00 Boy Scouts	19 9-1 Wendy's hours 2:00 Prayer Group 5:30 Friendship Community Supper 7:00 AA	20	21 5:30 AA
22 8:30 Choir warm- up 9:30 Service/ Pastor Margaret Keyser, preaching/ Sunday school/ Renewal of Com- munity	23 6:00 Girl Scouts	24 9-1 Wendy's hours 3:30 Music re- hearsal 4:00 Bell Choir rehearsal 7:00 Choir re- hearsal 7:00 NA	25 9-1 Wendy's hours 4:30 Maplewinds Or- chestra prac. 7:00 Boy Scouts	26	27	28 5:30 Church Supper/Baked Stuffed Chick- en 7:00 AA
29 8:30 Choir warm- up 9:30 Service/ Pas- tor Margaret Key- set, preaching/ Sunday School/ Inspired Spiritual Renewal 10:45 Church Council Meeting	30 6:00 Girl Scouts	31 9-1 Wendy's hours 3:30 Music re- hearsal 7:00 NA Halloween				

Daily Lectionary Scripture References October 2017 (Year A)

Sun., Oct. 1

Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Exodus 17:1-7
Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16
Philippians 2:1-13
Matthew 21:23-32

Mon., Oct. 2

Psalm 42
Exodus 18:1-12
Philippians 1:3-14

Tues., Oct. 3

Psalm 42
Exodus 18:13-27
Philippians 1:15-21

Wed., Oct. 4

Psalm 42
Exodus 19:9b-25
Matthew 9:2-8

Thurs., Oct. 5

Psalm 19
Exodus 23:1-9
Colossians 2:16-23

Fri., Oct. 6

Psalm 19
Exodus 23:14-19
Philippians 2:14-18; 3:1-4a

Sat., Oct. 7

Psalm 19
Exodus 23:10-13
John 7:40-52

Sun., Oct. 8

Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20
Psalm 19
Philippians 3:4b-14
Matthew 21:33-46

Mon., Oct. 9

Psalm 119:49-56
Deuteronomy 5:1-21
1 Peter 2:4-10

Tues., Oct. 10

Psalm 119:49-56
Deuteronomy 5:22-6:3
2 Corinthians 5:17-21

Wed., Oct. 11

Psalm 119:49-56
Deuteronomy 6:10-25
John 11:45-57

Thurs., Oct. 12

Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23
Exodus 24:1-8
1 Peter 5:1-5, 12-14

Fri., Oct. 13

Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23
Exodus 24:9-11
James 4:4-10

Sat., Oct. 14

Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23
Exodus 24:12-18
Mark 2:18-22

Sun., Oct. 15

Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Exodus 32:1-14
Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23
Philippians 4:1-9
Matthew 22:1-14

Mon., Oct. 16

Psalm 97
Exodus 32:15-35
Jude 17-25

Tues., Oct. 17

Psalm 97
Exodus 33:1-6
Philippians 3:13-4:1

Wed., Oct. 18

Psalm 97
2 Kings 17:7-20
John 6:25-35

Thurs., Oct. 19

Psalm 99
Exodus 33:7-11
3 John 9-12

Fri., Oct. 20

Psalm 99
Exodus 31:1-11
1 Peter 5:1-5

Sat., Oct. 21

Psalm 99
Exodus 39:32-43
Matthew 14:1-12

Sun., Oct. 22

Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Exodus 33:12-23
Psalm 99
1 Thessalonians 1:1-10
Matthew 22:15-22

Mon., Oct. 23

Psalm 63:1-8
Exodus 40:34-38
Revelation 18:1-10, 19-20

Tues., Oct. 24

Psalm 63:1-8
Numbers 12:1-9
Revelation 18:21-24

Wed., Oct. 25

Psalm 63:1-8
Numbers 13:1-2, 17-14:9
Matthew 17:22-27

Thurs., Oct. 26

Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17
Deuteronomy 31:14-22
Titus 1:5-16

Fri., Oct. 27

Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17
Deuteronomy 32:1-14, 18
Titus 2:7-8, 11-15

Sat., Oct. 28

Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17
Deuteronomy 32:44-47
John 5:39-47

Sun., Oct. 29

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Deuteronomy 34:1-12
Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17
1 Thessalonians 2:1-8
Matthew 22:34-46

Mon., Oct. 30

Psalm 119:41-48
Numbers 33:38-39
James 2:8-13

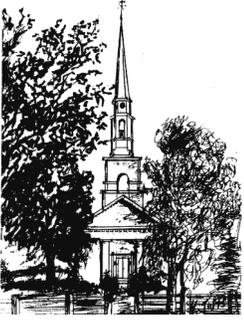
Tues., Oct. 31

Psalm 119:41-48
Exodus 34:29-35
James 2:14-26



UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST
MASSACHUSETTS
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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.