

Cross Ways

The Newsletter of
The Congregational Church of Brookfield
160 Whisconier Road,
Brookfield, CT 06804
(203) 775-1259

October 2015



The Congregational Church of Brookfield

**SATURDAY
OCTOBER 17TH**
9AM-3PM Barn opens at 8AM

**YANKEE FAIR
& BARN SALE**

Find Quilts,
Books, Crafts, Plants,
Food, Garden & Seasonal Décor,
Gifts, Clothes, Entertainment, Silent Auction,
as well as, homemade baked goods,
Vermont Cheese, and more...

Proceeds from the 2015 Yankee Fair and Barn Sale will go to
Silver Lake Conference Center, Center - our outdoor ministry and
youth camping program of the Connecticut Conference, United Church of Christ.

Rts 25 & 133, Brookfield, CT • 203-775-1259

www.UCCB.org

Meetings of Church Council for September 8, 2015

In an effort to keep the congregation informed this is a brief summary of items discussed during the monthly Church Council Meeting.

Long Range Planning Committee (LRPC): Maurice Downey gave an update. The committee is at the end of the transition from the Planning Task Force. They have identified three criteria for determining whether or not a project should be reviewed by the LRPC: 1. The project is not covered by any standing committee. 2. The project cost far exceeds the budget of a committee that would be responsible for it. 3. The project generates recurring maintenance costs.; Repairs to the barn are underway. Interior structural work is complete, and cupola work is in progress. Roof repair will be done last.; Council agreed to provide time for LRPC to present findings and hear ideas at the next Program Board — at a date to be determined – with the LRPC as the sole agenda item.

Council approved Bryn's and Jennifer's ministerial goals for the coming year. In keeping with Bryn's goal of increasing CCB's public visibility, there will be a *"Blessing of the Animals"* on October 4.

Committee reps were reminded that budgets for FY 2016 -17 are due to Vice Moderator Robin Murphy by November 10th.

Investment Treasurer's Report, Second Quarter 2015: \$39,946.60 was transferred from General Endowment to operating budget. \$16,964.59 was transferred from General Endowment to Buildings & Grounds Fund. Market value of Endowment Funds increased \$3,583.41 in the second quarter.

Treasurer's Report: P&L: Only 88% of budgeted income was received this month, but income is ahead of budget for the year because of one large pledge last month. Endowment income was less than expected due to an overall downturn in the market. Expenses were only 84% of budget this month, 94% for the year. Balance Sheet: September is a big expense month. Money may be tighter for the rest of the fiscal year.

Committee Reports

Worship: Two ushers are still needed. Bob Brown is recruiting.

Deacons: The Deacons approved Carolyn Rolleston as an officiant for serving communion, but Carolyn has decided to terminate her CCB internship in order to pursue her interest in hospital chaplaincy.

Christian Education: The committee thanks everyone who added an apple to the *"Fruits of the Spirit"* bulletin board. Kids in grades K-6 will begin a 2-year curriculum on Faith Practices. Jennifer is working on assigning Confirmation mentors. Senior Youth Fellowship's Mission Trip Sunday is September 20.

Fellowship: Serendippers were entertained by magic tricks performed by Rev. "Des" Desmond.

Nominating: Council approved Monica McInerney to replace Dan Smolnik as an Investment Advisor.

Church in Society: Becky Bishop will offer a nutritional counseling program with the youth fellowship groups as part of CIS's theme *"Body, Mind, and Spirit."* Also coming soon, Adult Coloring with milk and cookies! The Women's Mission Trip will be to the Providence Rescue Mission. See Monica McInerney if you would like to go.

Pastors' Reports

Bryn: People have been visiting CCB during the summer and loving it. Please keep Bryn and Jennifer in your prayers as they counsel several members on serious issues. Fall sermon series *"Look at the World"* will be advertised in the coming weeks. The Association of Religious Communities (ARC), of which CCB is a founding member, is seeking retired teachers and other volunteers to give two hours a week to a tutoring and mentoring program for kids in Danbury.

Jennifer: Thank you for days off so she could officiate at her cousin's wedding and for her 10th anniversary celebration. Next year is her sabbatical year, and she will be away from late July through mid-October.

You are always welcome to attend and observe the Council Meetings. To be added to the agenda of the monthly meeting, please contact Dave Goral, Moderator or Robin Murphy, Vice Moderator.



2015 Yankee Fair and Barn Sale: “REFLECTIONS”

The leaves are changing and there is a bit of a nip in the air – it must mean that the **2015 Yankee Fair and Barn Sale** is close. Saturday, October 17, 2015 is almost here!

Have you signed up to volunteer at a booth this year? It is not too late to do so. We welcome all who would like to participate as we showcase our wonderful church to all of the visitors who come to our annual **Yankee Fair and Barn Sale**.

There has been so much “prepping” to get ready for this year’s **Yankee Fair and Barn Sale**, with all of the booths making their final plans and getting things in order. The posters advertising the Fair are colorful and eye catching with the backdrop of the lovely painting of a country church in the fall. The Barn, Used Toys, Used Books, Second Hand Rose, and Collectibles have been receiving many wonderful donations for a few weeks now. The crafters and quilters have been working diligently for months making creative and colorful items to sell. The fudge and cheese have been ordered. The Grill and The White Steeple Inn are making their plans and placing their final orders to feed the crowds. SERRV is also placing their final orders of items from around the world. The Country Store will have some wonderful items to share as well. Autumn Harvest and the Garden booth will have fall plantings and flowers to brighten up any area. Silent Auction has many items to make into baskets to get top bids.

We will have live music throughout the day too! The **Still River Ramblers** will perform by the Barn from 10:30am to 12:00pm, and **Dan’s Garage** will perform from 12:00pm to 1:00pm over by the parking lot behind the church building.

Even if you have just a couple of hours to help set up during the week leading up to the **Yankee Fair and Barn Sale**, we need you! If you can donate a wonderful baked good to sell at the Bake Shop or the Coffee Shop, we want it! If you can help at the Silent Auction workshops preparing baskets, please sign up! And if you are available to spend some time the day of the fair to volunteer working side by side with many other members of our church community, we welcome you! Put your *Mind, Body* and *Spirit* to work to help make the **2015 Yankee Fair and Barn Sale** a wonderful success.

Together we can do so much!

Lyn & Mark Lyon and Wendy Elsen (with the amazing assistance of Walt Fisher, a.k.a. Mr. Fair)
2015 Yankee Fair and Barn Sale Fair Chairs

Yankee Fair & Barn Sale

Saturday, October 17, 2015

Volunteers are needed before, during and after the fair!

Please volunteer your time at the **Yankee Fair** on Oct. 17th.
It's not too early to sign up! Join with us in the spirit of fellowship.

Please indicate below where you'd like to help. ***We can't do it without you!***

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

E-Mail address: _____

I can help with the following:

_____ Set-up (4PM Weds/Thurs/Fri)	_____ Telephone Committee
_____ Bake for the Coffee Shop	_____ Clean-up
_____ Bake for the Bake Shop	_____ Barn Sale Set-up
_____ Bake pies for the White Steeple Inn	_____ Help anywhere

I'll work at a booth

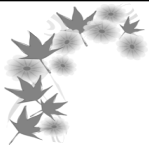
____ Barn	____ Autumn Harvest	____ Bake Shop
____ Coffee Shop	____ Cheese	____ Children's Games
____ Fudge	____ Collectibles	____ Crafts
____ Grill	____ Garden Shop	____ General Store
____ Quilts	____ Jewelry	____ Parking
____ Silent Auction	____ Second Hand Rose	____ SERRV
____ Used Toys	____ Treasurers	____ Used Books
	____ White Steeple Inn	____ Brooks Hall

Please fill this out today and: 1) Drop it in the collection plate

2) Give to Walt Fisher

3) Mail to:

The Congregational Church of Brookfield
160 Whisconier Road
Brookfield, CT 06804



October Serendippers Gathering
Tuesday, October 13th at 11:45am
Please join us as Larry Ruschmeyer shares
a "Bird's Eye View" of our church!

Our menu:
Cider
Ruth's Cabbage and Beef Casserole
Peas and Carrots
Swirl Bread
Apple Brownies

Please contact Eleanor Loesch for additional information
OR you can contact the Church Office 203-775-1259
Hope to see you all there!

Note: Serendippers is open to daytime available people of all ages. Childcare can be provided if we know in advance as well.

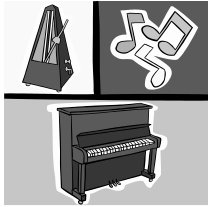
CIS in keeping with the Mind, Body and Spirit theme would like to keep you informed on upcoming health fairs. Two fairs taking place in October are:

Health and Wellness Sports Expo will be centered around sports medicine, exercise and general health. Health screenings will be offered, and 90 exhibitors will be on hand.
Location: Stamford Hospital, 1 Blachley Rd., Stamford CT Information: 203-531-3047
Date: Saturday, 10/17—9AM to 4PM and Sunday, 10/18—11AM to 4PM

Western Connecticut State University Health Fair will have a mental health focus this year. The VNA will be offering flu shots for \$20.00 and free blood pressure screening and bone density testing. Many area mental health agencies will also be on hand to offer support for problems with addictions and mental crisis.
Location: WCSU Student Center, 181 White St., Danbury CT Information: 203-837-8594
Date: Wednesday, 10/21—11AM to 3PM

New Member Visitors Gatherings

Looking to join our church or just learn more about it? Please join us at a New Member Visitors Gathering on **October 4th or 18th** following our 8:30am and 10:30am services. We will share a little bit about our church history, how our church works, what we offer for youth and adult education, and more. Most importantly we will share a bit about our mission to PRAY * SHARE * WELCOME others to this place for many reasons including peace, solace, community and comfort. We look forward to meeting you.



Notes from the Choir Room

I will sing of the loving kindness of the LORD forever; To all generations I will make known Your faithfulness with my mouth. Psalm 89:1

I was listening to some parents talking the other day about all the activities in which their children are involved. This included soccer, gymnastics, dance, piano lessons, etc. I realized how few of them included church choir in the list. That got me thinking about why choir has always been so important in my life.

That's why I decided to do a series for *CrossWays* this year entitled "Why Sing in the Choir?" Each month, I will write about a different aspect of what it means to be a part of a choir. So, why sing in the choir?

You are part of a group of caring people who enjoy singing together.

The caring part is important. We encourage new members in our church to get involved in a committee in order to meet people in the church. Committee members come and go. The choir is a long-standing group. Members often stay in the choir for years. Why? In some ways it begins to feel like a family. Choir members form friendships, are fed spiritually through the music, and they enjoy each other's company. We pray for each other and support each other in times of need. We miss each other over the summer and love that feeling of coming together again in the fall.

The children who sing in choirs also form long-standing friendships, not only with friends in their own grade, but with others in the choir too. They learn to help each other and to work together to make a beautiful sound. Through discussions and songs, they learn that caring for others is important in life. They also learn about God's love and care for them. Intergenerational connections are made when the pastors join with all the participating choirs in prayer before the church services.

Schedule for October:

October 4 - Chancel Choir : *Make Me an Instrument of Thy Peace*

October 11 - Chancel Choir: *Go Not Far From Me*

October 18 - Jubilate Ringers: *Resonances and Alleluias*

Alleluia Choir : *Make Music For the Lord Today*

October 25 - Chancel Choir: *Clap Your Hands*

Cherub Choir: *Psalm 100*

Rehearsals for our **Christmas Cantata** begin on **October 22, at 7:00 - 7:30pm** in the choir room. All singers are invited to sing with us for the Christmas Cantata on December 20 during our 10:30am worship service. We dedicate the first half hour (more as we get closer to Christmas) to rehearsing the Cantata. Please consider joining us for this beautiful event.

What's Happening in Church School?

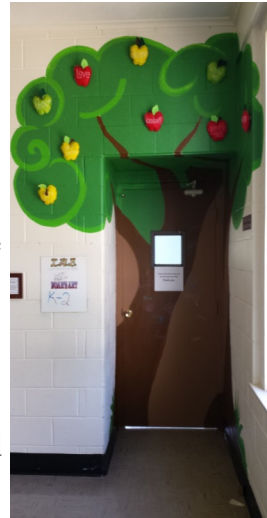
This summer our church school children had an opportunity to work on “Big Hearts Farm” where they learned about the fruit of the Spirit and how to identify, grow, and share those fruits with others. As they did so, a tree “grew” in our church school wing, and our adults had a chance to get in on the fun as they wrote about the many ways they share their “fruits” and faith out in their everyday lives. We invite you to spend a little time in the church school wing taking a look at the “Got Fruit?” bulletin board and our new tree.

Also over the summer we convened a small group of parents, church school teachers, and other interested church members to discuss the goals of church school and possible curriculum ideas. This small group looked through curriculum options and identified a United Church of Christ curriculum called “Faith Practices” to guide our church school through the next two years.

Children from Preschool through 6th grade will use this new curriculum. Faith Practices is a comprehensive education, worship, and activity resource that is structured to help transform one’s life and become a person of faith. Our children will embark on a journey to explore the following 12 Faith Practices: ***Giving and Receiving Hospitality, Living Stewardship, Keeping Sabbath, Playing and Living Joyfully, Encountering Scripture, Giving Testimony and Witness, Praying and Making Ritual, Working For Justice, Honoring The Body, Blessing and Letting Go, Experiencing Beauty and Discovering Gifts of Ministry.*** This is a Bible based curriculum, the goal of which is to help direct our church school children to a closer, deeper experiential relationship with God and the people of God.

Our 7th and 8th graders will be preparing for the next step in their faith journeys through a new discussion and service-based church school opportunity called “Bibles and Bagels.” They will meet on the 2nd & 4th Sundays of the month to participate in activities and discussion pertaining to subjects that are important in their lives (i.e. stress, friendship, peer pressure, competition, etc.) from a faith-based perspective, as well as participating in active discipleship through service projects.

If you have any questions about our church school program or are perhaps interested in assisting the program in some way, please speak with either Barbara Crandell, our Church School Coordinator, or Pastor Jen.



"Bold and Brazen" -- a study of the Hebrew Prophets -- begins Oct. 4

Sunday Night Adult Study meets 5-6:30pm in the Church Library

You are invited to join us in reading *"Bold and Brazen: Exploring Biblical Prophets,"* the latest book in Barbara Essex's popular Bible study series. Essex was the author of *"Bad Girls of the Bible"* -- a book read and discussed recently in CCB's Sunday Night Adult Study.

This slim, accessible study guide explores eight prophets of the Hebrew Bible: Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Joel, Amos, Jonah, Micah, and Habakkuk. Devoted followers of this collection will recognize Essex's straightforward style of Bible study, and new readers will appreciate the modern-day relevance of her writing and well-organized study and reflection questions at the end of each chapter.

Books are available for purchase (\$15 each) in the Church Office. For the first session (Oct. 4), please read the book's introductory chapter, pp. 1-23.



Join us for a "Blessing of the Animals" Service

Sunday, Oct. 4, at 3pm, at the CCB Barn



Join us at 3:00pm on Sunday, October 4th (the feast day of St. Francis, patron saint of animals) for a brief "Blessing of the Animals" service in front of our big red barn. This is a joyful service of thanksgiving for our pets and all that they mean to us – or *have* meant to us. (Some have brought a photo or the ashes of a deceased pet for a blessing prayer of gratitude.)

All friendly, sociable animals are welcome – we affirm fur, feathers, fins, and even scales! If your pet is shy, you may bring a photo for the blessing.

Note: A collection of pet food will be made to help our neighbors in need, through Brookfield Social Services.

DID YOU KNOW???

- Diabetes is one of the LEADING causes of disability and death in the United States.
- One in 12 Americans has Diabetes - that's more than 25 million people.
- Another 86 million Americans have pre-diabetes and are at risk for developing Type 2 Diabetes.
- Blood sugar screenings can help you determine your risk for Type 2 Diabetes.



CIS is sponsoring a Know Your Numbers Blood Sugar Screening

Sunday, Nov 15th 8:30 - 10:30am Fellowship Hall

Cost is \$30 per person, please see Pastor Jennifer if you would like assistance.

Please email or call Jeanine in the church office by October 10 to reserve a spot
203-775-1259 or office@uccb.org. You must have a reservation.

Lives of the Saints

Welcome Committee works to help our entire congregation show openness and friendliness both to visitors and each other in Christ's name. However, even our current congregation's membership doesn't do it all alone. We do it with the people who inspired us. They were and are the mentors who are forever in our hearts.

Welcome is beginning a new occasional feature in CrossWays for the stories of our own Saints who are no longer on this earth. These narratives will be similar to the bulletin biographies of Greeters. We invite you to nominate friends and family members and tell their stories. Below are the prompts that will yield the raw material for the bios.

Please e-mail Tom Young for more discussion and to get an electronic copy of the prompts.

- A. Full name of Saint. (Nicknames.)*
- B. Date and place of birth.*
- C. Family / faith / educational background.*
- D. Profession.*
- E. How did he/she come to the area?*
- F. How did he/she come to CCB?*
- G. What did he/she love about / enjoy at CCB?*
- H. What CCB projects / committees / initiatives was he/she involved in? (Examples: Men's Fellowship, Bible studies, prayer groups, prayer shawl ministry, usual booth or service provided at Yankee fair, mission trips, choir, bells).*
- I. Hobbies or passions.*
- J. Favorite story/stories about the Saint.*
- K. Anything else of interest.*
- L. These are only guiding questions; by all means, add any ideas we have left out.*

Lives of the Saints: Richard Brian Stewart

Richard was born in Pontiac, MI on April 2, 1952. He was the youngest of three children. Always a “tell me why” kind of kid, he was bound to seek higher learning. After his father lost his job in Michigan due to down-sizing, they moved from an urban area outside of Detroit, to a most decidedly NON-urban area in Williamsburg, KY, when he was 15-years-old. After high school graduation, he applied – but was not immediately accepted – to the University of Kentucky pharmacy school. So he attended Cumberland College, a more affordable alternative. His grades eventually won admittance to UK. He graduated in 1975, taking the pharmacy boards a week before his wedding to Jamie Abell, his college sweetheart. His careers led him from hospital pharmacist, to UK Field Professor, to pharmaceutical sales for Upjohn, Pharmacia and Pfizer. His later, most enjoyable years were spent in management training, experience he shared with the leadership and congregation of CCB!

His 2003 promotion with Pfizer brought him to the New York area from outside Cincinnati, OH. Sticker shock took them house hunting to Brookfield. Thank God. LITERALLY! They came to the “little white church on the hill,” knowing nothing about the Congregational Church, but instantly feeling the warmth and welcome from its members!

Raised Baptist and an avowed Bible nerd, Richard attended a year of seminary in 1977, only to decide that his service would be in lay work. He enjoyed occasional lay preaching and loved leading Bible studies with the Men's Fellowship of CCB, a group that he held close to his heart, spiritually and emotionally! He was devoted to the men's group, formed deep bonds, and loved to spend time preparing for Saturdays!

Richard was diagnosed with Stage 4 renal cell carcinoma on August 19, 2011. With his medical background, he sought to know everything he could about his form of cancer and do everything in his power to beat it. But God called home one of his most devoted followers on August 12, 2012.

Jamie wrote, “Our church family was right there with us during the fight and his return home, providing support, prayers, cards, meals and daily hugs. God richly blessed us by placing us with this church family during an incredibly tough time. We both felt that it was a God thing.” He loved his family. Wife Jamie now lives in Mason, a Cincinnati northern suburb. She was deeply treasured by Richard, who often spoke of their mutual love and respect. He would turn to her for wisdom as she was his confidante and safe harbor. Daughter Laura, 35, lives in Ohio with hubby Jeff and grandson Timothy, who loved his PopPop. Granddaughter Hailey was born 2 years after Richard's passing. Son Ben is a general manager of a LensCrafters store in Kingston, NY. Youngest son Alex lives in Brooklyn and is engaged to be married to Samantha Kumar. Next summer, they will cut their wedding cake with the same knife used by Richard and Jamie at their wedding in 1975. He would have loved that.

Richard also loved sharing tales about his family and their Appalachian background. He was a natural storyteller, whose eyes would crinkle when he smiled. He was a man who would meet you where you were, no matter if it differed from his path.

Rest in peace, Brother Richard...sweet husband, devoted father, loving friend, man of integrity.

Fellowship Of Concern



CONTINUING CONCERNS:

Sandy Boughton,
Pete Cushnie,
Judith Fisher,
Evelyn Gerowe,
Anne Hardin,
Ruthie Maxim,
Pete McPadden,
Pat Roehling,
Rod & Lavinia Schmalings,
Shirley Stoppel,

WITH THANKS:

Dear CCB family,

I would like to thank you for all the calls, cards and visits I have had following my recent surgery. It meant so much to me to know that I have so many caring friends. I really appreciate it and look forward to being back at church.

Thank you again,
Sandy Boughton

Dear Bryn,

The prayer shawl is one of my most treasured things - I'm not sure that I can remember being that touched not only by a gift but by the intent, love and prayer that went into its creation. It's somewhat symbolic that I feel the "reminder always of God's steadfast love for you" when I touch it, hug it, cry into it and am comforted by it. It is living and tangible proof that you can accomplish anything if you allow others to carry you when you need it even if you don't know that they are there at the time. I suppose it's that whole sentiment of "God doing for you what you couldn't do for yourself" - you can look for miracles, and never find them, but it's the ones that arrive in the most unexpected of ways that are the most significant.

Love, Elizabeth (Bryn's cousin, who took a CCB prayer shawl with her back to the U.S. Naval Base in Okinawa after losing an uncle, her grandfather & her father in 2015)

BAPTISMS:

- On September 13th, Adelyn Grace Santorella, daughter of Stephen and Kelly (Eaker) Santorella .
- On September 27th, Lia Olivia Reiske , daughter of Cara (Bellamy) and Edward Reiske.

CrossWays Deadline

The deadline for the November issue of CrossWays is October 15th. You can e-mail articles to Jeannine McCullough at office@uccb.org or leave them in the CrossWays mailbox outside of the church office. Please e-mail or call Jeannine McCullough, Office Manager at 203-775-1259 if you have any questions.

What are JYF & SYF?

Junior Youth Fellowship (JYF) is for 6th-8th graders. We meet regularly on Sundays from 5-6:30 pm. The JYF focuses on working together and playing together as a group. We reach out to the community and the world through projects with Brookfield Social Services and Interfaith AIDS Ministry Food Pantry, craft creation, as well as some trips. We play together, build community, and have fun relating our lives to Bible stories through games and outreach projects.

Senior Youth Fellowship (SYF) is for youth in 9th-12th grades. We meet regularly on Sundays from 7-8:30 pm. The SYF seeks to make a difference – in their own lives as well as the lives of others - by helping out in worship, offering their time to help with community service opportunities and pitching in on church projects. We gather together for discussion, games, service projects, and fellowship. The SYF also takes a week-long mission trip each year serving others and learning about new areas and cultures.

Youth Fellowship for October

Our Junior and Senior Youth Fellowship groups have gotten off to a great start! We are looking forward to a great fall and more opportunities to learn together about God and each other, and to offer our gifts and skills in service. Below is a schedule of youth fellowship events for October, but please be sure to check out the bulletin on Sunday mornings, www.uccb.org, and our JYF and SYF email reminders for more details.



Junior Youth Fellowship (6th-8th Graders):

Sunday, October 4th - Let's Make a Plan - 5-6:30pm
Sunday, October 11th - Fair Project & GA GA - 5-6:30pm
Saturday, October 17th - The Yankee Fair & Barn Sale - 8am-3pm
Sunday, October 18th - Why Do We Do It? - Discussion Night - 5-6:30pm
Sunday, October 25th—Great Pumpkin Challenge Night (More info to follow)

Senior Youth Fellowship (9th-12th Graders):

Sunday, October 4th - Let's Make a Plan - 7-8:30pm
Sunday, October 11th - Fair Project & GA GA - 7-8:30pm
Saturday, October 17th - The Yankee Fair & Barn Sale - 8am-3pm
Sunday, October 18th - Why Do We Do It? - Discussion Night - 7-8:30pm
Sunday, October 25th—Great Pumpkin Challenge Night (More info to follow)



Confirmation Class

Our confirmands have started meeting and are looking forward to a great year of learning, asking questions, and growing in faith together. We invite our church family to keep our confirmands and mentors in your thoughts and prayers as they embark on this journey together. This month we will have a few opportunities to gather:

Sunday, October 4th—Confirmands & Mentors Dinner—5-7pm
Sunday, October 25th—Confirmation Class (Jesus) - 12-2pm

Pastoral News

Thanks from Pastor Jen

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! I cannot thank you all enough for a meaningful celebration of my 10 year Anniversary here at CCB. (Special thanks to Kathy Wandelmaier for the beautiful flower arrangement, Robin Murphy for taking the lead on the yummy hospitality time afterwards, and Pastor Bryn for knowing just how to celebrate with the Spirit in worship.) Time flies when you're having fun, I guess, because I can't believe that it has been ten faith and grace-filled years since I arrived for the first time at CCB. In that time I have had the blessed opportunity to meet and be in ministry with so many wonderful people, spend time in mission work with so many, baptize babies and teens, "tie the knot" for some amazing couples, and help to celebrate the lives of some incredible saints.

The story of how I came to CCB is an interesting one (ask me sometime if you don't know it), and in hindsight I believe God knew what He was doing, because I can't imagine having spent the last 10 years anywhere else. Having an opportunity to be gathered around, prayed over, and blessed into the next years of our ministry together was true gift. Here's to some more great ministry in God's name!

Many Blessings, *Pastor Jen*

News from Former Yale Divinity School Intern, Carolyn Rolleston

After much thought, conversation, and discernment, I came to the very difficult conclusion not to continue with my internship at CCB. I determined that it would be better for me to be clear and upfront than it would be for me to continue on without being able to be fully present and engaged at the church. The central purpose of an internship through Yale Divinity School is to aid in the discernment process, and this process was helpful in that regard. I've felt called towards chaplaincy for a while. In being at Brookfield for a few weeks and looking at the year ahead, I very much missed the experience I had working as a hospital chaplain and felt the calling to pursue work more similar to that.

Please know that it's nothing about Brookfield, the staff, or the congregation that led me to this decision. Everyone was extremely kind and welcoming. In fact, the kindness of the community made this decision even harder. Bryn and Jennifer are incredible pastors, and I know that I would learn a lot from them. I do not, however, feel that God is calling me to parish ministry at this point in my life. I'm incredibly grateful for all of the work that your Pastors, Deacons, and Teaching Parish Committee put into my opportunity to be in Brookfield, and I'm very sorry that it didn't work out.

I wish this congregation all the best, and I regret that our time together was so short. I appreciate all the support that I've received and hope that you will continue to pray for me as I continue on my journey.

Blessings,
Carolyn Rolleston

News from CCB Member & Harvard Divinity School Seminarian, Jane Moran

Jane is settling in to her new apartment and classes at HDS and is enjoying her time there. She has found a job teaching church school at Memorial Church, where Alanna Copenhaver (our former YDS intern) serves and is enjoying connecting with Alanna and others there. Jane says, "Please let everyone at CCB know that (even though I am having FUN) I miss them, and I am looking forward to seeing them again soon!"

Board of Deacons

Your Deacon Branch provides a way for you to have a specific member of the Board with whom to relate. If you have requests or concerns that you'd like to share with a lay person, your Deacon is available. Naturally, if you're more comfortable calling one of the other deacons, or one of your pastors, please feel free to do so. Such requests or concerns might include:

- a need for prayer
- a request for help (transport to a doctor's appointment, church function, etc.)
- a sorrow (illness, accident, death)
- a joy (a birth, graduation, upcoming wedding, etc.)
- something that particularly pleases you, or would better meet your needs in the worship service

Remember, if you don't know your Deacon, ask someone to introduce you. He or she will look forward to meeting you – in church or out!

Deacon Branches 2015-2016

A-BRI	Leslie Sands (Stephen Ministry)
BRO-C	Barbara Anderson
D-EA	Jan Labas
EC-F	Sherrie Ruschmeyer
G-H	Carol Howe
I-LE	Mark Lyon
LI-MA	Sue Boughton
Mc-MU	Alex DeLucia
N-RI	Mary Gallagher DeLucia
RO-SC	Marie Immohr
SH-T	Dan McKee
U-Z	Gordon Markiewicz

Youth Deacons:

Jillian DeLucia
Zach Mangold

Committee Chairmen and Church Council Reps

Moderator: Dave Goral (Chair of Personnel)
Vice Moderator: Robin Murphy
Clerk: Kathy Wandelmaier
Treasurer: Sung Goral
Assistant Treasurer: Greg Dorrell
Investment Treasurer: Audrey Himebaugh



Committee Chairs

Christian Ed Melanie Shapiro
Church House Ken Arifian
Church-In-Society Marianne Gaffey
Deacons Sherrie Ruschmeyer
Fellowship Kelly Kelly
Nominating Kim Downey
Stewardship Sally Markiewicz
Welcome Carol Eagan
Worship Patty Moran

Church Council Representatives

Christian Ed Dave Honeyford
Church House Larry Ruschmeyer
Church In Society Jeanine Hanewicz
Deacons Leslie Sands
Fellowship Sara Cline
Nominating Kim Downey
Stewardship Tom Brown
Welcome Jean Dorrell
Worship Bob Brown
Historian Gordon Markiewicz

Long-Range Planning Committee

Michael Matson (chair), Roman D'Alessandro, Maurice Downey, Deseré Edwards, Cindy Field, Sian Hunter, Larry Ruschmeyer

Pastoral Relations Committee

Robin Murphy (chair), Gordon Markiewicz, Bob Lambert, Larry Ruschmeyer, Carol Eagan

Senior Pastor	Rev. Bryn Smallwood-Garcia	bryn@uccb.org
Associate Pastor	Rev. Jennifer Whipple	jennifer@uccb.org
Organist/Choir	Toni Sullivan	sullivanтт@gmail.com
Membership Care	Sue Ronan	sue@uccb.org
Church School	Barbara Crandell	barbara@uccb.org
Church Office	Jeannine McCullough	Office: 203-775-1259 office@uccb.org
Nursery Care	"Miss Debbie" Marquardt	

A message from your Stewardship Committee

Thank you for your faithful giving. As we settle back into more structured schedules this fall please review your quarterly pledge statements to see if your giving is current with your pledge commitment. You have been generous with your pledges, and we appreciate your giving. Remember, the works and ministries of the church as well as our monthly budgeted expenditures do not take a break throughout the year. Let us continue to support the life and growth of our beloved church.

- Did you know that you can give online to get caught up or to fulfill your weekly/monthly/annual giving? Go online to www.uccb.org, click on the Stewardship tab, and follow the simple prompts.
- Did you know that you can fulfill your pledge giving by setting up automatic payments with your bank?
- Did you know that there are "I Give Electronically" cards available at the church entries that you are welcome to take and place in the offering plate when it is passed to show that you financially support our church?
- Did you know that if you give by check it is very helpful to the weekly counting team to note your envelope number on your check?

Your presence, participation and generous support are greatly appreciated!

CrossWays – the newsletter of

The Congregational Church of Brookfield
160 Whisconier Road, Brookfield, CT 06804
(203)-775-1259 Fax (203)-775-3466
Email: office@uccb.org



Sunday Worship at 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

The Rev. Bryn Smallwood-Garcia, Senior Pastor
The Rev. Jennifer Whipple, Associate Pastor
The Rev. M. S. Desmond, Pastor Emeritus