



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

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January - February 2013

The WAYSIDE Beacon

LET THE CHILDREN COME TO ME

Our Prayers to the Children & Families of Newtown

Newsletter of the
Broad Brook Congregational Church

Pastor: Rev. Michael J. Ader

January - February 2013

<http://BroadBrookCongregationalChurch.org>

Volume 69

Issue #44

The Wayside Beacon

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The Broad Brook Congregational Church

United Church of Christ

122 Main Street, P.O. Box 466

Broad Brook, Connecticut 06106

860.623.4547

Pastor

Ministers

Church Clerk

Assistant Clerk

Treasurer

Organist

Chair, Board of Deacons

Chair, Board of Trustees

Sunday School Superintendent

Chair, Bd. of Christian Education

Moderator

Secretary

Bulk Mail Manager

Pastor Rev. Michael J. Ader

All members of the Congregation

Kristin Curran

Robert Cormier

Dr. James Clark

Betty Stratton

Corin Jones

Wade Signor

Tomaca Govan

Warren Wenz

<http://BroadBrookCongregationalChurch.org>

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.

Nursery supervision is provided for infants and children ages 5 and under during Sunday morning Service.

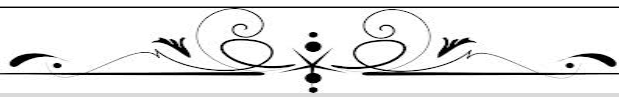
The **Choir** meets every Sunday at 8:45 AM from September through June. Adults and young adults are welcome even if you don't consider yourself a strong singer. Come and make a joyful noise unto the Lord!

Calls for the Pastor should be made through the office at 860-623-4547.

Please email Tomaca, info@TGovan.com with announcements or corrections to the Beacon.

For mailing label corrections call Debbie Siekiera @ 860.627.5181.

Visit us on the web. <http://BroadBrookCongregationalChurch.org>



OUR EVENT CALENDAR

2013 – January

1	Happy New Year
2	Rev. Ader has office hours 9am to 1 pm
6	Communion Annual Ladies Tea at the home of Selma Grant 2-4 pm
9	Rev. Ader has office hours 9 am to 1 pm
12	Confirmation Class Meet – pizza party @ 5 pm
13	Baptism of Christ ANNUAL REPORTS DUE
16	Rev. Ader has office hours 9 am to 1 pm
19	Deacons meet @ 9am
23	Rev. Ader has office hours 9 am to 1 pm
27	Annual meeting, lunch @ 11:30 am
30	Rev. Ader has office hours 9 am to 1 pm

February

3	Communion
6	Rev. Ader has office hours 9 am to 1 pm
13	Rev. Ader has office hours 9 am to 1 pm Ash Wednesday
14	Valentine's Day Rev. Ader has office hours 9 am to 1 pm
15	BEACON NEWS DUE
16	Deacons meet @ 9 am
17	First Sunday in Lent
20	Rev. Ader has office hours 9am to 1 pm
24	Lenten Lunch @ 11: 15 am
27	Rev. Ader has office hours 9am to 1 pm

March

10	Lenten Lunch
17	Lenten Lunch
24	Palm Sunday
31	EASTER

Pastoral Passages

from
Rev. Mike Ader



What have we been taught to do in a crisis like this one, the tragedy of Sandy Hook Elementary School? Crises by their very nature turn our comfortable worlds upside down. And so

we enter this New Year so afflicted. Even though we expect that the world around us to change constantly is was not to be like this. So we ask what is real and what can we depend on? It turns out to be our souls. Our world is neutral, but we do get to decide how we react to it. It's a little like the saying about viewing that proverbial glass of water: it half full or half empty? How we look at things can make us feel better or worse.

We have a choice. In our Gospels Jesus repeatedly tells us that our purpose to be loving and helpful, kind and forgiving. Everything that happens either brings us closer to that life goal. So as we enter this New Year, on which end of the spectrum are we living? Are our actions bringing us closer to peace, joy, happiness and healing? If not, let that is the place to start rethinking our personal journey no matter what's going on in the wider world.

For example, the more tightly we cling to what we possess, the more we may lose. As in nature, when a stream is dammed up, it becomes stagnant and dies. But when an opening is made, no matter how small, and the water freely flows, life returns again.

Any personal shortcomings we think we possess contradict the Christmas Season we have just completed. God reaches out to us continuously: first when we were created; again when we discovered Jesus as our Savior and in our personal experience of Him during our recent holiday or in crises. God has gone out of his

- Continued on page 2 -

Pastoral Passages, *contd.*

way so that we could understand this simple truth. We must extend ourselves in love to all whom we meet and even to those who haven't yet crossed our minds.

Another year begins. Another resolution? Our world is in the throes of change. Are we ready for such a paradigm shift? We have the opportunity to be part of any solution. Gandhi said, "Be the change you want to see in the world." So even during these when evil seems to lurk about and our first impulse may be to "hunker down," it is in giving from our hearts that we will find salvation.

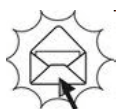
"Only what you have not given can be lacking in any situation." (A Course in Miracles) It's all here inside us. We have the responsibility to change our world by expanding upon God's abundance that rests in each one of us. This is how we were guided to the moon and discovered miracle drugs. Our abundance which guides us to help others in need, to forgive them when it is not easy and to pray with them when we least feel like praying.

So if only for this next month, remember who walks with you, and how great is the love that you have to give. May this be your resolution and your promise to all God's children all over the world. ☒

- Rev. Mike

Questions? Call Rev. Mike at BBCC at 860.623.4547 or send an email to RevMike@BroadBrookCongregationalChurch.org.

Get the E-Sermon!



Send an email to RevMike@BroadBrookCongregationalChurch.org and you will be added to the Sunday Sermon Email List.

TRUSTEES' REPORT - no report this month.



Any Given Sunday

Please join us for church on any given Sunday @ 10:00 a.m.!

The Pastoral Search Committee was formed at the Council Meeting held in November and will be meeting with the Conference Minister, Rev. Thomas Clough, in January. This will officially start the Search process. The members of the Committee are: Bob Cormer, Mike Siekiera, Bob Jones, Karla Vince, and Tracey Morin.



Sign-up sheets are in the Fellowship Hall or contact as follows:

Lay Readers, Greeters & Children Sermons -

- Betty Stratton 860-623-2729

Refreshments - Selma Grant 860-623-3542

Flowers - Corin Jones 860-654-1877

Ride to Church - Rich York 860-623-4287

Notes of Cheer, etc. - Nancy Nodwell 860-623-6045

To add news and information in the next Wayside Beacon, email Tomaca- info@Tgovan.com The deadline is February 15th.

BBCC WEBSITE!



Our website is a very handy tool in these ever changing times. It offers visitors much insight to see what BBCC is all about. It shows our viewers how to contact us, tells them what programs we offer, shows them our calendar of events, mentions what types of fundraising we do, lists the mission programs we support, has The Wayside Beacons for download, the minister's sermons and so on.

It also helps past members, friends and families from afar keep in touch with us. Any BBCC member/committee can utilize this tool by adding something to help show our viewers what we are all about. Contact anyone on the website sub-committee: Mike Siekeira, Debbie Siekiera, both at (860) 627-5181 and Bob Cormier (860) 292-6848.



BBCC Sunday Sermons

Rev. Ader's sermons are available on our website: <http://BroadBrookCongregationalChurch.org> under the **Pastoral Passages** heading.



*Our Condolences to the Loubier Family
on the death of Karen's Husband,
Michael.*



The 5 Corner Cupboard

We are always collecting donations of food and basic toiletry needs for our local food bank, The 5 Corner Cupboard. Please leave your donation in the labeled bin found in the Fellowship Hall near the kitchen door. Thank you. - Missions Committee



Submit your photos to be considered for The Wayside Beacon cover! Be creative! Photos of church events are also welcome. Email photo to Tomaca - info@tgovan.com

Remember to check our website for Volunteer Listings and Flower Dedications! We list who has signed up for Greeters, Deacons, Lay Readers and Children Sermons. <http://BroadBrookCongregationalChurch.org>



Support the Friendship Committee

There are openings for coffee hour host/hostess. Please check the sign-up sheet in the fellowship hall to see which weeks are available.

BOARD OF DEACONS



- Betty Stratton, Chair of the Board of Deacons

Rev. Ader has been with Broad Brook Congregational Church since July 1, 2012. I

would like to report on some of his Pastoral activities since starting with Broad Brook Congregational Church.

Some of the Pastoral activities that he has conducted are two funerals, attended a funeral of a member's father, numerous pastoral visits and telephone calls to shut in members and those in the hospital. Communion was served in the hospital. He makes numerous telephone calls weekly to those who can not attend church. He has contacted all of those who resigned recently and has met with some of them. He has written letters to the members of those in the Confirmation class. Christmas Letters were sent to some inactive members inviting them to the Christmas Eve service.

The meetings that Rev. Mike has attended include the Deacons monthly meeting, Council meetings, Pastoral Relations meetings, 2 Church Discussion meetings, The CT Conference UCC Annual meeting, East Windsor Clergy Association monthly meetings, Hartford East & Tolland Association Committee on Ministry and the Mass UCC Conference of Clergy Community of Practice. Rev. Mike attended and took part in the Thanksgiving Ecumenical pot luck worship service held at East Windsor Congregational Church.

I wish to explain that there may seem to have been many changes in the bulletin and order of Worship. These changes all were approved by the Deacons prior to appearing in the bulletin. Yes, some changes seem that "we" were moving "away" from the way it was done prior. These changes seem to make for a smoother flow and the Hymns reflect Rev. Mike's sermons. The offering plates were moved to the



Children's Sermons

JANUARY

6- Communion
13- Linda York
20- Katherine Mickens
27- Rev. Ader

FEBRUARY

3- Communion
10- Tracey Morin
17- Dr. James Clark
24- Rev. Ader



Lay Readers

JANUARY

6- Linda York
13- Wade Signor
20- Kristin Curran
27- Tracey Morin

FEBRUARY

3- Joyce Bonelli
10- Bob Cormier
17- Jose Velazquez
24- Katherine Mickens

A Brother's Love, *cont'd.*

words were, "And now, Albert, blessed brother of mine, now it is your turn. Now you can go to the academy to pursue your dream, and I will take care of you."

All heads turned in eager expectation to the far end of the table where Albert sat, tears streaming down his pale face, shaking his lowered head from side to side while he sobbed and repeated, over and over, "No ...no ...no ...no."

Finally, Albert rose and wiped the tears from his cheeks. He glanced down the long table at the faces he loved, and then, holding his hands close to his right cheek, he said softly, "No, brother. I cannot go. It is too late for me. Look ... look what four years in the mines have done to my hands!

The bones in every finger have been smashed at least once, and lately I have been suffering from arthritis so badly in my right hand that I cannot even hold a glass to return your toast, much less make delicate lines on parchment or canvas with a pen or a brush. No, brother ... for me it is too late."

Albrecht became very well known as the greatest artist of the Northern Renaissance. His portraits, sketches, watercolors, engravings, etc hang in every great museum in the world.

One day, to pay homage to Albert for all that he had sacrificed, Albrecht Durer painstakingly drew his brother's abused hands with palms together and thin fingers stretched skyward. He called his powerful drawing simply "Hands," but the entire world almost immediately opened their hearts to his great masterpiece and renamed his tribute of love "The Praying Hands." http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Praying_Hands_-_Albrecht_Durer.png

The next time you see a copy of that touching creation, take a second look. Let it be your reminder, if you still need one, that no one - no one - ever makes it alone and reflect on the hope, love and sacrifice they represent.



Debbie Siekiera

How & Why I Came to be a part of BBCC



When I was told that I was the featured person in this issue of the Beacon I had no idea what I would say. I write so many things that go into these publications with no difficulties. It is a little different and awkward writing about yourself, so here goes!

First, I firmly believe the person I became is partly a result of coming from a large family with 3 brothers and 3 sisters, and being the second oldest and the oldest girl. I was born in Rockville, CT but grew up in West Warwick, R.I., where some of my siblings and their families still reside. My mom and in-laws are close by in the next town over. Coming from a large family seems to mold you into the person you become without even realizing it. My mother is also an example and can tell you as she was one of 8 children and the oldest girl. There is so much truth to the poem "Children Learn as they Live." I learned responsibilities the hard way, how to share, to fight for what's yours, be independent because you were on the top of the totem pole of kids and you needed to be an extra set of hands, how to earn your own money for the things you wanted because your parents couldn't afford to spend their money on foolish things like records and trendy things, how to be creative with your time or else mother needed more chores done! I can look back at my childhood knowing that I didn't have it so bad. It is easy to say that now as I

Debbie Siekiera

How & Why I Came to be a part of BBCC

have learned what it takes to juggle my own family, career, household and interests. You learn to appreciate what your parents had to give up supporting such a large family. It was even more difficult on my mother because my grandfather came to live with us not too long after my grandmother died. He was not an easy person to live with. He was great with us kids but tough on my mom.

I came to BBCC 6 months after our son was born back in 1989. I was ready to be involved in a church again. I kept driving by this quaint looking little town church. One day I saw an ad in the local paper for BBCC event with a contact name and her phone number so I called....here it is 23 years later!

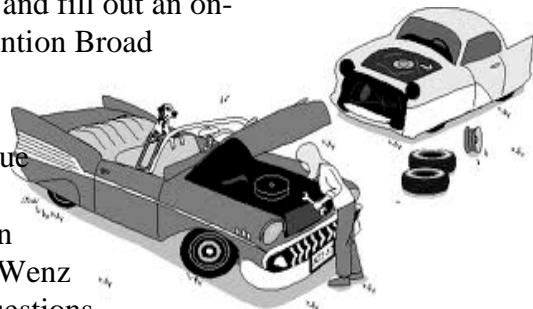
Since coming to BBCC, I have served on numerous committees. Currently, and most notably, I am proud to be serving as secretary on the Board of Deacons, I am the woman beside the man (my great, fabulous husband Mike, our BBCC chef) on the Ways & Means Committee, the Publicity Committee where I proofread and assemble these Beacons for mailing plus maintain the mailing lists, help on the Nominating Committee and once again, helping out with our Sunday

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DONATE YOUR OLD CAR and help needy families. *How? Easy!* Call 603.595.9272 or go on

line to <http://CarsForHelp.com> and fill out an on-line application. Be sure to mention Broad Brook Congregational Church.

The church will receive 25% of the proceeds so it can continue its kind deeds in our own community. Cars in ANY condition are accepted. Contact Warren Wenz at 860-623-5912 if you have questions.



A Brother's Love

There is no other love like the love for a brother. There is no other love like the love from a brother.

Back in the 1400's, in a tiny village lived a family with eighteen children. Eighteen! In order merely to keep food on the table the father, a goldsmith by profession, worked almost eighteen hours a day and any other paying jobs he could find. Despite their seemingly hopeless condition, two of Albrecht



Durer the Elder's children had a dream. They both wanted to pursue their talent for art, but they knew full well that their father would never be financially able to send either of them to study at the Academy.

After many long discussions at night in their crowded bed, the two boys finally worked out a pact. They would toss a coin. The loser would go down into the nearby mines and, with his earnings, support his brother while he attended the academy. Then, when that brother who won the toss completed his studies, in four years, he would support the other brother at the academy, either with sales of his artwork or, if necessary, also by laboring in the mines.

They tossed a coin. Albrecht Durer won the toss and went off to the academy. Albert went down into the dangerous mines and, for the next four years, financed his brother, whose work at the academy was almost an immediate sensation. Albrecht's etchings, his woodcuts, and his oils were far better than those of most of his professors, and by the time he graduated, he was beginning to earn considerable fees for his commissioned works.

When the young artist returned to his village, the Durer family rejoiced and Albrecht rose from his honored position at the head of the table to drink a toast to his beloved brother for the years of sacrifice that had enabled Albrecht to fulfill his ambition. His closing

- Continued on page 28 -

RECIPES FROM BBCC

Submitted by Beth Siekiera Walker

Italian Peasant Soup

Yields 8 servings

- 2 15 oz cans of cannellini beans,
rinsed, divided
- 3 Tbls olive oil, divided
- 1 med onion, halved and sliced
- 4 cups shredded cabbage
- 3 cloves of garlic, minced
- 1 clove garlic, halved
- 3 14 oz cans reduced-sodium
chicken broth
- Freshly ground pepper to taste
- 8 slices of day-old whole-wheat
country bread, cut 1/2 inch thick
- 1 cup grated fontina cheese



1. Mash 1 1/2 cups beans with a fork.
2. Heat 1 tsp of the olive oil over medium heat in a dutch oven or soup pot.
3. Add onion and cook, stirring often, until softened and lightly browned, about 2 - 3 minutes.
4. Add cabbage and the minced garlic; cook, stirring constantly until cabbage has wilted, 2 - 3 minutes.
5. Add broth, mashed beans and the whole beans; bring to a simmer.
6. Reduce heat to medium-low, partially cover and simmer until the cabbage is tender, 10 - 12 minutes.
7. Season with pepper to taste.
8. Shortly before the soup is ready, toast bread lightly and rub with the cut side of the halved garlic clove
(lightly or heavily depending on taste).
9. Divide toast among 8 soup plates. Ladle soup over the toast and sprinkle with the cheese.



Ring the Bell

Broad Brook Congregational Church will be Ringing the Bell on January 1, 2013 at noon.

The Rev. Charles L. Wildman, interim Conference Minister Ct. Conference UCC wrote:

January 1, 2013 is the 150th anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation, by which President Abraham Lincoln declared that millions of enslaved Americans were free. I write to ask you to ring the bells of your church **at noon on January 1st 2013**, in celebration of this historic event, and in company with churches, municipal buildings and other institutions of all kinds, who will be doing the same.



Birthdays & Anniversaries

January

Mrs. Beth Siekiera Walker	6
Mr. Zachary Siekiera	9
Mrs. Janice Lang	10
Mr. Todd J. Emmette	22
Mrs. Katheryn M. Zeuschner	26
Ms. Katherine Siekiera	30

February

Mrs. Joyce Bonelli	1
Mr. Tyler Morin	11
Mr. Jason DiMauro	12
Mr. Jerry Marquis	14
Mrs. Penny Savoie	18
Arthur Sweet	20
Miss Amanda Bonelli	23
Miss Brittany Townsend	28



Happy Anniversary - January

Rev. Dr. Joseph & Laura Callahan
January 10

Mr. & Mrs. Mathew Curren
January 28

WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE

Submitted by Debbie Siekiera

2012 in Review

This has been a very busy year with our fundraisers. Our five suppers held this past year were especially a hit and that encourages us to keep them coming. We never know how much help will show up to help put one on but they do show up! We really couldn't put these suppers on without all of you. So, if you helped out at one or all of our suppers....THANK YOU for your help. We thank our supporters who help with our wish lists, bake, serve, clean, our dishwashers, those who wash our linens, etc. and then there are those who come just to eat. We need you the most to be able to continue. The reviews after their meals are uplifting.

Our plant sale is a big success as well. It is an incredible number of plants that come in and go. The good thing with the plant sale is the plants are at minimal cost. The labor however, is a labor of love! Our gardeners sure do know what they are doing and digging! Our biggest contributor who runs this sale is Joyce Bonelli. We thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

Our "Annual Tag Sale" had to go by the wayside this year. We are so sorry but this could not fit it in the schedule this summer. Our sale has become a popular outlet for our community as well. We still received phone calls for pick-ups. I didn't have the heart to say no! I was hoping to take part in a tailgate sale but the time was not there. We have had some nice things contributed, with much anticipation to re-schedule for 2013, we have placed them in the balcony to save for hopefully next year. We'll have a head start with collections. Many thanks to those who have contributed.

This year's Ecumenical Bazaar was held at the Scout Hall this year. We continued to stick with the tradition of providing a booth for each one of the 6 different churches who took part. There was also an area set aside for lunch and refreshments. The board of organizers welcomed the Cornerstone Church to the Ecumenical Bazaar

To the Glory of God



**The Flower Committee thanks
everyone for their flower dedications!**

November - December 2012

November

- 4 Karen Loubier, in Memory of Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Osborn
- 11 In Honor & In Memory of All Who Have Served in the Military
- 18 Bonnelli family in honor of Joseph Abraham Nicoll.

CORNUCOPIA

- 25 Bill and Betty Stratton in loving memory of her parents, Ruth & Earl Camp

December

- 2 The York Family in memory of Bruce Sheldick
- 9 Dave Conant & Joyce Jordan, in Celebration of Grace's 11th Birthday
- 16 POINSETTIAS
- 23 POINSETTIAS
- 30 Mrs. Deborah Breton in memory of her husband Normand E. Breton & Loved Ones

- ❖ -

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* \$17.50. 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 \$17.50 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>.

WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE

Organization. A meeting was held after to review the new location. Everyone agreed to give it another try again next year. They thought the location felt like a warmer setting. Everyone was a little closer and in one room including the lunch area. The parking seemed to be ample as well. We were the host church where this new venue presented a challenge as not knowing what to predict. This new location meant that we were the first to set the stage for our future events held there. Heavy note taking was in order to create a new log book to pass around to the next host church. Another new thing added to the mix this year is the organization agreed to share or team up with other churches to be able to have the workers needed to host. In the past, some churches have had to pass on hosting as the work load was too taxing on their members. We look forward to working together in 2013. That date is set for November 2, 2013. Mark your calendars!

Another date set in stone is our Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner fundraiser. It will be held on the first Saturday in March. By having it that early people are craving that meal. That meat and our homemade Irish bread set the stage. We also like to offer desserts with a green theme! Of course there's carrot cake too! Who can resist a great meal like that?! So while it's fresh on your mind, mark your calendar for this dinner on March 2, 2013!

Our committee will convene soon to discuss the year in review and plan out a new schedule for 2013. The schedule will be posted in our next issue of The Wayside Beacon. Anyone with some fresh new ideas for fundraising please feel free to pass the information on to anyone on our committee. You can find us in church on most Sundays. Feel free to visit us there as well! Services are at 10:00 am and our social time starts immediately following the services with some goodies and beverages. Our members are Mike Siekiera, Debbie Siekiera, Joyce Bonelli, Corin Jones, Debbie Signor and Alice Wenz.

Here's to a Happy New Year in fundraising and our fellowship time with you! God Bless you all. ✠



CUT-A-COUPON

Making a donation as a wonderful way to remember a special anniversary, to say "thank you," celebrate a special event, or to make a donation in memory of a special loved one or a friend who has passed away. Check the appropriate box below to tell us where you would like your donation to go.

✂✂✂✂
<input type="checkbox"/>	Building Maintenance.....		\$
<input type="checkbox"/>	Music Committee.....		\$
<input type="checkbox"/>	Kitchen & Cleaning Supplies.....		\$
<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).....		\$

Total Amount of Donation \$ _____

(Please make check payable to **Broad Brook Congregational Church**)

Your Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Reason for Donation: _____

Send your request to: Board of Trustees
Broad Brook Congregational Church
P.O. Box 466
Broad Brook, CT 06016



RECIPES FROM BBCC

Submitted by Mike Siekiera

Quick & Easy Chicken Pot Pie

- 1 pkg ready made pie crust
- 2 cups cooked diced chicken
(great with leftover turkey too!)
- 2 lbs pkg. frozen mixed vegetables
- 1 can cream of chicken soup
- 1 can diced potatoes, drained
- dash of nutmeg to taste



Preheat oven to 425°F

1. Place pie crust in 9" pie pan according to pkg directions.
2. Cook the vegetables in the microwave according to pkg directions.
3. Add all the other ingredients in large bowl, stir to mix well.
4. Place mixture in prepared pie plate.
5. Cover with top crust, crimp to seal.
6. Bake in preheated oven for 35 minutes. Let set for 5 minutes before serving.



ELECTRONIC SERMON DELIVERY!

Enjoy the convenience of receiving Sunday sermons via email. Put your email address on the yellow pad in the narthex or give it to Rev. Ader.

Baby Food Jars Still Wanted

2 ounce glass baby food jars are needed for craft projects. If anyone knows of a source or has some hanging around, please call Debbie Siekiera @ 860-627-5181.



Don't forget to like BBCC on Facebook!


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**)



Three rows of empty boxes for writing numbers, each row containing 12 boxes.

Memorial Garden Nameplate: (placed onto the Dovecote Pole)
(Leave spaces between words and dates)

[illegible]

Note: allow 4 weeks to produce nameplates and bricks.

Name _____

Contact number/email



Guarding the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier
ARLINGTON CEMETERY - Submitted by

Warren Wenz

1. How many steps does the guard take during his walk across the tomb of the Unknowns and why?

21 steps: It alludes to the twenty-one gun salute which is the highest honor given any military or foreign dignitary.

2. How long does he hesitate after his about face to begin his return walk and why?

21 seconds for the same reason as answer number 1.

3. Why are his gloves wet?

His gloves are moistened to prevent his losing his grip on the rifle.

4. Does he carry his rifle on the same shoulder all the time and, if not, why not?

He carries the rifle on the shoulder away from the tomb. After his march across the path, he executes an about face and moves the rifle to the outside shoulder.

5. How often are the guards changed?

Guards are changed every thirty minutes, twenty-four hours a day, 365 days a year.

Guarding the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier ARLINGTON CEMETERY - Cont'd.

6. What are the physical traits of the guard limited to?

For a person to apply for guard duty at the tomb, he must be between 5' 10' and 6' 2' tall and his waist size cannot exceed 30.

They must commit 2 years of life to guard the tomb, live in a barracks under the tomb, and cannot drink any alcohol on or off duty for the rest of their lives. They cannot swear in public for the rest of their lives and cannot disgrace the uniform or the tomb in any way.

After two years, the guard is given a wreath pin that is worn on their lapel signifying they served as guard of the tomb. There are only 400 presently worn. The guard must obey these rules for the rest of their lives or give up the wreath pin.

The shoes are specially made with very thick soles to keep the heat and cold from their feet. There are metal heel plates that extend to the top of the shoe in order to make the loud click as they come to a halt.

There are no wrinkles, folds or lint on the uniform. Guards dress for duty in front of a full-length mirror.

The first six months of duty a guard cannot talk to anyone nor watch TV. All off duty time is spent studying the 175 notable people laid to rest in Arlington National Cemetery. A guard must memorize who they are and where they are interned. Among the notables are:

President Taft, Joe Lewis {the boxer} Medal of Honor winner Audie L. Murphy, the most decorated soldier of WWII and of Hollywood fame. Every guard spends five hours a day getting his uniforms ready for guard duty.

- Continued on page 14 -



7 RULES OF LIFE

Submitted by Bob Cormier

1. Make peace with your past so it won't screw up the present.
2. What others think of you is none of your business
3. Time heals almost everything. Give it time
4. Don't compare your life to others and don't judge them.
You have no idea what their journey is all about.
5. Stop thinking too much, It's alright not to know the answers. They will come to you when you least expect it.
6. No one is in charge of your happiness, except you
7. Smile, you don't own all the problems in the world.



Whisper of the Heart

"Don't believe everything you think."

Picture you can color.



For the Children of Newtown

- Submitted by Bob Cormier

Twelve 11 days before Christmas, around 9:38

When 20 beautiful children stormed
through heaven's gate

Their smiles were contagious, their
laughter filled the air

They could hardly believe all the beauty
they saw there

They were filled with such joy, they didn't know what to say
They remembered nothing of what had happened earlier that day

"Where are we?" asked a little girl, as quiet as a mouse

"This is heaven" declared a small boy "we're spending Christmas at
God's house"

When what to their wondering eyes did appear

But Jesus, their savior, the children gathered near

He looked at them and smiled, and they smiled just the same

Then He opened His arms and he called them by name

And in that moment was joy, that only heaven can bring

Those children all flew into the arms of their King

And as they lingered in the warmth of His embrace

One small girl turned and looked at Jesus' face

And as if he could read all the questions she had

He gently whispered to her, "I'll take care of mom and dad"

Then he looked down on earth, the world far below

He saw all of the hurt, the sorrow, and woe

Then he closed his eyes and he outstretched his hand

"Let My power and presence re-enter this land"

"May this country be delivered from the hands of fools"

"I'm taking back my nation, I'm taking back my schools"

Then He and the children stood up without a sound

"Come now my children, let me show you around"

Excitement filled the space, some skipped and some ran

All displaying enthusiasm that only a small child can

And I heard Him proclaim as He walked out of sight

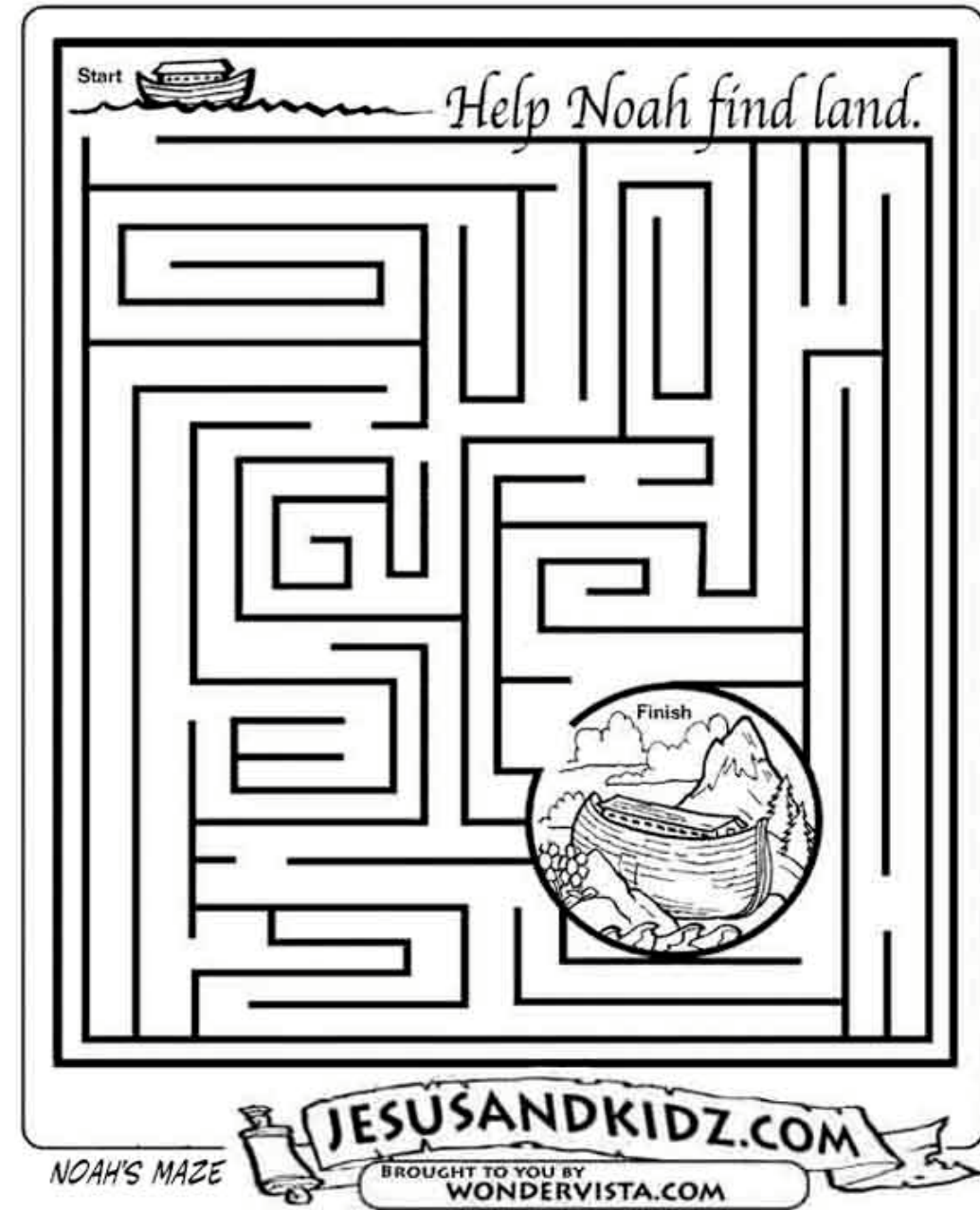
"In the midst of this darkness, I AM STILL THE LIGHT"





Guarding the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier ARLINGTON CEMETERY - Cont'd.

In 2003 as Hurricane Isabelle was approaching Washington, DC, our US Senate/House took 2 days off with anticipation of the storm. On the ABC evening news, it was reported that because of the dangers from the hurricane, the military members assigned the duty of guarding the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier were given permission to suspend the assignment. They declined the offer, "No way, Sir!" Soaked to the skin, marching in the pelting rain of a tropical storm, they said that guarding the Tomb was not just an assignment, it was the highest honor that can be afforded to a service person. The tomb has been patrolled continuously, 24/7, since 1930. ☒



BOARD OF DEACONS, *continued*

- Betty Stratton, Chair of the Board of Deacons

Communion table where they were visible by all in the congregation and easily assessable to those collecting the offering.

On Nov. 18th Joseph Abraham Nicholl was Baptised during the worship service. Joseph is the son of Becky Bonelli and William Nicholl.

On Dec. 16th Avery Mary Marschall was Baptised during the morning worship service. She is the daughter of Christine (Myers) and Nicholas Marschall.

Advent, began December 2nd with the lighting of the Advent candles and reading a Litany each week by a different church family. We thank the following families: John, Kristin, Tyler and Katelyn Curran, David and Nichlas Owens, Carol Innes and Victoria and Arthur Sweet, The Siekiera Family and the Bonelli Family.

Thank you to Linda York for leading the Sunday School Christmas Program on Dec. 16 during the morning worship service. The children helped tell the Christmas Story, "Listen to the Silent Night." The children did a great job.

Thank you to the Congregation for helping to decorate the Christmas tree. Each person put an ornament onto the tree as they entered the sanctuary.

The Christmas Eve Service will be held at 7:00 pm on Dec. 24th. It will be service of lessons and Carol singing. Everyone is invited to attend this candle light worship service as we celebrate the birth of our savior, Jesus.

Rev. Ader will be conducting some of the classes for the Confirmation Class. Letters have been mailed to all children of Confirmation age. There will be Pizza Party on January 12th as the 1st meeting with parents and children. ☒

Debbie Siekiera

How & Why I Came To Be A Part of BBCC

My Christian faith I owe to my parents. I was raised in our small town Baptist church (very similar to Broad Brook Congregational Church, it is uncanny!) We were made to go to Sunday school every week from Sept to June.

That was torture for some of my siblings but I enjoyed it because I got to see my school friends there, it was better than staying home being bored because there were no cartoons on or friends out playing yet because they were in church somewhere else! When I was confirmed I continued working with the Sunday school program and was made an official member of their Christian Education department after I turned 18. (So starts my years of service and dedication to the Lord.) I left the church to move to GA to start a new life with my husband Mike. He hadn't been out of the service long, when he was hired by Delta Airlines.

I still consider the First Baptist Church of West Warwick to be my "family" church as some of my family still attend there - it is where my father and his sister were raised. My family and I still try to attend on occasion as we still have friends there and keep in touch. I also keep in touch with an old favorite Sunday school teacher via Facebook. That church will always have a special place in my heart. My parents were married there, as was Mike and myself and so many others. Also our 3 children were all dedicated there as infants (then later baptized in BBCC as adults).

After 7 years of living in GA and never finding a new church, we packed up our house, 2 girls and our St. Bernard, Clyde, and moved to Broad Brook, CT in 1988. My husband transfered to CT basically for me as I was homesick for New England. He was happy in the Atlanta area. His reward to coming to Bradley was finally working on the line-maintenance instead of being in a shop.



Debbie Siekiera

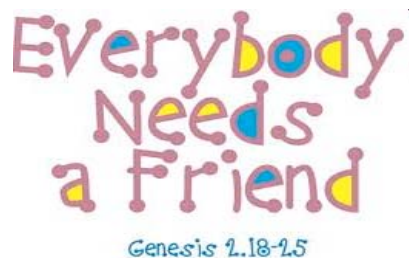
How & Why I Came To Be A Part of BBCC



school department. You will see my name on all the mailings that go out as I am the contact person for most of our mass mailings and the fundraiser coordinator for most events. There is little I wouldn't do to help serve my church and our Lord. When I am not at work setting up banquets or doing my church work, you will either find me in the kitchen baking some desserts for our suppers, making a cake for someone's special occasion, taking long motorcycle rides alongside my husband Mike, swimming in my pool (weather permitting of course) with my 2 grandsons or walking Floyd our 170 lb. black Newfie. I still like to break into crafts once in awhile but there doesn't seem to be enough time in a day anymore. ☒

A Little Prayer

I asked God for water,
He gave me an ocean.
I asked God for a flower,
He gave me a garden.
I asked God for a friend,
He gave me you.



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The Sunday School put on a wonderful program December 16th: "Listen to the Silent Night." All of the participants did an excellent job of telling the Christmas story.

Confirmation classes will be starting soon. Please see Rev. Ader or one of the Deacons for more information. ☒



Congratulations to Rev. Callahan and Laura on the birth of their first grandchild. Genevieve Callahan Cameron was born on Dec. 27th. She weighed 7.75 lbs and was 21.5 inches long.



Broad Brook Congregational Church Offers Condolences

- The Family of Robert Cormier on the passing of his brother Paul.
- The family of Karen Ioubier on the passing of Karen's husband Michael.
- The Family of Rev. Ralph E. Beets who was a Pastor of Broad Brook Congregational Church from 1948-1954.

