

**Broad Brook Congregational Church**  
United Church of Christ  
122 Main Street  
Broad Brook, Connecticut 06016

**Authorized Non-Profit Organization**  
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(Permit #212)

July - August 2015



# The Wayside Beacon

Welcome Summer!

july-august 2015  
volume 83 - issue 58

There remaineth therefore a  
rest to the people of God.

Hebrews 4:9

Publication of the Broad Brook Congregational Church  
Pastor: Rev. Carol Lewis

# Broad Brook Congregational Church

122 Main Street  
Broad Brook, CT 06016  
860-623-4547

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Pastor  
Ministers  
Moderator  
Treasurer  
Organist  
Chair, Board of Deacons  
Chair, Board of Trustees

Rev. Carol B. Lewis  
All Congregation Members  
Wade Signor  
Robert Cormier  
Dr. James Clark  
Betty Stratton  
Corin Jones

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<http://BroadBrookCongregationalChurch.org/>  
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**Sunday Worship Services** are held at 10:00 AM.

**Communion** is observed on the first Sunday of each month.

**Church Sunday School** is held from September to June and starts at 10:30 AM after the children and teachers leave the Worship Service.

**The nursery** is available for parents with infants and small children during the service. The sound system in the nursery enables you to hear the worship service.

**Rev. Lewis has office hours** on Wednesdays from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm or by appointment. Calls for the Pastor should be made through the church office at 860-623-4547.

Please email [staff@broadbrookcongregationalchurch.org](mailto:staff@broadbrookcongregationalchurch.org) with announcements or corrections to the weekly Bulletin or the Beacon.

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## A Message From Rev. Carol Lewis



Things are winding down and the slower pace of the summer season is a welcome change of pace. As members scatter to places of rest and rejuvenation, know that you will be missed while you are absent.

During the summer months our Sunday worship services will be held in the social hall where it will be cooler. We will also be using a window air-condition when necessary. Our services will be more informal and I have a few creative worship services that I will roll out. God is doing a new thing! We invite you to come and see! Come and share in joyful worship of our Holy and Loving God.

**Rev. Lewis'  
 Office Hours  
 Every Wednesday**

*July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29  
 August 5, 12, 19, 26*

The following poem was shared at a clergy group I belong to. If you ever feel as though one person cannot make a difference in the world, please pull this out and read it anytime you feel insignificant.

### *The Inner Flame*

I am not more than  
 a wisp of smoke  
 to the world  
 but to God  
 I am a flame of hope and promise  
 in a darkened room.



- Joan Noeldechen

Blessings,  
 Rev. Carol



# Bible Stories

Submitted by Rich York

A father was approached by his small son who told him proudly, "I know what the Bible means!"

His father smiled and replied, "What do you mean, you 'know' what the Bible means?"

The son replied, "I do know!"

"Okay," said his father. "What does the Bible mean?"

"That's easy, Daddy..." the young boy replied excitedly, "It stands for 'Basic Information Before Leaving Earth.'"



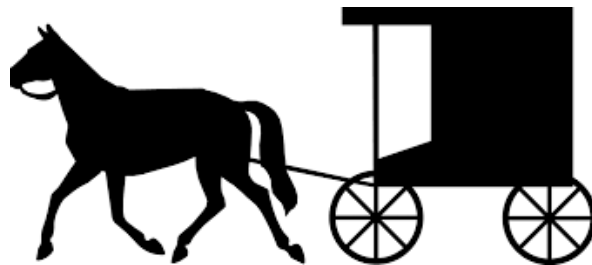
=====  
"Somebody has said there are two kinds of people in the world. There are those who wake up in the morning and say, "Good morning, Lord," and there are those who wake up in the morning and say, "Good Lord, it's morning."

=====  
A minister parked his car in a no-parking zone in a large city because he was short of time and couldn't find a space with a meter. He put a note under the windshield wiper that read:

"I have circled the block 10 times. If I don't park here, I'll miss my appointment. Forgive us our trespasses."

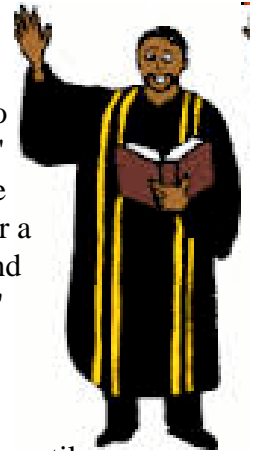
When he returned, he found a citation from a police officer along with this note "I've circled this block for 10 years. If I don't give you a ticket I'll lose my job. Lead us not into temptation."

=====  
While driving in Pennsylvania, a family caught up to an Amish carriage. Attached to the back of the carriage was a hand printed sign...  
"Energy efficient vehicle: Runs on oats and grass. Caution: Do not step in exhaust."



# The Church Goer

A Church goer wrote a letter to the editor of a newspaper and complained that it made no sense to go to church every Sunday. 'I've gone for 30 years now,' he wrote, 'and in that time I have heard something like 3,000 sermons, but for the life of me, I can't remember a single one of them. So, I think I'm wasting my time and the priests are wasting theirs by giving sermons at all.' This started a real controversy in the 'Letters to the Editor' column.



Much to the delight of the editor, it went on for weeks until someone wrote this clincher:

'I've been married for 30 years now. In that time my wife has cooked some 32,000 meals. But, for the life of me, I cannot recall the entire menu for a single one of those meals. But I do know this: They all nourished me and gave me the strength I needed to do my work. If my wife had not given me these meals, I would be physically dead today. Likewise, if I had not gone to church for nourishment, I would be spiritually dead today!'

*When you are DOWN to nothing, God is UP to something!  
Faith sees the invisible, believes the incredible and receives the impossible! Thank God for our physical and our spiritual nourishment!*



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<input type="checkbox"/>	Office Supplies	\$
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sunday School	\$
<input type="checkbox"/>	Coffee Hour	\$
<input type="checkbox"/>	Historian (storage containers)	\$
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (Please Specify)	\$
<input type="checkbox"/>	Deacon Wish List	\$
<input type="checkbox"/>	Discretionary Fund	\$

Total Amount of Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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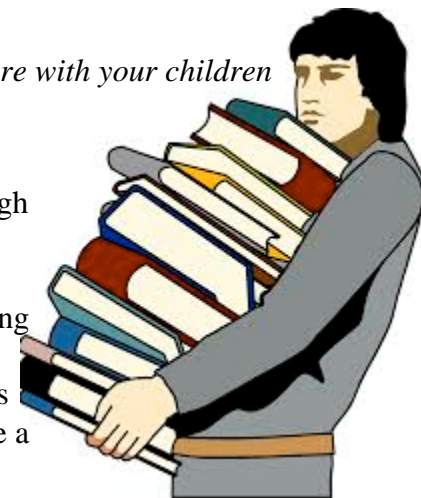
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Send your request to: Board of Trustees  
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Broad Brook, CT 06016

## The Story of Kyle

*A wonderful anti-bullying story to share with your children*



One day, when I was a freshman in high school, I saw a kid from my class was walking home from school. His name was Kyle. It looked like he was carrying all of his books. I thought to myself, 'Why would anyone bring home all his books on a Friday? He must really be a nerd.'

I had quite a weekend planned (parties and a football game with my friends tomorrow afternoon), so I shrugged my shoulders and went on. As I was walking, I saw a bunch of kids running toward him. They ran at him, knocking all his books out of his arms and tripping him so he landed in the dirt. His glasses went flying, and I saw them land in the grass about ten feet from him... He looked up and I saw this terrible sadness in his eyes. My heart went out to him. So, I jogged over to him as he crawled around looking for his glasses, and I saw a tear in his eye.

As I handed him his glasses, I said, 'Those guys are jerks.' They really should get lives. He looked at me and said, 'Hey thanks!'

There was a big smile on his face. It was one of those smiles that showed real gratitude. I helped him pick up his books, and asked him where he lived. As it turned out, he lived near me, so I asked him why I had never seen him before. He said he had gone to private school before now. I would have never hung out with a private school kid before. We talked all the way home, and I carried some of his books. He turned out to be a pretty cool kid.

I asked him if he wanted to play a little football with my friends. He said yes.

*- cont'd on pg. 4*

# The Story of Kyle *(continued)*

We hung out all weekend and the more I got to know Kyle, the more I liked him, and my friends thought the same of him.

Monday morning came, and there was Kyle with the huge stack of books again. I stopped him and said, 'Boy, you are gonna really build some serious muscles with this pile of books everyday! He just laughed and handed me half the books.

Over the next four years, Kyle and I became best friends. When we were seniors we began to think about college. Kyle decided on Georgetown and I was going to Duke. I knew that we would always be friends, that the miles would never be a problem. He was going to be a doctor and I was going for business on a football scholarship.

Kyle was valedictorian of our class. I teased him all the time about being a nerd. He had to prepare a speech for graduation. I was so glad it wasn't me having to get up there and speak.

Graduation day, I saw Kyle. He looked great. He was one of those guys that really found himself during high school. He filled out and actually looked good in glasses. He had more dates than I had and all the girls loved him. Boy, sometimes I was jealous! Today was one of those days.

I could see that he was nervous about his speech. So, I smacked him on the back and said, 'Hey, big guy, you'll be great!' He looked at me with one of those looks (the really grateful one) and smiled....

'Thanks,' he said.

As he started his speech, he cleared his throat, and began:

*cont'd on pg. 16*

## BBCC FLOWER DEDICATIONS

Dedicating a flower is a wonderful way to honor someone you love and respect. To arrange to have flowers any Sunday, contact Corin Jones at 860.654.1877. The arrangements are *only* \$22.00.

Your check should be made payable to Broad Brook Congregational Church. We also do double dedications if the date you want is taken.



### Mail-In Flower Dedication Form

Name:

Address:

Dedication:

Enclose your check for \$22.00 payable to: ***Broad Brook Congregational Church*** and mail to us at: Broad Brook Congregational Church, P.O. Box 466, Broad Brook, CT 06016

*Cut out the coupon above and send in your flower dedication. We list the dedications in the Sunday Bulletin and on our website at <http://BroadBrookCongregationalChurch.org>.*

# The Story of Kyle - part 3

'Graduation is a time to thank those who helped you make it through those tough years. Your parents, your teachers, your siblings, maybe a coach...but mostly your friends.... I am here to tell all of you that being a friend to someone is the best gift you can give them. I am going to tell you a story.'

I just looked at my friend with disbelief as he told the first day we met. He had planned to kill himself over the weekend. He talked of how he had cleaned out his locker so his Mom wouldn't have to do it later and was carrying his stuff home.

He looked hard at me and gave me a little smile.

'Thankfully, I was saved. My friend saved me from doing the unspeakable.'

I heard the gasp go through the crowd as this handsome, popular boy told us all about his weakest moment. I saw his Mom and dad looking at me and smiling that same grateful smile. Not until that moment did I realize it's depth.

Never underestimate the power of your actions. With one small gesture you can change a person's life - for better or for worse. God puts us all in each others lives to impact one another in some way.





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## FROM THE BOARD OF DEACONS - Betty Stratton, Chair of the Board of Deacons

*Submitted by Betty Stratton*

Summer is here! Did we ever think in February and March that summer would ever come?

The Board of Deacons decided that we will hold worship services during July and August in the Fellowship Hall where it will be cooler on those hot humid days. We will also run the air conditioner in the fellowship hall. **Please don't stay home because of the heat!**

The Children's Day Program was held on June 14<sup>th</sup>. The children sang "All things Bright and Beautiful;" some sang solo parts. They all did a great job! The children received certificates and flowers. An ice cream social followed in the Fellowship Hall.

Thanks to Linda York for her dedication in teaching our young people during the year. Thank you also to everyone who has volunteered to give a children's sermon during the year.

Greeters are needed for September through December. Please see the sign up poster in the Fellowship Hall.

The Lay Reader schedule is complete from July through December. If you are not able to read on the day assigned, please see Betty Stratton.

The Board of Deacons will assume their regular monthly meetings starting August 23- after taking the months of June and July off. One of the scheduled topics to be discussed this fall will be the Biannual Membership Review. The Constitution and By Laws state that this review shall be done every 2 years. The list of Active Members will be reviewed and based on a Church vote, the membership status may be changed from Active to Inactive.

New American and Christian flags have been installed in the sanctuary. The old flags have been dried cleaned and will be kept in the safe in "acid free" boxes. They were donated in the 1970's by the Neelans Family in Memory of Ida Foster Neelans.







## AUGUST

Mrs Katharine Joy Bauer	1
Mrs. Tracy Ann Snow	2
Mrs. Margaret Arnold	2
Mrs. Linda York	4
Joseph Abraham Nicoll	6
Hannah Rushlow	11
Tyler Curran	11
Mr. William A. Stratton	13
Mary Velazquez	13
Mrs. Laura L. Callahan	16
Mr. Bruce Nodwell	20
Mrs. Karen Marquis	21
Mr. Jonathan Scott Prouse	21
Mrs. Jill Cameron	24
Aiden Elliott Siekiera	27
Zachary Adam Owens	30
Rev. Dr. Joseph M. Callahan	31

## JULY

William LaCross	2
Mrs. Cindy Bedard	2
Mrs. Deborah Siekiera	4
Anthony M. Siekiera-Bombard	5
Mr. Calvin Myers	6
Mr. Kevin M. Nodwell	7
Mr. John Curran	7
Mr. Joseph Ivanisin	7
Mrs. Carolyn Feldman	18
Mrs. Corin Jones	20
Miss Regina McNeely	22
Colin Michael Snow	26
William Andrew Wallace	29



Call or email Debbie Siekiera 860-627-5181 - dlsiekiera@yahoo.com, to add/remove birthdays or anniversaries.

## JULY ANNIVERSARIES

Mr. & Mrs. Harry Lacross	12
Mr. & Mrs. Kyle Snow	15
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Bedard	31

## AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

Mr. & Mrs. Wade Signor	10
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# Strawberry Rhubarb Dessert

*Here is a great lazy summer recipe for a dessert I make all summer long because our rhubarb grows like weeds!!! This recipe is in our cookbook on page 81. If anyone would like some rhubarb to make the recipe.....just ask...we'll pick it for you, just come and get it or we can bring some to church on Sunday mornings. - Debbie Siekiera*

4 to 6 cups of fresh Rhubarb cut into 1" pieces

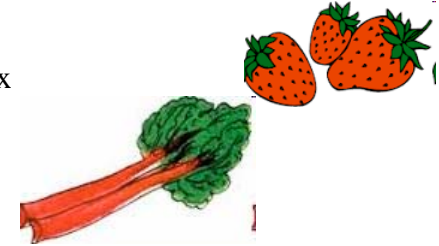
1 - 3oz. pkg strawberry or raspberry jello (sugar free jello is my preferred choice)

¾ cup white granulated sugar

1 – 18oz pkg white or yellow cake mix

¼ cup butter, melted

1 cup cold water



1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Prepare a 9 x 13 sheet pan by spraying it with Pam or equal product.

2. Wash, trim then slice rhubarb into 1 inch pieces. Place and spread the pieces into bottom of sheet pan, spreading the pieces equally.

3. Pour Jello packet equally over the rhubarb, then the sugar.

4. Spread the dry cake mix evenly over the rhubarb pieces.

5. Melt the butter then slowly pour it over the cake mix in a back and forth motion.

6. Add the cold water carefully pouring it over the dry cake mix.

7. Bake in a preheated oven for approx 45 minutes. The top will get golden brown. The jello juices will be bubbling.





## Sunday School Help

Our Sunday School attendance is growing. There is a great need for extra teachers. Mrs. York has been doing a wonderful job with some assistance from Becky Bonelli as it has been a busy year for them. The age spans between students is making it necessary to separate the older children from the younger ones to better serve each group of children. Please consider making a difference with our youth! All materials will be provided. Please see Linda York if you would like to help.



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## Helping With Physical Challenges At Our Church

At Broad Brook Congregational Church, we've been working diligently to make our building more accommodating to those with physical challenges. This is what we have done so far:

- We have a chair lift and a helper to get you up/down the stairs to/from the sanctuary.
- We have wheelchairs and walkers available.
- We have portable hearing devices to help hear the service.
- We modified restrooms to be more wheelchair friendly.
- We replaced our side entrance stairs with lower stair risers, a larger landing outside the door and added handrails to both sides of the stairs.



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## Ways & Means Report

*Submitted by Debbie Siekiera*



The following is a list of tentative dates set for the 2015 BBCC Fundraising:

Tag Sale .....August 15  
Pulled Pork Supper.....September 19  
Turkey Supper .....October 24  
Ecumenical Bazaar.....November 7 (?)  
Pot Roast Supper .....December 12

Our goal is to go with the dates posted as much as possible. We have not heard from this year's host church in regards to the Ecumenical Bazaar. At looking at the community calendar for the Scout Hall, we are assuming November 7th has been reserved. We will know more by our next issue of the Beacon. The other date we will watch is our supper in December. We would hope to have good weather. We won't ask anyone to come out in bad weather and will keep an eye on that date so we can update everyone as soon as possible.

Our committee needs to explore other fresher ideas for fundraisers for 2016. If anyone knows, hears or took part in an interesting new way to raise money.....please let someone know on our committee. We would love to hear from you even if you have some fresh twists to the fundraisers we already do.

As most of you know.....we did not lead off our fundraising efforts with our annual Corned Beef and Cabbage dinner. The weather had just been awful in March. Our parking lots were unsafe with extreme piles of snow making parking and walking very difficult. We even had to push our plant sale to a later date because our foliage and yards were so late to bloom. We are now pushing our fundraising efforts to fill the second half of the year. Our schedule will be busy leading off with the tag sale.....we hope that we can count on your continued

*- cont'd on pg 8*

## Ways & Means Report, *continued*

support of either helping with our tag sale, serve a supper, make a dessert, buy a meal ticket or make something to be sold at the bazaar or whatever it takes to make our fundraising efforts successful. We have been truly blessed through the years with everyone's supportive efforts, we couldn't do this without you. As always we will keep you posted as to what, where and when we need your help. Sign-up sheets will be posted and notices will go in the bulletins and the Beacon.

### Our Annual Tag Sale

will be held on Saturday, August 15th from 9 - 3. We will start collecting items to sell after Children's Day on June 14th. Workshops for sorting, pricing and receiving items will be held on Monday and Wednesday evenings from 7 to 9 pm throughout the month of July

and the first week in August. More workshops may be scheduled as needed before the event. We could always use extra tables the day of the sale so if anyone has any we could borrow please let Mike or Debbie Siekiera know, we can pick them up and return them to you after the sale is over. Pick-up of donated items can also be scheduled by calling Mike or Debbie at 860-627-5181. This is our home phone, if we are unable to answer....please do leave a message, we will return your call as soon as possible. We will have a sign up sheet in the fellowship hall for where we will need help the day of the tag sale. The biggest thing is to get the items carried out to the tables in the morning so please at least set aside about an hour to help us get set-up. We will provide free refreshments to our workers throughout the day.





## Our Calendar

\*JULY  
5- Communion

\*AUGUST  
1- Communion  
15 - Tag Sale  
23- Deacons meet @ 11:15am

- Rev. Lewis holds office hours every Wednesday: 10:00am to 1 pm.
- The 2nd Sunday each month is the "monthly collection for the food pantry"
- \*NOTE: During the summer months of July and August, the worship service will be held in the fellowship hall where the temperature is a little cooler.

## CONGRATULATIONS



Congratulations to Linda York on her retirement from teaching. She was a special education teacher in the Tolland School system.

Congratulations to Rich York on his recent retirement.

Congratulations to Linda and Richard York on the birth of their newest granddaughter, Amelia Grace Walker. She is the daughter of Aaron and Diane (York) Walker.

Congratulations to Hannah Townsend upon graduating from Fermi High School in Enfield. She is the daughter of Sheri Townsend, and grand daughter of Melissa Tatro.

# Memorial Garden Order Form

Fill out the form below with your desired inscription to purchase a Memorial Garden engraved brick and /or a Memorial Garden nameplate. Send the form along with \$35.00 for **each** item to:

## Memorial Garden

Broad Brook Congregational Church  
P.O. Box 466, Broad Brook, CT 06016

## Memorial Garden Brick:

(placed within the garden, along the path, on the mulch) (Leave spaces between words and dates)


## Memorial Garden Nameplate:

(placed onto the Dovecote Pole) (Leave spaces between words and dates)


*Note: allow 4 weeks to produce nameplates and bricks.*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Contact number/email \_\_\_\_\_

## Lay Readers



### July

- |    |                |                                     |
|----|----------------|-------------------------------------|
| 5  | Warren Wenz    | 2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10,<br>Psalm 48   |
| 12 | Tracey Nieroda | 2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19,<br>Psalm 24 |
| 19 | Mike Siekiera  | 2 Samuel 7:1-4a,<br>Psalm 89:20-37  |
| 26 | Jim Clark      | 2 Samuel 11:1-15,<br>Psalm 14       |

### August

- |    |                   |   |
|----|-------------------|---|
| 2  | Debbie Signor     | 2 Samuel 11:26-12:a,<br>Psalm 51:1-12         |
| 9  | Bob Cormier       | I Kings 19:4-8,<br>Psalm 34:1-8               |
| 16 | Katherine Mickens | 1 Kings 2:10-12; 3:3-14.<br>Psalm 111         |
| 23 | Wade Signor       | I Kings 8:22-30, 41-43,<br>Psalm 84           |
| 30 | Debbie Siekiera   | Song of Solomon 2: 8-13,<br>Psalm 45:1-2, 6-9 |

## SEND YOUR NEWS AND PICTURES



(pets welcome) for inclusion in the Beacon. We also need interesting images for the cover. Email  
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## Hymnals Order Form

Each hymnal costs \$20.00. To donate a hymnal to the church, fill out the following form, neatly printing how the front inside cover donation plate should read. Turn in this form and a check for \$20.00 to BBCC, indicating "hymnal fund" in the memo. Thank you for your generosity.

Hymnal Donated by: \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send your donation to:

Music Committee  
Broad Brook Congregational Church  
122 Main Street  
Broad Brook, CT 06016



## For Parents of Young Children -

At Broad Brook Congregational Church, we offer a comfortable play room with a sound system so you can hear the service when you feel your child gets too difficult during the service.



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