

The Wayside BEACON



Broad Brook Congregational Church

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Joseph M. Callahan

Newsletter of the
Broad Brook Congregational Church

122 Main Street
Broad Brook, Connecticut 06016

<http://BroadBrookCongregationalChurch.org>

Volume 63

Issue # 38

November - December 2011

The Broad Brook Congregational Church

United Church of Christ
122 Main Street, P.O. Box 466
Broad Brook, Connecticut 06106
860.623.4547

Ministers	All members of the Congregation
Pastor	Rev. Dr. Joseph M. Callahan
Church Clerk	Kristin Curran
Assistant Clerk	Joyce Jordan
Treasurer	Robert Cormier
Organist	Dr. James Clark
Chair, Board of Deacons	Betty Stratton
Chair, Board of Trustees	Richard York
Sunday School Superintendent	Becky Bonelli & Ethan Jones
Chair, Board of Christian Ed.	Open
Moderator	Wade Signor
Secretary	Tomaca Govan
Bulk Mail Manager	Warren Wenz

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 beginning September through June. Adults and young adults are welcome even if you cannot read music or you don't consider yourself a strong singer. Come and make a joyful noise unto the Lord!

Rev. Callahan maintains **office hours** on Wednesdays from 8:00 AM to Noon. Calls for the Pastor should be made through the office at 860.623-4547. In the event of an emergency, you may call Rev. Callahan at home 860.871-8999.

Email Tomaca, info@TGovan.com, with additions to the next issue of the Beacon.

Christmas Poinsettias

Please use this form to order
Please use a separate form for
Return to Laura Callahan



memorial poinsettias.
each order.
by Dec. 11.

Given

by _____

In Memory Of _____

OR

In Honor of _____

I will take the poinsettia after services on Christmas Eve.

Yes____ No____

Each plant will be approximately \$15.00. (Actual cost not known this early!)

Make checks payable to:

Broad Brook Congregational Church.

A Message from Rev. Joe



As you reached the end of your high school years, depending on where and when you attended, you were probably faced with making decisions, very possibly for the first time, about some of the subjects you were going to study, the courses that you could choose for yourself, the areas of study that would be known as your electives. If you went on from high school and attended a specialized technical school, or went to college, then you certainly had to make decisions about them.

Now whichever school you attended you had to take certain required courses, the basic stuff that the school considered essential for an educated graduate to have an understanding of. Subjects such as mathematics, reading, language, and writing. The required courses changed if you went on to higher levels of learning, and the subjects you studied became more and more specialized as you ascended the educational ladder.

Whichever school you attended, the required courses were, and still are, the basic blocks of knowledge and information that the student must master before she or he gets to choose the elective subjects that will round out the educational process.

When you stop to think about it, our lives are pretty much made up of the same components as our education was. There are certain things in life that you have to do, certain subjects that you have to study, certain classes that we all have to knuckle down and take.

It is not too difficult to think of some of life's required subjects: work, illness, taxes, birth, death, obeying the law, and so on. These are the things that we all have to deal with, whether we like them or not. They are necessary building blocks for maintaining our society as we know it.

But, there are also life's electives, the things that we choose, once we have taken care of life's requirements. The things we decide to do, or not do, such as get married. The decisions we make about where, and how, and with whom, we will live. What moral values will we hold to? Will we support charity? Will we smoke, take drugs, drink? Will we try to lead a healthy life? Will we bother to exercise? Will we try to save some money for a rainy day?



Religion is one of life's electives. We can embrace it, or reject it completely. We can take a course but then drop the subject once the course is finished. We can take a course, but never pay the tuition. We can pay the tuition but never show up. We can put some effort into it, or just slide by, settling for a low grade.

So tell me, as you think about it, which do you think have had the most influence on who, and where, you are today; your required courses, or your electives? Would you change some of those electives you chose because they looked easy, but left you with an empty feeling of regret? Are you glad that you decided to take that more difficult elective that has subsequently paid you back, many times over?

We should choose our electives wisely. They had a certain importance to us in high school, but in life they are vital to our well being. To a large extent we are the result of our electives, and the world does not allow us a do-over.

So, if you sit there just regretting some of the choices you have made, hearing the world tell you that it's your own fault, you made your bed, and now you must lie on it, you brought this on yourself, and other such, in all probability true, but hateful, remarks, don't despair.

The world may not give you a chance to change - but Jesus does. Listen to this from the Bible:

*Be careful not to judge people by what they seem to be,
even though we once judged Christ in that way.*

***ANYONE WHO BELONGS TO CHRIST IS A NEW PERSON
THE PAST IS FORGOTTEN AND EVERYTHING IS NEW.***

Did you hear that? Say that bit in capitals again to yourself - out loud. With Christ you get to choose new electives for yourself. You can be a new person, and the past will be forgotten. You have got to want to change, choose some new electives, and show up and do it, but think of the peace that could bring to your life.

God's peace.

Rev. Joe



Broad Brook Congregational Church

Calendar of Events

October

- 19 Rev. Callahan has office hours 8:00 am to noon
- 23 Bible Sunday
- 26 Rev. Callahan has office hours 8:00 am to noon
- 30 Special children's Sunday school. Wear costumes and go straight down to the Fellowship Hall.
- 31 Halloween

November

- 5 Ecumenical Bazaar at Scout Hall
- 6 Communion Sunday
- 8 Election Day
Council meeting, Fellowship Hall @ 7pm
- 9 Rev. Callahan has office hours 8:00 am to noon
- 12 Siekiera/Walker wedding in Middleburg, VA
- 13 Diann Bailey preaching
Veterans Day
- 20 Ecumenical Thanksgiving pot luck -Wesley Methodist Church,
W.P. -5:00 p.m.
- 24 Thanksgiving Day

December

- 3 Pot Roast Church Fundraiser
- 4 2nd Sunday in Advent-Faith
- 7 Rev. Callahan has office hours 8am to noon
- 11 3rd Sunday in Advent- Love
Trustees meet @ 11:15 am
- 14 Rev. Callahan has office hours 8am to noon
- 15 BEACON NEWS Due
- 17 Deacons meet at 9:00 am
- 18 4th Sunday in Advent- Peace
- 21 Rev. Callahan has office hours 8am to noon
- 24 Christmas Eve Candle Light Service-7 pm
- 25 Christmas Day Worship Service- 10am

(Note calendar of events posted may change)

From Ways and Means

A very successful Turkey Supper fundraiser was held on October 1st. We raised close to \$1,100.00 dollars; this is the second highest profit for a supper that I can remember. We just about ran out of food because we had a sold out crowd. The help found themselves eating mashed potatoes, squash and gravy!

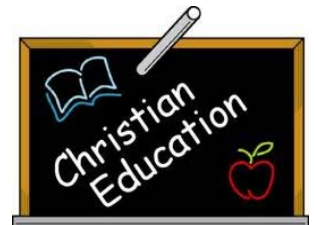
I would like to thank everyone for their help, from donating supplies to cleaning up after. All the other stuff in the middle, making salad, setting tables, peeling potatoes, cooking, mashing potatoes, washing dishes, seating people, serving drinks and other tasks seem to go by fast. All of these things are done well by everyone. You all deserve a big THANK YOU.

A special thank-you to the young people who helped serve meals. You do a great job.

The next supper is Pot Roast December 5th. (Save the date! As always, we'll need your help.) See our ad for more info.

Mike Siekiera

Broad Brook Congregational Church has started its Christian Education program for 2011-2012. Mary Velazquez has again stepped in as our teacher of Sunday School. To date, approximately ten children are taking part in the program and there is always room for more. Ethan Jones will be assisting Mary with projects and other duties. To register your child(ren), please plan on attending services and meeting with Mary before Church begins. Services begin at 10 a.m.



The Constitution and By-Laws Revision Committee

The Constitution and By-Laws Committee has been meeting to make final revisions. A draft of the entire revised document will be presented to the **Broad Brook Congregational Church Council on Nov. 15, 2011. All are welcome to attend.**

After December 1, 2011 the entire revised document will be available at the Church for review by all members.

There will be a Church Vote on the entire revised Constitution and By-Laws of Broad Brook Congregational Church at the Annual Church meeting on January 26, 2012. All Active Members are urged to attend.

Any questions please contact a member of the committee.
Linda York, Betty Stratton and David Conant.



Children's Sermon Schedule

10/23	Linda York	12/04	Communion
10/30	Rev. Callahan	12/11	Dr. James Clark
11/06	Communion	12/18	Tracy Morin
11/13	Diann Bailey	12/25	Rev. Callahan
11/20	Wade Signor		
11/27	Rev. Callahan		

Announcements

Walk with Us!

BBCC members, friends and family - you are welcome to *come walk with us*. We are members interested in a free healthy activity with fellowship time. We will be walking at the track behind East Windsor High School on Route 5 in East Windsor. We will meet at 12:30 pm after each Sunday service - *weather permitting*. Wear comfortable clothing, bring a small towel and a water bottle (to stay hydrated) and wear comfortable sneakers/shoes. Everyone will walk at their own pace and do as many laps as they feel comfortable with. Come and go as you please. The more walkers the merrier! Rides can be arranged. Hope to see you there!



**THE NEW 2012
ENTERTAINMENT BOOK**
IS NOW AVAILABLE!

Filled with hundreds of 2-for-1
and up to 50% off coupons to
use at some of your favorite
local merchants for only \$30!

Call Warren Wenz
(860) 623-5912

GREAT GIFT IDEA!
Out of area books are also available.

An image of the Entertainment Book 2012 Coupon Savings. The book is green with a yellow 'NEW!' starburst on the left. The cover features the Entertainment Weekly logo, the text '2012 COUPON SAVINGS', and several circular icons representing different types of coupons (like food, travel, etc.). At the bottom, it says 'Quickly Pays For Itself!'.

Come visit *Broad Brook Congregational Church*
At the Annual

Ecumenical Bazaar

Saturday, November 5th, 2011

9:00 am to 2:00 pm

Held at the Scout Hall Youth Center

(First time held at Scout Hall Youth Center!)

28 Abbe Road (off Rte 5)

East Windsor, CT

Some of the items you can expect to find there are: home baked goodies, pillows, lap throws, blankets, hats/scarves/mittens, pet items, ornaments, gift baskets, children items and so much more...

Stop on by to see what is new this year!

Refreshments & Lunch will be for sale

As Always Free Parking!

Please note that we have moved from the East Windsor High School one mile south to the Scout Hall Youth Center located on Abbe Road which is off of RT 5.



Abbe Road is located across the street from the new Dunkin Donuts
at the light on RT 5.

Please call Mike or Debbie with questions or directions at 860-627-5181



November

Mr. Robert Jones	2
Mr. William Vince	3
Mr. Kevin G. Yosky	7
Mrs. Tracey Morin	8
Mr. James Stoughton	9
Mrs. Janice Lang	10
Mrs. Theresa Drolett	14
Mr. Wade Signor	16
Ms. Katherine Adams	24

December

Miss Hannah Townsend	1
Mrs. Marilyn Yosky	2
Ms. Debra Duffy	5
Mrs. Diana Walker	5
Mrs. Susan Golden	5
Mrs. Veronica Pippin	12
Makayla Doody Ivanisin	16
Ms. Deborah Breton	18
Mr. Frederick Winkley	27



Mr. & Mrs. James Stoughton November 11th



Broad Brook Congregational Church wishes everyone a

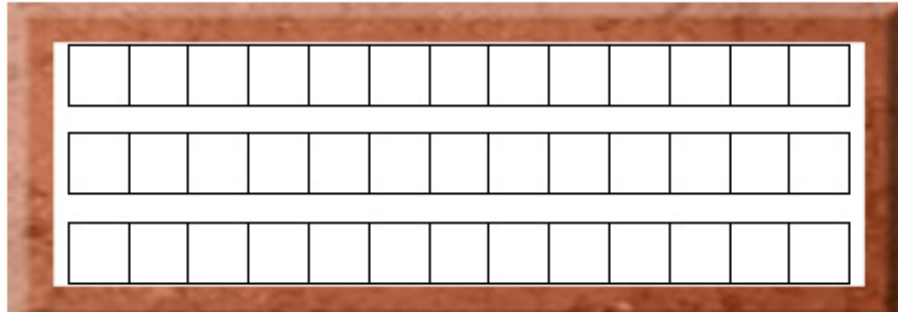
***Happy
Thanksgiving!***

Memorial Garden Order Form

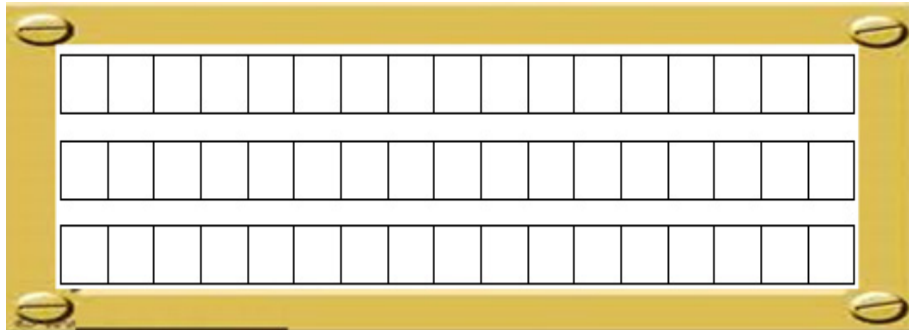
Fill out the form below with your desired inscription to purchase a Memorial Garden engraved brick and /or a Memorial Garden nameplate. Send the form along with \$35.00 for **each** item to:

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_____



A friendly reminder that there are several openings available for the following services the church provides weekly throughout the calendar year.

Lay Readers	Coffee Hour/Refreshments
Greeting	Children's Sermons/Lessons
Flowers	

There are Sign Up sheets on the wall in the Fellowship Hall near the kitchen. **PLEASE** stop by and pick a week or two. Your help would be appreciated. If you have any questions please see any of the contact persons listed in the weekly bulletin.

Friendship Committee

There are **several** openings for coffee hour sheet in the fellowship hall to see which



host/hostess. Please check the sign-up weeks are available.

We're on the world wide web! Visit us at:

<http://BroadBrookCongregationalChurch.org>



AND – make sure you “like” us on Facebook!



List for Lay Readers

The Rotation List for the Lay Readers will be posted in the Beacon and the weekly Bulletin as well as on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall. If you would like to volunteer, please see Betty Stratton or sign up on any of the open dates on the poster. **Readings may be subject to change.**

Lay Readers Schedule

Oct. 23	Psalms 90:1-6, 13-17	Katherine Mickens
Oct 30	Psalms 107:1-7, 33-37	Rich York
Nov. 6	Psalms 78:1-7	Wade Signor
Nov. 13	Psalms 123	Kristin Curran
Nov. 20	Psalms 100	Tracey Morin
Nov. 27	Psalms 80:1-7, 17-19	Dr. James Clark
Dec. 4	Psalms 85: 1-2, 8-13	Dave Conant
Dec. 11	Psalms 126	Rich York
Dec. 18	Psalms 89:1-4, 19-26	Mike Siekiera
Dec. 25	Psalms 98	Laura Callahan

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

Ecumenical Bazaar

Our Ecumenical Bazaar planning is in full swing at the time of this writing. We are encouraging all our members and friends of the church to make/bake something at their leisure as there will be no craft workshops this year. If you are not crafty, consider helping us out by volunteering. We are the "Host Church" this year so we will need help in food prep, serving, cashiering, etc. There is a sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall noting where help is most needed. Your help is most definitely needed with this fundraiser. Please see Joyce Bonelli or Mike/Debbie Siekiera if you have any questions.



From the Flower Committee

There are dates still available to dedicate flowers through the end of the year. If the date wanted is taken, we will gladly make an exception, double the plant order and add the dedication to the bulletin. Sign up in the Fellowship Hall or call Laura at 860-871-8999. The price for the beautiful fresh flower Sunday arrangement is \$17.50. Please make out checks to Broad Brook Congregational Church and give to Laura Callahan.

Add news and information in the next Wayside Beacon -

The deadline is December 15. Please forward to Tomaca Govan via email info@TGovan.com.

PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL

Pot Roast
CHURCH FUNDRAISER

Saturday, December 3rd, 2011
BROAD BROOK CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

122 MAIN ST.
BROAD BROOK, CT

Directions: From I-91, exit 45 to Rt.140 east, to intersection of Rt.191/Main St. (Right at light!)

All you can eat!!!

MENU INCLUDES:

**POT ROAST, REAL MASHED
TOSSED SALAD, BREAD & BUTTER,
CHOICE OF HOT & COLD BEVERAGES
ASSORTED DESSERTS**



POTATOES, GRAVY GREEN BEANS,

Please join us at 4:30 pm or 5:45 pm

Take out orders available after 5:00 pm

Adults: \$12 - Children: (5-12) \$5 - Children 4 and under **FREE**

Please call for reservations:
Warren or Alice at 860.623.5912

Warwick the Mule

A man was lost while driving through the country. As he tried to read a map, he accidentally drove off the road into a ditch. Though he wasn't injured, his car was stuck deep in the mud. So the man walked to a nearby farm to ask for help.

"Warwick can get you out of that ditch," said the farmer, pointing to an old mule standing in a field. The man looked at the haggardly mule and looked at the farmer who just stood there repeating..."yep, old Warwick can do the job." The man figured he had nothing to lose. The two men and Warwick made their way back to the ditch.



The farmer hitched the mule to the car. With a snap of the reins he shouted, "Pull Fred! Pull, Jack! Pull, Ted! Pull, Warwick!" and the mule pulled the car from the ditch with very little effort. The man was amazed. He thanked the farmer, patted the mule and asked, "Why did you call out all of those other names before calling Warwick?" The farmer grinned and said, "Old Warwick is just about blind. As long as he believes he's part of a team, he doesn't mind pulling."

- Submitted by Bob Cormier

From the Board of Deacons

The fall season is here. Veterans Sunday will be celebrated on Nov. 13th. All Veterans in the congregation will be honored during the worship service. The children will pass out carnations and special music will be sung. A day set aside to honor all men and women who have served in the armed forces. Thank You all for serving to defend the freedom of the United States of America. May God Bless you All!!

Rev. Callahan will be away November 13th to officiate at the wedding of Beth Ann Siekiera. Beth is the daughter of Mike and Debbie Siekiera. Beth will be marrying Christopher Walker from Woodbridge, VA. The ceremony will take place in Middleburg, VA. Congratulations to them.

Diann Bailey will again be preaching and filling the pulpit. Diann is an Andover- Newton student. She lives in Simsbury.

The Biannual Membership Review is in process. The list of Active members is being reviewed by the Board of Deacons. The membership status of an Active Member may be changed from the Active to the Inactive List or be removed from the Broad Brook Congregational Church membership roles. A current address is important for our records. The change of status depends on a Church vote.

An Active Member of Broad Brook Congregational Church

1. Must have been actively involved in the Church.
2. Support the Church financially,
3. Support the church spiritually,
4. Attend church regularly (if physically able) can be 1-2 times a year.

The results will affect the amount of dollars the church will have to pay to the UCC for the head count of Broad Brook Congregational Church Active Members.

On Oct. 9, 1011 Nicholas Allen Owens was baptized during the morning worship service. He also received a new Bible. Congratulations to Nicholas.

Sunday Oct. 23 is Bible Sunday. All children third grade and over who do not have a Bible will receive one. Linda York from the Religious Education Committee is the coordinator.

There is a need for Greeter volunteers. One may volunteer for 1, 2, or more weeks. Please sign up on the poster in the fellowship hall.

The first Sunday in Advent (Hope) is Nov. 27th. During Advent we will be having a different family each week begin the worship service by reading an Advent Litany and lighting the Advent candle for that Sunday.

The Christmas Eve candle light service will be held at 7pm on Christmas Eve, Dec. 24th. Please come and join us in celebrating the birth of Christ with singing of Carols and Lighting of Candles. Christmas Day service will be held at 10:00am on Dec. 25th

Happy and safe Holiday Season,
Betty Stratton, Deacon Chairperson



Broad Brook Congregational Church wishes everyone a safe and Merry Christmas!



We Love Our Volunteers!

Sign-up sheets are in the Fellowship Hall. Contact people are below.



Lay Readers - Betty Stratton (860-623-2729)

Greeters - Connie Cormier (860-292-6848)

Refreshments - Selma Grant (860-623-3542)

Flowers - Laura Callahan (860-871-8999)

Children's Sermons - Betty Stratton (860-623-2729)

Ride to Church: Connie Cormier (860-292-6848) or
Rich York (860-623-4287)

Notes of Cheer, etc. - Nancy Nodwell (860-623-6045) Nancy will gladly send a card or note for ALL occasions.

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From left to right: Richard K. Stevens, Fischer D. Stevens,
Chase L. Stevens, Sean M. Stevens,

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