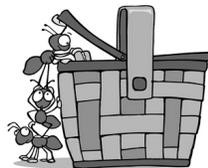




Cross Ways

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

June - July - August 2017



CCB 2017 All Church Picnic!

Sunday, June 4th after the single 10:00am service

Please join us for good fun, food and fellowship...and continued celebration!

Bring a side dish, salad or dessert to share.

Beverages, hot dogs, and veggie burgers
with all the "fixin's" will be provided.

There will also be games and activities available for
children and fun conversation starters for all ages.

All are welcome! We hope you can join us!

Church Council Meeting Notes — May 9, 2017

Long Range Planning Committee: Work on the media booth is about to get under way, and will take about a week to complete. Operators will be trained on using the new equipment. Various LRPC task forces have taken over oversight of projects; LRPC is now reviewing the maintenance plan.

Moderator: Robin welcomed new Council members: Linae Wutzl (Welcome), Eileen Koch (Worship), and Elayne Schwartz (Fellowship). The “Budget Diet” appeal yielded an additional \$5,230. One-time gifts totaled \$2,120; the balance came from increased pledges. Total budget for FY2017-18 is \$338K. Robin made a motion to have Linae Wutzl replace herself (Robin) on the Pastoral Relations Committee, for a one-year term (can be renewed for 6 terms). Wendy seconded; motion passed unanimously. Personnel Committee is working on pastor reviews — June 1 (Jen) and June 8 (Bryn). Leadership Dinner & Workshop will be 5:30 to 7:30pm Sunday, May 21. Ideally, all committees will be represented by at least one person. On the agenda: how to use Google Docs, how to run a meeting, and conflict resolution, led by Mark Lyon. Robin and Mark cannot attend the Connecticut Conference of the United Church of Christ annual meeting, so Council approved a list of names of people who will be asked to take those two lay delegate slots. Bob Brown will be our 3rd lay delegate and our pastors will also attend. The major item on the meeting agenda is the question of merging the CT conference with Massachusetts and Rhode Island conferences. Bryn made a motion to approve the minutes of the April Council meeting as written. Greg seconded; motion passed with three abstentions.

Christian Growth and Enrichment (CG&E): Luke moved to approve a total of up to \$1,420 from CG&E for 3 Silver Lake camperships, up to 8 people to attend the FEA Spring Dinner & Meeting, and up to 7 people to attend the CTUCC Annual Meeting. Greg seconded; motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer: Pledge income is up by \$14K, with expenses on target. Easter holiday offerings totaled about \$2,500. Holiday giving is budgeted at \$8,000 for the year, for both Easter and Christmas.

Worship: Kid choirs will sing again at Brookfield Common June 7. We have two new kids' choir members as a result of Bring-a-Friend-to-Church Month. Their families are attending as well.

Deacons: Deacons met with Confirmands May 3, and 8:30 outdoor chapel service begins June 11.

Christian Education: Confirmation is May 21. Sylvana Hattar painted a mural on the wall of the stairway to the choir room as her Confirmation project. Planning for December 9th Live Nativity has begun.

Fellowship: Annual Meeting went well except for a minor water softener malfunction that meant salty coffee had to be thrown out and re-made. Thanks to Ken Arifian for fixing the problem.

Nominating: One Deacon position needs to be filled. Allowing co-council reps to share a seat is under consideration, so one rep doesn't have to attend two meetings every month. This would make it easier for parents of young children to serve, but would require a by-laws revision.

Church House: Projects that will be postponed because of CH budget reduction include the automated door to Fellowship Hall, floor waxing in FH, and the organ swell box repair. Some non-essential items that break might not get repaired right away.

Church-in-Society (CIS): Thrift Shop took in more than \$650 this month. June 3 Thrift Shop will benefit SYF mission trip and IRIS. Youth will help staff a new sporting goods tent.

Welcome: With good response to CCB Facebook page, Tosha Gordon has now opened a CCB Instagram account. Welcome volunteers will pass out bubbles at the Memorial Day Parade.

Memorial Garden Committee: They thanked John Morrison, as he retires from many years of service.

Pastors: There will be a single 10:00am service June 4, Pentecost, the day of Bryn's 10th anniversary celebration. Bryn will take vacation July 27 – August 12, immediately followed by her 3-month sabbatical Aug. 13 – November 13. Tosha Gordon hopes to attend Stephen Minister Leader training in Pittsburgh in August. Vacation Bible School will take place at CCB July 10 – July 14 thanks to Janet McGovern and Jennifer and many new adult leader volunteers. The Danbury Association of Religious Communities (ARC) will hold Peace Camp July 17 – July 21. At Peace Camp, a diverse group of children ages 8 – 11 to visit 5 faith communities and learn more about them with fun games, activities, and crafts. Bryn will attend ARC's spring fundraiser on June 15, which benefits their low-income housing ministries. Bryn will be in Baltimore June 29 – July 5 as a delegate to the UCC General Synod.



Outdoor worship for the **8:30am service**
begins **Sunday, June 11th**

in the Outdoor Chapel, which is on the west end of the church property, just beyond the Memorial Garden.

*Outdoor 8:30am worship continues through Labor Day weekend.
In case of inclement weather, summer outdoor worship moves inside to Fellowship Hall.*

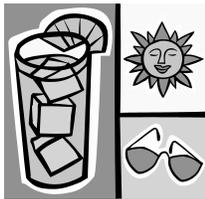


Baccalaureate Sunday, June 11th

Join us Sunday, June 11th, at both services, as we hear from a few of our graduating high school seniors about their connection with the church, as well as celebrate their upcoming achievement and learn more about their post-graduation plans.

Letters have been sent out to our high school folks, but we are never quite sure whether we have missed someone. So if you know of a high school grad who has not gotten an invitation to this special service, or you have a college grad who is on their way to new things, please let the office know so we can celebrate them that day.

We also would love to have any updated address information (i.e. college addresses once you have them, post-college addresses, etc.) for our records, so please e-mail those to office@uccb.org. Thanks!



Summer Coffee Hour

All of our wonderful coffee hour volunteers take a rest during the summer months. Would **YOU** consider hosting a coffee hour this summer? It can be very simple and even held in the courtyard if you wish. A cup of lemonade or iced tea would be fine or coffee in Fellowship Hall. If you want to also provide a sweet treat, perfect, but not necessary. There will be a sign-up in Fellowship Hall if you are interested. Any questions please contact Monica Pondiccio or Elayne Schwartz.

Summer Campfires are back

Please join us on
July 5th, 12th, 19th & 26th
from 6:00 to 7:30pm



This year our campfire evenings will begin with a **potluck barbeque** at Fellowship Hall. Bring your own meat or veggies to grill and a side dish to share. From there we will head over to our campfire circle for some fellowship, worship and fun! We will take some time to explore our faith and get to know one another. Then it's time for **singing and joke telling**. Bring your musical instrument, your favorite campfire songs, your sense of humor or all three! And feel free to invite your friends or neighbors to join us.

S'mores and lemonade will be supplied.

BYOBS (Bring your own bug spray)



Notes from the Choir Room

This has been a great year in our choir program. We have welcomed several new members into all our choirs, as well as having old friends join us again.

As I plan out the choir program for next year, there will be a few changes.

Next year we are going back to two children's choirs; the Cherub Choir (Kindergarten to 2nd grade) and the Alleluia Choir (3rd grade to 8th grade). The children in the Alleluia Choir sing and ring bells. After the singing portion of their choir, I will be directing a chime choir for children in grades 3 and 4. Karen Garren will take the more experienced ringers in grades 5 – 8 for bells.

The second change is the return of the Glory Ringers to the bell program. Those experienced ringers in grades 5 – 8 will be joined by any adults who read music and would like to learn how to ring bells. This intermediate bell choir will be directed by Karen Garren.

If you have any questions about the changes in the program, please let me know.

Schedule for the fall:

Wednesday: 4:00 – 4:45 – Cherub Choir (Grades K-2)
4:45 – 5:30 – Alleluia Choir (singing) (Grades 3-8)
5:30 – 6:00 – Beginner Chime Choir
5:30 – 6:15 – Glory Ringers (Intermediate Bell Choir)
6:15 – Pizza dinner for those who wish to stay
7:00 – 8:00 – Jubilate Ringers (Advanced bell choir)

Thursday: 7:30 – 8:30 – Chancel Choir (Adults and High School Students)

Toni Sullivan
Director of Music

**June Serendippers Gathering
Tuesday, June 13th at 11:45am**

Please join us as we welcome our own Deirdra Wallin
with a presentation on horticultural therapy.

Our menu:
Lemonade
Picnic Sandwiches
Black Bean Salad
German Potato Salad
Ice Cream Sundaes

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

Serendippers is open to everyone! Sponsored by our church Fellowship Committee, the Serendippers hospitality team provides a lunch and monthly program for daytime-available members and their friends. Please let the church office know by the 2nd Sunday each month if you will have a need for childcare. Note: Serendippers does not meet in July or August.



Dining for Women Meets Monday, June 5th

Join us at our next Dining for Women get-together on June 5th at Dianne Mariano's house. We will "travel" to Guatemala to learn about Limitless Horizen Ixil. This featured program looks to enable a team of local female staff to educate and empower 110 indigenous girls and women living in extreme poverty by providing access to education and academic support, career training, life skills workshops, mentorship, and income-generating opportunities including a community-led artisan program.

Men and women are welcome at these meetings. It's NOT about ONLY women helping out women around the world. It's about ANYONE who cares about empowering women and girls helping them gain skills and education to become leaders in their respective communities. Marie Immohr will give us more in depth information on **June 5th from 6:00 PM- 7:15 PM**. As always it's a potluck affair so bring whatever is convenient and plan to take your leftovers home. Let Dianne or Olivia Quinsland know if you plan to attend.

SYF Mission Trip Support Opportunities:

Our SYF Mission Team is traveling to Boston to work with the Boston Rescue Mission and various other organizations that serve those in need this summer. We have a number of ways you can help support this crew through prayer and fund-raising. The cost per person for the trip is roughly \$400, and we try to offset that cost for our participants and chaperones who are giving a week of their summer to help others in need. To that end please save the following dates:

Sunday, June 4th – Stock Sale

For \$10/share, you can be a stockholder in the trip. We send a “shout out” to all of our stockholders from the road, and you will be invited to a Stockholders’ Breakfast in September. If you would prefer to “order stock” via email, please send an email to Pastor Jen with the number of shares you would like. You can send a check to the church for payment or pay using PushPay.

Friday, June 2nd & Saturday, June 3rd – CCB Thrift Shop Sale

SYF Mission Team volunteers are assisting at the CCB Thrift Shop and a portion of the proceeds will help finance the mission trip. Look for the new summer sporting goods tent and bake sale !

Prayers during the trip – July 16th-22nd...We can use all of them. Thank you!

There is Big Thrift Shop News!!!!

Church in Society and Senior Youth Fellowship are co-sponsoring a weekend long thrift shop on **June 2nd, 3rd and 4th**. We are working together to raise funds for the SYF Boston Mission trip in July and for Integrated Refugee and Immigrant Services (IRIS), our Refugee Resettlement Ministry Partner.

The parsonage is bulging with wonderful seasonal clothing, shoes and accessories for men women and children! New this month will be a tent full of sporting equipment and clothing! And when you get hungry with all this browsing, a baked goods sale will be on hand!

It all begins on Friday June 2 from 6pm to 8pm for a CCB Friends and Family pre sale event with refreshments and raffle. The thrift shop will be open to the public on Saturday with extended hours from 9am to 3pm. Sunday wraps things up for anyone who missed the sale from 11am to noon.

Please stop by to say hello, support our youth and see all the new improvements our Morrison’s Gang and the Thrift Shop have accomplished over the last few months. We are very proud and can’t wait to welcome you for this fun filled weekend!



Thank you,
Karen Underhill for the CIS Thrift Shop
Jennifer Whipple and Dan McKee for the SYF Mission trip

MEET OUR CONFIRMANDS

Toby is 15 and a student at Brookfield High School. The members of his family are his parents, Greg & Heather, and his older brother, Teddy. Toby's favorite things to do are to play hockey & lacrosse, ski, draw & paint, hang with friends, and eat food. An interesting thing to know about Toby is that he was 10lbs 10oz when he was born! Toby's confirmation project was a Special Needs Buddy Skate with Matt. Toby likes CCB because we always have good coffee hour. The balcony is the coolest place to sit and take in worship, and because he feels comfortable and at home here. Toby is also a member of SYF and our SYF 2017 Mission Team.

Catie is 14 and a student at Brookfield High School. The members of her family are her parents, Jill and Jay, older brother Marc, and younger sister Rebecca. Catie's favorite things to do are to play soccer, run, and help/play with younger children. An interesting fact about Catie is that she loves to learn new things and to go on adventures. Her confirmation project was leading the Alternative Gifts Fair with Evie. When asked why she likes CCB, Catie said, "My church is a supportive caring community." Catie will be one of our youth deacons and is a member of SYF and the SYF 2017 Mission Team.

Silvana is 15 and a student at Brookfield High School. Silvana's family members are her mom Anita, her dad Bob, and her older brother Jordan. Her favorite things to do are to play with her dog Nutella, play volleyball and tennis, bake, do crafts, and listen to music. Silvana's confirmation project was painting a mural on the wall up to the choir room. She likes CCB because it is a friendly environment.

Evie is 14 ½ and a student at Henry Abbott Technical High School. The members of her family are her parents, Kelly and Michael, and her older sister Elisabeth. Evie's favorite things to do are cook and bake. Some interesting facts about Evie are that she is in the Culinary Arts program at Abbott Tech, and she loves to cook for family and friends. She is also our only confirmand from Danbury. Evie's confirmation project was organizing the Alternative Gifts Fair with Catie. Evie likes CCB because at CCB people encourage everybody to share their talents and are so welcoming and friendly! Evie is a new member of our Fellowship Committee.

Emma is 14 and a student at Brookfield High School. The members of her family are her parents, John & Kelly, her brothers Zach & Ben, and their dog Penny. Emma's favorite things to do are to be outside and to play sports. Something interesting you should know about Emma is that she loves helping and playing with little kids. Emma's confirmation project was to raise money for Tails of Courage Animal Rescue with Karli. She likes CCB because our community is kind, loving, compassionate, and welcoming. Emma is a member of SYF and the SYF 2017 Mission Team.

Karli is 14 and a student at Brookfield High School. Her family members are her parents, Susan & Patrick, and her younger brother Jack. Karli's favorite things to do are to dance and spend time with her friends and family. Her confirmation project was to raise funds for Tails of Courage with Emma. Karli likes CCB because of the welcoming and fun environment.

Matthew is 15 and a student at Brookfield High School. The members of his family are his parents, Heidi and Dan, and older sister Erin. Matt's favorite thing to do is to hang with everyone, and he thinks that you should know that he truly cares. His confirmation project was the Special Needs Buddy Skate with Toby. Matt likes CCB because he has good times here and feels connected. He is a member of SYF and the SYF 2017 Mission Team.

Ben is 15 and a student at Nonnewaug High School. His family members are his parents, Sue and Kevin, and older siblings Holly (and her husband Morgan), Sam and Cassi. Ben's favorite things to do are to work with his hands and with heavy equipment. An interesting fact about Ben is that he is a "go to" person and young handyman/landscaper. Ben's confirmation project is the CCB float in the Brookfield Memorial Day Parade. When asked why he likes CCB, Ben replied, "It's Home!" Ben is a member of SYF and the SYF 2017 Mission Team.

Fellowship Of Concern



CONTINUING CONCERNS:

Sandy Boughton
Lillian Covill
Evelyn Gerowe
Anne Hardin
Vivian Henley
Ruthie Maxim
Millicent Morrison
Pat Roehling
Dave Ryan
Lavinia Schmaling
Rod Schmaling
Shirley Stoppel

WITH THANKS:

Your donations to the CCB Book of Remembrance and Regional Hospice, in my name, mean more to me than words can express. I am still processing, with gratitude, this most meaningful tribute. Believe me, I am extremely humbled by your generosity. Remember, I am with you in spirit and love, for I will always treasure my time with you.

Carol Howe

Dear friends in Brookfield,

In the summer of 1992 I took part in a summer pastoral exchange with the then Minister in Brookfield, Sarge Desmond. We had a wonderful time in Brookfield and I remember with great pleasure the welcome, support and encouragement, we were given by your congregation. Over the years we have kept in touch with the Quinslands and try to visit with them whenever we are in the States.

This year I celebrate the 50th Anniversary of my ordination, and I want to take this opportunity to send greetings to the United Church of Christ in Brookfield and to say what great memories we have of that summer. "I thank my God every time I remember you."

In Christ,
Mike Playdon

Dear CCB Family:

As Natasha's graduation date approaches (June 7), we wanted to thank you for being such a vital faith and growth formation place for Natasha that has helped shape her into the young woman she is today. Blessings and you all are remembered in our prayers!

Cindy and Tom Radtke

CrossWays Deadline

This is the last issue of Crossways until September. ***The deadline for the September issue of CrossWays is August 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.



**Congregational Church of Brookfield's
Yankee Fair and Barn Sale
October 14th, 2017**

Save this date and please support our "Welcome Fair" as we show the community an extravagant welcome to our church fair and share our time, talents and donations.

Volunteers needed. Sign-up sheets and details to follow. Thank you!

Your Fair Chairs
Sally Markiewicz and Carolyn Lindroth

"Peanut Butter and Jelly" Food Drive

Church-in-Society will be holding a "Peanut Butter and Jelly" Food Drive. With the end of the school year approaching the children who are on the subsidized school lunch program will not have that food available to them during the summer months.

Therefore, we would like to collect "kid friendly" foods to help stock the food pantry for the coming weeks: Peanut butter, jelly, mac and cheese, Nutella, juice boxes and the like. We will be collecting items from Memorial Day through the end of June. There will be a collection box in Brooks Hall. Thank you for your consideration.



CCB Thrift Shop Update:

We are open the first Saturday of every month!
Tell your friends and family!

Dates: July 1st and August 5th, 9:00am—12noon

Leave your donations by the church mailboxes, under the stairs up to Brooks Hall and the Meetinghouse. We sort the Wednesday before the Thrift Shop date and the day of the sale, if you would like to help.

Please follow CCB on Facebook and share our page.



CCB SUMMER CHURCH SCHOOL-2017

This summer at CCB is all about Heifer Project International (HPI). Utilizing the Heifer International FEEDING 5,000 curriculum, the Twelve weeks of Summer will focus on our students developing a deeper understanding of God's call to reach out to the "least of us" by utilizing the interplay between scripture, experiential learning, and knowledge about Heifer Project.

Church school children will participate in a different type of workshop each week centered on a specific animal that Heifer offers. These workshops include Art, Drama, Geography, Photography, Storytelling, Cooking, and more. During the study of the different animals the children will produce various items to sell, such as Mason Bee Houses and Burnt Wood Nativity Scenes. Each animal project leads up to our final project of the summer....***An Ark Built Out of Graham Crackers!*** All proceeds from crafts will be applied to our Gift Ark Fund in an effort to achieve our goal of \$5,000.

Summer Church School runs from June 25th to September 3rd. It will be a One-Room Schoolhouse at both the 8:30 and 10:30 services for children in Pre-K through 8th Grade. ***Please join us all summer for an exciting animal adventure!***



Brookfield Ecumenical Vacation Bible School

July 10th – July 14th, 2017

9:00am – 12:15pm

at the Congregational Church of Brookfield

160 Whisconier Road

*Registration forms are available
outside the church office.*

Questions?

Contact BVBS Directors Janet McGovern or
Kelly Moen at Brookfieldvbs@gmail.com

Deadline is June 23rd!

SPACE IS LIMITED!!!

Like us and follow us on Facebook for updates



Are you ready for camp?!?!

Registration for Silver Lake Conference Center's summer 2016 conferences is continuing, so get your application turned in before all slots are filled!

Log on to the [Silver Lake registration website site](http://www.silverlakeect.org) at www.silverlakeect.org to find conferences for 4th through 12th graders, a Counselor-In-Training weekend, biking adventures, the National Youth Event, a trip to Mexico with Simply Smiles, and more! It's all waiting for you!

There are color brochures available in the church office. We invite you to stop in to pick one up for the young person in your family. Pastor Bryn and Pastor Jennifer are available to answer any questions you may have and to let you know about our *generous* camp scholarship program. Don't wait!

See you at the Lake!
Silver Lake Staff

Danbury Association of Religious Communities (ARC)
14th Annual Interfaith Peace Camp - 2017
for children ages 8 to 11
July 17-21, 2017
9am to 3pm

Registration forms are available in the Church Office or on-line at
<http://www.arcforpeace.org/peace-camp.htm>

Join children from other faith backgrounds for FUN and making NEW FRIENDS, while learning more about FIVE different faith communities in the Danbury area.

- A Buddhist Temple
- A Jewish Synagogue
- A Christian Church (Congregational Church of Brookfield)
- An Islamic Masjid
- A Unitarian Fellowship

For \$65 fee, camp includes snacks, drinks, lunch, crafts, games and free BUS transportation from Danbury Morris Street School to the various faith communities (if needed – a map will be provided for parents who prefer to drive). Pastors can provide scholarship assistance to those with financial need. Just ask Bryn or Jen!

By The Light of the Star



CCB's First Annual **Live Nativity** Saturday, December 9, 2017 5:30-7:30pm

Come join our church family in this very special event as we invite the larger community to come and follow the Star to find the true Gift of Christmas. We will have four living scenes depicting the birth of Christ with live actors, live animals, special lighting and music set around our church campus.

Refreshments will be served in Fellowship Hall and SERRV will host a special Christmas Bazaar to complete the evening.

Help is needed and welcome in all areas including advertising, set design, lighting, sound, acting and much more. Kathy Wandelmaier is in charge of costuming and is in need of fabric donations and sewing help This is an all-hands-on-deck, all-church event!

Please join us as we remember the true reason for the season and as we share the Good News with our community.

For more information or to get involved please contact:
Meredith Adams or Melanie Shapiro

Enjoy Your Vacation...AND Help Your Church!

CrossWays is going on vacation for the summer...and so will many of us! But CCB continues operating, serving and worshipping all year long. As you are preparing for exciting adventures to get away and relax, keep CCB on your checklist:

√ Schedule time away

√ Travel arrangements

√ Pack luggage

√ Pay bills ahead (including your church pledge)

OR

√ Set up **PushPay** for weekly CCB Pledge fulfillment, even when you can't attend worship

PushPay is an easy way to keep current with your intended giving, and the CCB App for your smartphone will keep you connected with direct links to CCB facebook, website, prayer requests, videos, pledge form, etc.



Here's a brief tutorial that only takes a few minutes:

- On your smartphone from your app store or Google Play, search for **Church of Brookfield** and install the app (you will recognize the CCB icon).
- From the CCB App home page Select the "Give" button with the **PushPay** "P" icon
- Enter your payment information and save
- To make a payment enter amount and from the "Giving Type" dropdown choices select "Pledge Payments"
- Submit (How easy is that?!)

Wishing everyone a wonderful and blessed summer!

Your Stewardship Committee

"And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him." Colossians 3:17

We celebrate Pastor Bryn's 10th Anniversary Sunday, June 4th

Please join us in celebrating Pastor Bryn's 10th anniversary on Sunday, June 4th. We will celebrate during a **single service of worship at 10:00am** and continue after with a picnic. (For more details on the picnic and things you can contribute see below.) **This day is not a surprise for Pastor Bryn, and we hope to make it very special for her.** One special request is that anyone who is able brings a single flower with them to add to a communal bouquet. It can be something from your garden or from the store...whatever works for you. We are hoping that through this celebration of nature, the diversity of what will come, and the way they come together we will be able to show how many different pieces, parts and people come together to make the family of faith we have here at CCB.

If you have questions or ideas, please contact Pastor Jen or Robin Murphy.

Pastor Bryn's Sabbatical 2017:

Per their covenant and letter of call with our church, our pastors are granted 3 months of sabbatical time every 5 years. This time is to be spent "unplugging" from the day-to-day life of the church—resting, reading, learning, spending time with loved ones, and renewing themselves for the time of ministry ahead.

As Pastor Bryn has served among us for over 10 years now, she is preparing to take sabbatical time. She will be leaving for two weeks vacation on July 27th and will follow that with her three months of sabbatical time August 13th-November 13th. During that time, July 27th-November 13th, we covenant as a church family to give her the time she needs to unplug. She will be tending to her own needs and the needs of her family during that time (and even renewing her wedding vows!). Pastor Jen will be at the church and on call for any pastoral needs, worship leadership, etc. during Bryn's time away, and any other pastoral coverage needs/arrangements during that time will also be communicated.

We are grateful for Pastor Bryn's faithful service to our church over these past 10 years and hope that this time away is spirit-filled and rejuvenating!

Youth Fellowship in June:

Junior Youth Fellowship:

Sunday, June 4th—The Bandana Games—5-6:30pm

Sunday, June 11th—Games, Graduates & Goodies—5-6:30pm

Senior Youth Fellowship:

Sunday, June 4th—Kindness Rocks Project & GA GA—7-8:30pm

Sunday, June 11th—Holi Fest & Senior Recognition Night—7-8:30pm

Note: June 11th will be the last regular meetings until September. Have a great summer!

May is a crazy month for our family. I have come to call it “Whipple Mania.” We have our anniversary, other family anniversaries, both of our kiddos’ birthdays, Mother’s Day, and all of the assorted festivities that go with all of those things. That means it is also a month of reminiscing, often times sparked by questions from little voices. “What was it like to give birth to me, Mommy?” “What did you and Daddy do on your first date?” “What did your wedding gown look like?” “Why do you look so old now?!” (That last one was a real treat!)

Then I was talking recently with a fellow church family member about this year’s Confirmation Sunday and the confirmands. As we talked I realized that these young adults were toddlers when I arrived at CCB—barely walking or talking, and winning over the hearts of everyone with their adorable dimples. Now they are young men and women—official members of our church—sharing their gifts with our community and the world. I think the same thing about our high school seniors who were just getting ready to start 1st grade in the summer of 2005 when Pastor Jen arrived on the scene. It has been amazing to see how these young adults have grown and blessed our lives and the lives of so many in the wider community.

Time is a crazy thing! (Now I sound like my grandma!) As we enter into this new season—the spirit-filled season of Pentecost in the church and the season of summer in the world, my hope is that we will find those moments to pull away, to really focus ourselves on opportunities for gratitude and on the “thin spaces” where God can speak to our hearts and lives. My hope is that we will make time to spend with those most important to us, including our church family, and to be rejuvenated by love shared. My hope is that we will take time to listen and think and discover the gifts that God has given us, so that we might know what God is calling us to do and be for the world. And so I leave you with a poem about taking time....May we do so in the spirit-filled summer days—and all our days—ahead!

Take Time (Author Unknown)

Take time to think; it is the source of power.

Take time to read; it is the foundation of wisdom.

Take time to play; it is the secret of staying young.

Take time to be quiet; it is the opportunity to see God.

Take time to be aware; it is the opportunity to help others.

Take time to love and be loved; it is God's greatest gift.

Take time to laugh; it is the music of the soul.

Take time to be friendly; it is the road to happiness.

Take time to dream; it is what the future is made of.

Take time to pray; it is the greatest power on earth.

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 2017-2018

A-BO	Leslie Sands (Stephen Ministry)
BR-CL	Doug Fisher
CO-DON	Jan Labas
DOR-F	Sherrie Ruschmeyer
G-HOR	Pete Lane
HOW-LEN	TBD
LES-MA	Sue Boughton
Mc-O	Alex DeLucia
P-RO	Mary Gallagher DeLucia
RU-SI	Marie Immohr
SL-T	Ed Insull
U-Z	Greg Labas

Youth Deacons:

Jillian DeLucia
Chris Wutzl
Catie Coneybear

Committee Chairs and Church Council Reps

Please call these elected representatives with any questions or comments regarding any matter of interest or concern to you:

Moderator: Robin Murphy
Vice Moderator: Mark Lyon
Clerk: Kathy Wandelmaier
Treasurer: Greg Dorrell
Assistant Treasurer: Kristi McPadden
Investment Treasurer: Audrey Himebaugh



Committee Chairs

Christian Ed Amy D'Alessandro
Church House Ken Arifian
Church-in-Society Lyn Lyon
Deacons Sherrie Ruschmeyer
Fellowship Kelly Kelly
Nominating Sharon Santi
Stewardship Susan Dodd
Welcome Tom Young
Worship Patty Moran

Church Council Representatives

Christian Ed Wendy Elsen
Church House Steve Waschak
Church-in-Society Luke Duval
Deacons Leslie Sands
Fellowship Elayne Schwartz
Nominating Tom Young
Stewardship Tom Brown
Welcome Linae Wutzl
Worship Eileen Koch
Historian Bob Brown

Long-Range Planning Committee

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

Pastoral Relations Committee

Carol Eagan (chair), Gordon Markiewicz, Bob Lambert, Larry Ruschmeyer, Linae Wutzl

Personnel Committee

Robin Murphy (chair), Bryn Smallwood-Garcia, Olivia Quinsland, Bill Robertson
Karen Underhill, Rick Hardin

Senior Pastor	Rev. Bryn Smallwood-Garcia		bryn@uccb.org
Associate Pastor	Rev. Jennifer Whipple		jennifer@uccb.org
Organist/Choir	Toni Sullivan		toni@uccb.org
Church School	Barbara Crandell		barbara@uccb.org
Church Office	Jeannine McCullough	203-775-1259	office@uccb.org
Nursery Care	Debbie Marquardt		



SERRV Marketplace Sale!
Sunday June 11th at 9:30am and 11:30am

While enjoying coffee hour with our new graduates please stop by the SERRV tables for our last hurrah 20% off sale! We have international items to inspire gift giving for any occasion.

This is a great time to remember the fathers, new graduates and summer birthdays in our lives or maybe find a little something just for yourself!

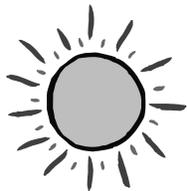
Shop SERRV and help artisans in over 30 countries around the world.

SERRV is a nonprofit, fair trade organization dedicated to lifting disadvantaged artisans, farmers, and their families out of poverty.

In our world today, handcraft production is the second largest form of employment behind agriculture. Through SERRV's nonprofit mission and deep commitment to fair trade principles, we create opportunities, strengthen communities and empower women around the world.

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 8:30am and 10:30am

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