



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

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March-April 2017

The Wayside BEACON

MARCH - APRIL 2017

For behold, the winter is past;
the rain is over and gone.
The flowers appear on the earth,
the time of singing has come,
and the voice of the turtledove
is heard in our land.

- Song of Solomon 2:11-12

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

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



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
Karla Vince

<http://BroadBrookCongregationalChurch.org/>
 <https://www.facebook.com/BBCongregationalChurch>

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.

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 with announcements or corrections to the weekly Bulletin or the Beacon.

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**A Message From
 Rev. Carol Lewis**



This past Sunday we kicked off our Lenten Journey by celebrating Shrove Tuesday (which originally began on a Sunday as a three day feast) with a gastronomic feast of pancakes, bacon, real maple syrup, and every other topping you could want. Also known as “Fat Tuesday” or Mardi Gras in France or Pancake Day in England, its origins began in the Middle Ages. Food items like, eggs, milk, meats, fats, and fish were restricted during Lent when fasting was the priority. In order to use up these items before they spoiled during the next forty days, families would have big feasts on the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday.

As I write this, we will be celebrating Ash Wednesday in an ecumenical service held at the First Congregational Church of East Windsor. This is the official beginning of our Lenten faith journey. The Scripture readings for this day are: Isaiah 58:1-12, Psalm 51:1-17, 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10, and Mathew 6:1-6, 16-21.

The prophet Isaiah calls us to confront our social sins. Rather than giving up something this passage reminds us of our responsibility to meet the needs of the poor and marginalized among us.

Psalm 51 encompasses the depth of meaning that the season of Lent holds.

It reminds us of the need to spend time in self-reflection and the need for penitence. Our deliverance from our sins comes from God alone.

2 Corinthians passage is from the heart of Paul’s second letter to the Corinth church. It provides a helpful meditation on the goal of Christian life. Being reconciled with God is the goal of Christian life always, but especially during Lent we are called to go deeper into a period of penance and renewal.

Matthew’s text stands at the center of Jesus’ Sermon on the Mount. During Lent we come to church looking to be challenged and made ready to accept the heartache and joy of the cross to come. However, the church confines the season to six weeks of doing good, instead of expanding Lent to become a way of life. We go through the motions of discipline but fail to learn to live holy lives because a deeper relationship with our Creator who sees in secret will be reward enough.

I invite you to read and ponder these Scriptures and listen for the still speaking God to speak words of good news to you.

The following are the lectionary readings for the season of Lent:
 March 5, Abundant Grace: Gen. 2:15-17, 3:1-7; Ps 32; Romans 5:12-19; Matt 4:1-11
 March 12, Bold Blessing: Gen 12:1-4a; Ps 121; Rom 4:1-5, 13-17; John 3:1-17
 March 19, Thirsty Voices: Ex 17:1-7; Ps 95; Rom 5:1-11; John 4:5-42
 March 26, Restored: 1 Sam 16:1-13; Ps 23; Ephesians 5:8-14; John 9:1-41
 April 2 Breath of Hope: Ezek 37:1-14; Ps 130; Rom 8:6-11; John 11:1-45
 April 9 Palm Sunday: Liturgy of the Palms Matt 21:1-11; Ps 118:1-2, 19-29
 Liturgy of the Passion Isa 50:4-9a; Ps 31:9-16; Philippians 2:5-11; Matt 26:14-27:66
 April 13 Maundy Thursday: Ex 12:1-14; Ps 116:1-2, 12-19; 1 Cor 11:23-26; John 13:1-17, 31b-35.
 April 14 Good Friday: Isa 52:13-53:12; Ps 22; Hebrews 10:16-25; John 18:1-19:42
 April 16 Easter: Acts 10:34-43; Ps 118:1-2, 14-24; Colossians 3:1-4; John 20:1-18.

Have a Blessed and Fruitful Lenten journey and a joyous Easter!

Rev. Carol



Rev. Lewis' Office Hours
Every Wednesday

March 1, 9, 15, 22, 29
April 5, 12, 19, 26



Let my teaching fall like rain and my words descend like dew, like showers on new grass, like abundant rain on tender plants. – Deuteronomy 32: 2



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Phone Number: _____

Reason for Donation: _____

Send your request to: Board of Trustees
 Broad Brook Congregational Church
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Easter Lily Dedications



Given by _____
In Memory or Honor of (*circle*) _____

I will take the Lillies after the Easter morning service. Y / N
Please donate my plant to a homebound member. Y / N

Each plant is \$13.00. Make checks payable to **Broad Brook Congregational Church** and send to PO Box 466, Broad Brook, CT 06106 or give to Joyce Bonelli or Betty Stratton.

Use a separate form for each order.

Sunday Altar Flower Dedications

Dedicating a flower is a wonderful way to honor someone you love. To arrange to have flowers any Sunday, mail the coupon below with your check. Arrangements are only \$22.00.

Check 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

Sunday School News

The Junior Sunday School Class finished their class in January called "Learning to Use My Bible". Two students finished the requirements for a certificate including learning general facts about the Bible - how to look up Bible verses, about the Books of the Bible, completing worksheets, and working on a time-line of events from the Bible. Congratulations to Lilly Raymond and Lyndsie Brown for completing all eight units.

The Sunday School has been learning about Jesus and his disciples during the season of Epiphany. We talked about Jesus as a child, his baptism, his teachings, and his call for us to be disciples. We learned about God's light, about being followers of Jesus, about making good choices, and about love. Each week we worked on making a table top scene where the children could act out some of the stories about Jesus from the Bible. The children were very creative both in their artwork and while telling the stories.



March is leading us into the season of Lent. We will continue to learn more about Jesus, his miracles, and his teachings. We will learn how Jesus died and came back to life, what happened at the Last Supper, what communion means to us, and about the power of Jesus. A children's missions project will be started on March 5, 2017. Participation in the Lenten, Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, and Easter services will also be planned. Our annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held after services on Easter Sunday, April 16, 2017. Donations of wrapped candy that will fit in the plastic eggs are welcomed.

The Sunday School continues to need volunteers to help each Sunday. Please help us by signing up to help for at least one Sunday during the Lenten Season.

From the



**CHRISTIAN
EDUCATION
COMMITTEE**

-from Linda York

Ways & Means

Welcome to 2017! It's a new year with a whole new slate of fun activities for BBCC!

We had to skip our popular Corned Beef & Cabbage due to a recent death in the chef's family. We are sorry to have to do that but the timing of getting the supper organized fell within the same timeframe of the family member in hospice care to the Memorial Services after her death.

The Ways & Means Committee met February 25th for a preliminary discussion of events and dates for the year. Once these events are confirmed, we will post them in the next issue of the Beacon, in our Sunday bulletins, on our website and on our facebook page. Stay tuned to all media! We are also thinking about sending out postcard reminders.

In the meantime, please mark your calendar -- our Annual Spring Plant Sale will be May 13th.

As always if anyone has any great ideas, please let a member of our committee know. We look forward to seeing our regulars, welcoming newcomers and supporting our community thru our fundraising efforts. Thank you in advance for being a part of our successes!

Committee Members: Debbie Siekiera, Mike Siekiera, Joyce Bonelli, Debbie Signor, Alice Wenz, Corin Jones

Missions Committee

The Missions Committee continues to support the 5 Corner Cupboard with food collections and monthly donations from the congregation. The food bank presently needs hot chocolate, white rice, flavored rice sides, hearty beef and chicken soups, gravy and broth, canned meats, feminine supplies, and paper towels. Any donations are highly appreciated.

The Missions Committee will be meeting soon to plan 2017 Missions Giving and special projects. If you would like the church to support a worthy project or organization, let the minister or a member of the committee know. (Linda York, Carol Lewis, Debbie Signor, Warren Wenz, and Katherine Mickens.) We are always looking for new ideas.



5. Whisk in the flour and beer mixture until combined.
6. Pour the cake batter into the tin and bake for an hour. The middle of the cake may still be slightly wet when you take the cake out, but it will firm up as it cools down.
7. Leave to cool completely in the tin as it is quite a damp cake and could collapse.

Baileys Cream Cheese Icing

1. Cream the butter and icing sugar together until well mixed.
2. Add the cream cheese in cubes slowly until incorporated.
3. Add in Baileys. Continue mixing for 5 minutes until the icing is light and fluffy.
4. Dollop lashings of the icing onto the top of the cake to recreate the froth on a glass of Guinness. If you are feeling particularly dexterous, slice the cake length-wise and fill the cake with the icing too (there will be definitely be enough icing).



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Dark Chocolate Guinness Cake

with Baileys Cream Cheese Icing

- from Debbie Siekiera

I chose a recipe that is suitable for St. Patrick's Day or any adult party, where it's always a good excuse to add booze to a dessert! The dark chocolate and beer play off of each other in flavor, the Bailey's complement the cake with the frosting. This cake is very dense in texture and a good balance in sweetness. It is perfect for our anniversary since Mike is the Guinness guy and I favor the Bailey's. We get to toast ourselves with dessert!!

Prep time: 20 mins
Cook time: 1 hour
Total time: 1 hour 20 mins
Serves: 12

Ingredients

Dark Chocolate Guinness Cake

- 1 cup Guinness beer
- 1 cup + 1 tbsp butter
- 2/3 cup cup cocoa powder
- 1 3/4 cups superfine sugar
- 2/3 cup sour cream
- 2 eggs
- 1 tbsp vanilla extract
- 2 cups plain flour
- 2 1/2 tsp baking soda

Baileys Cream Cheese Icing

- 4-5 cups sifted icing sugar/powdered sugar
- 1/2 cup butter at room temperature
- 1-8oz pkg. cream cheese at room temperature
- 4-6 tbsps Bailey's Irish Cream (or to taste)

Instructions

1. Preheat oven 350°F, butter and line with parchment paper a 9" springform tin.
2. Melt the butter into the Guinness in a saucepan over low heat.
3. Whisk in the cocoa and sugar, take the saucepan off the heat.
4. Beat the sour cream with the eggs and vanilla in a separate bowl until combined, than add to the beer mixture.



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

- Betty Stratton



Turn your clocks ahead March 12, 2017!

Lent will start with an **Ecumenical Ash**

Wednesday service, March 1st, 7:00 pm at the East Windsor Congregational Church, Scantic.

On Sunday March 5, the first Sunday in Lent, the brass in the sanctuary will be replaced with wood by the Deacons and Rev. Carol at the start of the worship service.

Psalm Sunday is April 9th. Psalms will be distributed to the worshippers by the children.

Maundy Thursday Worship service will be celebrated on Thursday, April 13 @ 7pm. Maundy Thursday is associated with Jesus' last words after the Last Supper, "A new command I give to you: that you love one another, as I have loved you." (John 13:34) We also celebrate the service in memory of Jesus' Last Supper with the disciples as he commanded us.

Easter Worship Service at Broad Brook Congregational Church will be held on Sunday March 16 at 10 am.

On March 18, 5:00 pm, A Community Fun/ Game Night with a pot luck supper will be hosted by Broad Brook Congregational Church. Each family attending is to bring a vegetable, main dish, or salad to share. There will be games, **old fashion fun and good food!** Please call Betty @ 860-623-2729 with the number attending. This is open to the community. (storm date March 25)

On April 23 at 10:00 am and 2:00 pm, **A Blessing of the Animals** will be held.

On April 30, **The Rev. Thomas Clough from the UCC** will be visiting Broad Brook Congregational. There will be a pot luck lunch followed with a discussion.

Lay Readers

March

5- Joyce Bonelli
12- Warren Wenz
19- Katherine Mickens
26- Rich York

April

2- Wade Signor
9- Warren Wenz (Palm Sunday)
16- Mike Siekiera (Easter)
23- Dr. James Clark
30-Debbie Siekiera

Children's Sermons

March

5 -Communion
12-Katherine Mickens
19-Dr. James Clark
26- Rev. Carol

April

2-Communion
9-Linda York (Palm Sunday)
16- Rev. Carol (Easter)
23- Rev. Carol (Blessing of
the Animals)
30- Wade Signor

Call to Special Meeting

The Members of Broad Brook Congregational Church are hereby called to attend a special meeting to be held on Sunday, March 12, 2017 immediately following the worship service.

The purpose of the meeting is to:

1. To discuss further the installation cost of the new furnaces and air conditioning as was voted on at the February 19, 2017 meeting.
2. conduct any other business thought proper at this time.

Betty Stratton, Clerk-Pro-Tem



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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"^{SP} 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





March

Mrs. Selma Grant	4
Mrs. Cyndi LaCross	4
Mrs. Debbie Signor	9
Miss Chelsea Morin	12
Mr. Michael Savoie	22
Miss Katelyn Curran	24
Mr. Joseph Bonelli	25
Miss Patricia Savoie	28
Mrs. Amanda DiMauro	29
Dylan Brown	31

April

Mrs. Carol Ballard	2
Miss Victoria Ruth Sweet	4
Mrs. Patricia Harlan	5
Mrs. Nancy Nodwell	5
Mrs. Connie Cormier	9
Ms. Katherine Mickens	9
Mrs. Judie Nodwell	11
Miss Soareena Reel-Skinner	12
Mr. Avery Jones	17
Miss Chelsea Marquis	18
Miss Lyndsie Brown	20
Miss Kristy (Signor) Easton	20



Happy Anniversary

March

Mr. & Mrs. Calvin Myers	10
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Siekiera	17

April

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Cormier	5
Mr. & Mrs. William A. Stratton	16
Mr. & Mrs. Jason DiMauro	20

*For changes: Debbie Siekiera 860-627-5181/
dlsiekiera@yahoo.com*

BBCC extends its deepest sympathies to Debbie & Mike Siekiera and their family on the passing of Debbie's mom Theresa Cahoon on February 6, 2017. Memorial Services were held in their family church in Theresa's hometown of West Warwick, Rhode Island.



OUR EVENTS

March

- 1- Ash Wednesday Ecumenical service 7 pm @ EW Congregational Church
- 3- World Day of Prayer
- 5- Communion/Food pantry collection
First Sunday in Lent
- 12- Special Church Meeting 11:10 am
Daylight Savings time (clocks ahead)
- 16 – Church cleaning 9:00 am
- 18- Family Fun/Game Night with pot luck supper-5:00
(storm date 3/25)
- 19- Deacons meet @ 11:20 am
- 26- Council meeting @ 11: 20 am (light lunch)

April

- 2 – Communion/Food Pantry Collection
Easter Lilly Forms due
- 9 – Palm Sunday
- 13 – Maundy Thursday Service 7:00 pm
- 14 – Good Friday
- 16 – Easter Service 10:00 am
- 23 – Blessing of the animals 10:00 am and 2:00 pm
- 30 - Rev. Tom Clough, UCC minister visiting –
pot luck lunch and discussion @ 11:20 am

- * Rev. Lewis holds office hours every Wednesday: 10:00 am to 1:00 pm.
- * The 2nd Sunday each month is the monthly collection for the Food Pantry.

Silver Lake Announcement

Silver Lake Conference Center offers more than summer camp! Join us March 24-26, 2017, for two special weekend programs: Maple Sugaring for young people in grades 6-8 and the Women's Yoga and Music Spirit Retreat. Sign up online at www.silverlakect.org.

Questions about Silver Lake- jennnc@ctucc.org or 860-364-5526.

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:

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

Memorial Garden Bricks:

(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 _____



& Community Pot Luck Supper

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Saturday
MARCH 18th
5:00 PM

(Storm Date 3/25)

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

Questions? Call the church: 860-623-4547- leave a message.
Or call Betty Stratton - 860-623-2729.