

# **CrossWays**

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

# December 2017



# Join us for Christmas Eve Worship

# Sunday, December 24, 2017

- 10:30am A SINGLE intergenerational service of worship in the Meetinghouse, as we light the candle of LOVE. Jennifer Whipple preaches a message for all ages to enjoy.
- **5:00pm** With a children's story from Rev. Jennifer Whipple, and our traditional Christmas Eve carols and candle-lighting. (Nursery is open at this service only, but children of all ages are always welcome in worship.)
- 8:30pm With music from our Chancel Choir, plus a Christmas message from Rev. Bryn Smallwood-Garcia and traditional carols by candlelight.
- **11:00pm** Sing carols by candlelight, share communion, and enjoy special music, plus a message from Rev. Bryn Smallwood-Garcia, before departing into the magical darkness of Christmas.

#### Church Council Notes: November 14, 2017

**Long Range Planning Committee Update:** Project review sessions for members of the congregation were held after the 8:30 and 10:30 services on Nov. 12.

**Finance Task Force Update:** Greg will work with pastors to assemble a list by committee of who is authorized to approve check requests. Committee chairmen should make a list of their duties and make it available to their successor. Payment approval for utilities may be moved from Church House to Church Council. Greg will consult with Ken A. about proposed changes to budget line items for financial reports. **Moderator's Report:** Mark formally welcomed Bryn back from sabbatical. The Nominating committee needs two additional members now and will need a third when Jim Eagan finishes his term **Vice Moderator's Report:** Nearly all committee budgets have been submitted, so Mark will soon start working on next year's goal budget.

**Approval of Minutes:** Luke moved to accept the minutes of the October Council meeting as written. Tom B. seconded. The motion passed with 5 abstentions.

**Ross Solar Advertising Permission Request:** Ross Solar requested permission to use Ken A's testimonial and photos of the church's solar installation in their advertising material. Council approved the request with an email vote on Oct. 28. Nine council members responded in favor of granting permission. **Treasurer's Report:** Total income was ahead of plan by \$6,500. Expenses were \$2,200 greater than plan, mostly because of repairs to the lift. Pledge income was \$10K ahead of plan because of pledges that were pre-paid in full. Plate and non-pledge income was also ahead by \$10K. Pledge income, however, was \$24K less than plan. Stewardship will discuss ways to remind pledgers to catch up on their giving.

**Investment Treasurer's Report:** The 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter report will be ready for the December Council meeting. **Worship Committee:** The Chancel Choir has three new members. Jennifer will research training for ushers in light of the recent church shooting. The committee discussed readers and ushers for the Christmas Eve services, as well as fielding questions about appropriate dress for worship leaders and Deacons. Various extended or multigenerational families will serve as Advent candle lighters

**Fellowship Committee:** 75 people attended the West Conn production of *Evita*. Brookfield High Special Chorus will perform at CCB at 7pm on Monday, Dec. 11 and at noon Dec. 12, for Serendippers. Coffee hour hosts will get instructions on how to get a sub or cancel coffee hour if there's an emergency. **Deacons:** Stephen Ministers are considering offering a spiritual gifts inventory class in the new year, which may help volunteers discover new ways to serve. On Nov. 12, Tosha Gordon was commissioned as a Stephen Ministry leader and preached an excellent sermon explaining the program.

**Christian Education Committee:** 75 people made 40 pumpkins for the Great Pumpkin Challenge. The event raised \$250 for the Hole in the Wall Gang. The first parent support class on managing media was well attended. Kids attending the concurrent session for their age group learned how difficult it is to put toothpaste back into the tube as a way of warning them about the persistence of words and images they put on the internet. CE is looking for ways to recruit new teachers The Live Nativity needs adult "actors." **Stewardship Committee:** still needs two additional counters and help with their counting spreadsheet. **Nominating Committee:** Council discussed bringing back the Opportunity Fair as a recruitment tool. Coordinating a with Welcome's Lenten "bingo" game was suggested.

**Church-in-Society Committee:** The Thrift Shop brought in \$450 in October. Forty participants have signed up for the next SYF mission trip. Jennifer has not announced the destination yet.

Welcome Committee: Six new members joined at the 10:30 service Nov. 5. A church "bingo" game will be introduced for Lent to encourage players to attend events or try new activities as an extension of this year's Welcome theme. There will be prizes. A kids' version of the game is under consideration. **Pastors' Reports:** Jennifer officiated at memorial services for Ruth Eckert on October 12 in NJ and for Blanche Fox (with interment) at CCB on Oct. 16. Jennifer will lead the memorial for Evelyn Gerowe on November 25. Jennifer attended the showing of the film "Not Letting Go" at BHS. Bryn has written a Pastor's Page article for CrossWays in which she discusses her recent sabbatical. Al Miller has pneumonia again and is not doing well. The Ruschmeyers are celebrating Nick's latest clean cancer screenings.

#### Christmas Serendippers Gathering Tuesday, December 12th at 11:45am

Please join us for a special holiday concert as we welcome the Brookfield High School Special Chorus - Small Group, led by Mr. John LaMendola

> Our menu: Santa Claus Punch Ham Sweet Potato with Cranberry Green Bean Casserole Christmas Cookies

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 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday each month if you will have a need for childcare.



#### VETERANS OF THE CROSS

This is one of the "5 for 5" offerings of the United Church of Christ, which is sponsored each year by Church-In-Society Committee. Donations to this program help retired clergy and other church workers who struggle to make ends meet.

They may have worked for small congregations that couldn't afford larger salaries or couldn't pay into a retirement account on their pastor's behalf. This program can offer these retired "church veterans" either some emergency assistance, supplements to their healthcare premiums, or special gift checks at Christmas time.

If you wish to donate, envelopes are on the small white table near the door in Brooks Hall. Checks should be made payable to CCB, noting in the memo line (or in the PushPay drop-down menu) "Veterans of the Cross." Thank you!

NOTE: Donations to our own CCB annual end-of-year Christmas Offering can also be made at this time – either by check or PushPay (again noting on memo line "Christmas Offering"). Thank you for your generosity.

# Advent 2017: The Journey Home

"He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep." ~ Isaiah 40:11

It is our hope, as your worship leaders, that the words of the great Hebrew prophet Isaiah can guide and inspire us to offer God's tender and "extravagant welcome" once again, as it guided and inspired Jesus in his world-changing mission 500 years after the Babylonian Exile. As we walk together through this busy Advent season, we remember our church vision priority of Welcome, as many of our guests in worship will be finding their way home to church again. For others, it may be a journey for them "home" to God for the first time, as they begin a new exploration of the Christian faith. May the Lord call each one of us home to a beautiful place of hope, peace,

joy and love during this sacred season. ~Bryn, Jen & Toni

- Dec. 3 HOPE: 1st Sunday of Advent with Communion
- Dec. 10 PEACE: 2nd Sunday of Advent with Lessons and Carols at 10:30am
- Dec. 17 JOY: 3rd Sunday of Advent with Christmas Pageant at 10:30am
- Dec. 24 LOVE: 4th Sunday of Advent—SINGLE 10:30am Intergenerational worship

# Candlelight Christmas Eve Sunday, December 24, 2017

- **5:00pm** With a children's story from Rev. Jennifer Whipple, and our traditional Christmas Eve carols and candle-lighting. (Nursery is open at this service only, but children of all ages are always welcome in worship.)
- 8:30pm With music from our Chancel Choir, plus a Christmas message from Rev. Bryn Smallwood-Garcia and traditional carols by candlelight.
- 11:00pm Sing carols by candlelight, share communion, and enjoy special music, plus a message from Rev. Bryn Smallwood-Garcia, before departing into the magical darkness of Christmas.
- Dec. 31: Single 10:30am service for all ages (No church school nursery care only)

## **Christmas Flowers**



Help us beautify the Meetinghouse with poinsettias & greens as we celebrate the glory of Christ's birth. Just complete this form and return it with your donation in the offering plate, or mail it to the church office by **December 11**<sup>th</sup>. Please write on your check that it's for **Christmas Flowers**. Checks can be made payable to CCB.

If you have any questions, please call either Kathy Wandelmaier or Tina Crepeau. Note: Any donations that exceed our cost for Christmas decorations will remain in the designated Flower Fund until needed.

□ Please use my donation to provide a poinsettia to someone who is homebound or grieving.

□ I would like to take a poinsettia home after the **December 24<sup>th</sup> Christmas Eve services.** 

Your Name

Amount of Donation



### Angels for Anthems

One of the highlights of the Christmas season is the wonderful Christmas music. The Music Committee is giving you the opportunity to be an *"Angel for Anthems"* by making a donation to help support the cost of purchasing extra music for the season.

To make a contribution in memory or in honor of someone special, especially someone who really loved or loves holiday music, complete this

form and place it in the collection plate, or mail it to the church office along with your check on or before **December 11**<sup>th</sup>. Please write on your check that it's for <u>Angels For Anthems</u>. <u>Note</u>: Any donations that exceed our cost for Christmas music will remain in the designated music fund until needed. Checks can be made payable to CCB.

Your Name\_\_\_\_\_

Amount of Donation\_\_\_\_\_

Given in Memory **OR** Honor of \_\_\_\_\_\_

(circle one)





# By the Light of the Star A Living Nativity Event

During this busy Christmas time it is easy to lose sight of the true reason for the season.

We invite you to come experience the wonder of Bethlehem and follow the Star to the Greatest Gift...

# Saturday, December 9, 2017, 5-7pm\*

Bring your friends and family, tell your neighbors and share the event on social media. This promises to be a special event for our church family and the wider community.

> Join us in Fellowship Hall for a SERRV Fair Trade Bazaar, refreshments served by the Fellowship Committee and some traditional caroling.

\*\*Please wear appropriate walking shoes for the weather. \*\* This is a **nighttime, outdoor, walking** event. \*\*\*No Strollers or Pets please\*\*\* \*RAIN DATE 12/10, 5-7pm

Contact Melanie Shapiro or Meredith Adams for more information or to get involved with this ministry.

# **My Blanket Story**

By Margitta Savo



November, 1950. Thanksgiving Day. My family arrived in New York City Harbor after an arduous journey across the Atlantic Ocean. We were a refugee family who had just fled Communist East Germany. My father was a wanted man for his involvement in anti-Communist propaganda. Our destination was Iowa, where a Presbyterian Church sponsored us. We knew no English. We carried only a few suitcases.

After disembarking, we boarded a train. Halfway through the journey the train encountered a blizzard. The train had to stop, and power was lost. Our family took out our blankets to wrap ourselves in some warmth. The porter walked through, checking all the passengers and stopped in front of my family. My father was taken away. Several hours passed before he returned after all of the train's blankets were accounted for. The porter thought our family had stolen the blankets from the sleeper cars, as they looked identical. But these blankets were given to us by Church World Service (CWS), from generous donors just like you!

**Note from CIS:** Your \$10 contribution to our CWS Blanket Fund, as you place a Christmas card on the Blanket Fund Tree, will allow CWS to purchase a new warm blanket for a family in need of help today. Thank you!



#### Join Us for our Annual "Instant" Christmas Pageant

Our Instant Christmas Pageant will be held this year on *December 17th during the 10:30am service*. All children are welcome to participate, and we ask that they *arrive between 10:00 and 10:15am* for wardrobe selection. Children's Choir members are asked to come at *9:45am*.

The early service on December 17th will be in our usual 8:30am format, with a traditional sermon from the Rev. Bryn Smallwood-Garcia and communion worship.



#### Brookfield High School Special Chorus Concert – Monday, Dec. 11th at 7:00pm – CCB Meetinghouse

Our annual visit from the Brookfield High School Special Chorus, led by Mr. John LaMendola, is always a wonderful way to start the Holiday season. All are welcome to attend. The Fellowship Committee invites all BAKERS

who can provide cookies for this event to please drop them off in the Upstairs Kitchen on Sunday, December 10th. We will serve cookies and bottles of water as refreshments to the chorus and guests. *Thank you.* 

# Stephen Ministry- Small Seeds, Mighty Trees

Paul wrote, "I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God made it grow." ~ 1 Cor.3:6

#### Is it time to add more water to the seeds of faith that have been planted in you?

We recently held a Stephen Ministry Sunday service at which we commissioned Tosha Gordon as a Stephen Leader. Tosha gave a heartwarming sermon that day as she shared with us her personal journey through cancer diagnosis and treatment. She "let God in" by inviting a Stephen Minister to "walk with her", listen, and pray with and for her during that time. To watch the service go to our church's website at www.uccb.org. **The seeds were planted and now the watering begins.** 

Stephen Ministry, our church's one-on-one confidential caring ministry, has been in operation in our church for 20 years. Stephen Ministers bring distinctively Christian care to those who are making that journey through the valley of life's difficult times. Illness, grief, loss of a job, aging, divorce, there are many challenges that we go through, and a Stephen Minister can walk with you. They offer listening and comfort, bringing God's healing through faith and compassion. Some of us may recognize a call to caring ministry and apply to be a Stephen Leader or Stephen Minister. Others may accept the care of a Stephen Minister. While others will pray regularly for our Stephen Ministers and their Care Receivers.

A 50-hour training class to become a Stephen Minister will be starting in February. Classes will take place on Monday evenings and a few Saturday mornings (half day). They will run February through June. If you are hearing God's call and would like to be considered for this ministry, or would like to receive the care of a Stephen Minister, please speak to a Pastor or one of our Stephen Leaders for further information and an application.

Remember, God has plans for you to grow!

Pastors: Bryn Smallwood Garcia and Jennifer Whipple Stephen Leaders: Leslie Sands and Tosha Gordon





# Notes from the Choir Room

My plans this year were to feature a different choir each month and tell you a little about them. But last month, I remained with the Cherub Choir and explained how our song about being a child of God was truly understood as a child answered a guestion during the time for

children one Sunday morning. Something happened recently that made me want to visit the Cherub Choir once again. I have a brother and sister who have had to miss a few rehearsals. Mom asked what we were singing on Sunday, and I told her "Thanks Be To God." She said, "They know it! We now sing it as our blessing, and they plan to sing it to the grandparents on Thanksgiving." I love it when their songs go with them into the world to be shared with others!!!!

Toni Sullivan, Director of Music

# <u>Stewardship 401: Where Our Money Goes</u>

In our final class this session, we will explore where our money goes; what is supported through heeding our call to financial responsibility:

- Administrative Payroll
- Maintaining Church Campus
- Christian Education
- Ministries & Outreach

Remember: without covering the "boring stuff" the "exciting stuff" wouldn't happen. For example, we are proud of our engaging ministries, but where would these programs be if we didn't provide a safe gathering space and pay Rev. Bryn Smallwood-Garcia, Rev. Jennifer Whipple, Jeannine McCullough, Barbara Crandell, Debbie Marquardt or Toni Sullivan to facilitate them?

Through your generosity we are able to maintain our facilities to allow not only our own programs, but invite outside users to our space, many of which have been here for decades (Ability Beyond Disability, Danbury Chinese Alliance Church, Parks and Recreation and Alcoholics Anonymous). These outside users also help to pay our bills with their facilities use donations.

We are also able to donate as a congregation to many worthwhile outreach programs such as national and international mission projects of the United Church of Christ, Simply Smiles in Mexico and South Dakota, and Brookfield Social Services. And it is the congregation that approves Church-in-Society's budget at annual meeting, so this amount is voted by you.

What is your vision? What time, talents and treasure are you willing to invest to participate in realizing this vision? The church truly is the body of Christ, with many members all working with and reliant on each other. When we give, we receive! Money follows mission; "For wherever your treasure is, there will your heart be too." Matthew 6:21



# Youth Fellowship in December

## Junior Youth Fellowship (6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders)

#### Sunday, December 3rd: Deck the Halls Dinner & Event - 5-7pm

Join us for a church family meal and an opportunity to create an Advent Wreath for your family, a friend or both. We will also have the opportunity to help with decorations for our Church School wing and the meetinghouse before wrapping with a simple worship service and candle lighting. Please RSVP to <u>office@uccb.org</u> to let us know how many will attend.

Sunday, December 10th: JYF Christmas Fun - More info to come!

## Senior Youth Fellowship (9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders)

#### Sunday, December 3rd: Deck the Halls Dinner & Event - 5-7pm

Join us for a church family meal and an opportunity to create an Advent Wreath for your family, a friend or both. We will also have the opportunity to help with decorations for our Church School wing and the meetinghouse before wrapping with a simple worship service and candle lighting. Please RSVP to <u>office@uccb.org</u> to let us know how many will attend.

#### Sunday, December 10th: Baking for SYF Mission Team Bake Sale - 7-8:30pm

After a busy weekend with the Living Nativity we are planning to take it easy and bake some goodies to be sold at a pre-Christmas bake sale on December 17th.

# Sunday, December 17th: Ugly Sweater Mall Scavenger Hunt - Time TBA

It's BAAACKKKK! Don your ugliest Christmas Sweater and join us for some Scavenger Hunting around the Danbury Fair Mall. Good times will be had by all!

# Confirmation Class in December

#### <sup>9</sup> Monday, December 4<sup>th</sup> – Holy Spirit Class – 7-9pm

Note: All out-standing Opening Faith Statements and Psalm 23 rewrites are due.

Monday, December 18<sup>th</sup> – Worship Class – 7-9pm

Also come on out to the Living Nativity to help support Malachi & Ethan in their Confirmation Project endeavors!

# Celebrating Christmas with Church in Society (CIS)

As with any request made at the Congregational Church of Brookfield, we hope you prayerfully consider which, if any, contribution you can make at this very busy time of the year!

We are continuing this year with collecting gifts under our Giving Tree. How does this work? We receive gift requests from both Brookfield Social Services (approx. 5 families) and Interfaith AIDS Ministry (approx. 3 families). Under the guidelines of these agencies, adults are allowed one gift, children three gifts; gift costs are not to exceed \$30. CIS writes these requests on special shaped tags (each shape is for each family) and places these gift tags on the large Christmas tree in Brooks Hall. You and/or your family can choose a tag off the tree, purchase that gift and return it to Brooks Hall by **Sunday, December 10th** – in time for CIS to deliver the presents to these social service agencies. (Please note: *Some* of the tags are incorrectly marked. ALL family gifts are due by December 10<sup>th</sup>. However, look carefully at tag instructions about gift wrapping – some should be wrapped and others left unwrapped for CIS to inventory.)

Also on the Giving Tree will be tags for Baby Bundles, a ministry started to help new moms with items such as diapers and diaper wipes (items that cannot be purchased with food stamps). As well there will be tags for Holy Joe's coffee ministry for the troops overseas, requests for gift cards for gas/groceries/Target, etc, which are used at the discretion of the Pastors for those in need and tags to support the good work of Miriam's Kitchen. We will also collect new hats, gloves, scarves for ARC. These additional donations will be accepted throughout December, so they will not be due until **December 31**<sup>st</sup>.

Whew, what a Giving Tree with so many opportunities to share our blessings with those in need!

CIS would like to wish you and yours a wonderful holiday season, and thank you for your outpouring of generosity to our neighbors in need .



#### **Fellowship Of Concern**

#### **CONTINUING CONCERNS:**

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



#### WITH THANKS:

#### Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for the many cards, emails, phone calls, love and prayers that I was lucky to receive from you during my recent time at Danbury Hospital and Glen Hill Rehab Center. Carlo and I would not have been able to manage it all without your help. We are so grateful and appreciative for everything and everyone. Thank you.

With love,

Sharon and Carlo Santi

#### WTH SYMPATHY:

- The family of Evelyn Gerowe who died on November 9th.
- Marion Miller and family on the death of Al Miller on November 17th.

#### **CrossWays Deadline**

The deadline for the January 2018 issue of CrossWays is **December 11th**. You can e-mail articles to Jeannine McCullough at <u>office@uccb.org</u> 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.

<u>Note:</u> Because of the short holiday week the presses will run on this CrossWays very soon after Dec. 11th, so be sure to submit your article(s) by the deadline.

## Pastor's Page

### **Rev. Bryn Smallwood-Garcia**

What a wonderful "welcome home" I received at church on my first day back from sabbatical, on Monday, November 13<sup>th</sup> – and, fortunately, I can honestly say I am happy to see you as well! I told Pastor Jennifer I need to work on some brief "elevator speech" answers to your most-frequently-asked questions, which as you might guess, is a challenge for your long-winded Senior Pastor. Still, I will try:

#### Q: What did you do on your sabbatical?

- A: I rediscovered sleep! I also reconnected with friends and family, with God, and with my own soul.
- Q: Where did you go?
- A: North Carolina (beginning with family vacation at the coast and then sabbatical time in Greensboro, my home town), Brookfield, Connecticut (John kept me under "house arrest" to keep me focused on study, home, and family!) and Northern California (where John and I lived for the first 20 years of our marriage and where my daughter Lela is in college).
- *Q*: *What were the high points of your sabbatical?*
- A: Dear Husband John arranged for our family a 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary renewal of vows worship service on a North Carolina beach. During the total solar eclipse in August, I got to hike with a childhood friend in the Great Smoky Mountains. I enjoyed quality time and meaningful talks with many family members – from my 91-year-old father to my step-mom and step-siblings to my Dear Husband and young adult son and daughter. Also, I got to reconnect with my cousin who lost part of her roof during Hurricane Irma's hit on Florida and her daughter, who recently ended a tour of duty with her husband, a Commander in the U.S. Navy in Okinawa. Back in Berkeley, I could reconnect with some of my oldest friends, as we remembered happy times past and shared new stories of our now-grown children.
- *Q: What did you read or study?*
- A: Theft By Finding: Diaries 1977-2002, by David Sedaris, Born a Crime: Stories of a South African Childhood, by Trevor Noah, Preaching in Hitler's Shadow: Sermons of Resistance in the Third Reich, edited by Dean G. Stroud, Between the World and Me, by Ta-Nehisi Coates, Get Your Sh\*t Together, by Sara Knight, The Life-Changing Magic of Tidying Up and Spark Joy, by Marie Kondo, Stitches: A Handbook on Meaning, Hope and Repair and Halleluia Anyway: Rediscovering Mercy, by Anne Lamott, The Power of Now: A Guide to Spiritual Enlightenment, by Eckhart Tolle, and more than a few curricula from our UCC Stillspeaking Writers' Group. I also did a fair amount of my own writing.
- Q: How did you decide on such a wide range of topics and books?
- A: I had three sabbatical goals, linked to the states I visited: (1) In NC, to study Christian social justice work in various eras, (2) At home in CT, to study the role of spirituality in daily life, especially in the practice of home-making, and (3) In CA, to write and reflect on the Reformation at 500 and where the church needs to grow and change for the 21<sup>st</sup> century.
- Q: What else did you do or study?
- A: The deadly Neo-Nazi march in Charlottesville occurred on Aug. 11, the weekend my sabbatical began. So I was glad to be able to continue to serve in the UCC as a Racial Justice Training facilitator. My entire ministry, I have been grateful to be a part of "Open and Affirming" (OnA) churches that see taking courageous and prophetic stands for inclusion as a central to their mission. At our United Church of Christ General Synod in Baltimore in June-July 2017, I was on the national committee that finalized and presented a resolution urging churches to study and consider becoming "Immigrant Welcoming" congregations. I was able to spend time at my home church in N.C. as they were in the process of offering Sanctuary to a Mexican mother, who was facing deportation and separation from her American-born children. (Thankfully, a Federal Judge ruled in her favor and she was able to safely leave the church at the end of the summer.) I also began the study of Spanish while I was there.

#### **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-BRA	Leslie Sands (Stephen Ministry)			
BRE-CR	Doug Fisher			
D'A-EI	Jan Labas			
EL-GU	Sherrie Ruschmeyer			
HA-KE	Pete Lane			
KI-MAL	Sue Boughton			
MAN-MOR Alex DeLucia				
MU-RI	Mary Gallagher DeLucia			
RO-SIC	Marie Immohr			
SID-TU	Ed Insull			
TY-Z	Greg Labas			

#### Youth Deacons:

Chris Wutzl Catie Coneybear

#### <u>Committee</u> men and Church Council R Chair

Committee Chairmen and Church Council Reps						
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 Representa	<u>tives</u>					
Christian Ed	Kathy Taylor					
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 Comn						
Michael Matson (chair), Roman D'Alessandro, Barbara Crandell, 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), Mark Lyon, 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	203-775-1259	

#### Wanted: Office Volunteers



From time to time the need arises for office volunteers to "man the phones" when Jeannine McCullough, our CCB Office Administrator, is away. If you are interested in being a part of the team of wonderful volunteers already helping out, please let Jeannine know by calling 203-775-1259 or emailing her at office@uccb.org.

#### 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