

Broad Brook Congregational Church

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

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Permit #212

November/December 2019

# The Wayside BEACON

November/December 2019



Publication of the  
Broad Brook Congregational Church  
Pastor: Reverend Carol Lewis

volume 108, issue 91

# BBCC Mission Statement



## Our Mission Statement

We are a caring family of God  
where all people are welcome  
to share in spiritual growth,  
guidance, fellowship, and support.  
We work together to spread  
God's love and the words and  
mission of Jesus Christ to others.

## Broad Brook Congregational Church

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



Broad Brook Congregational Church

Pastor  
Ministers  
Moderator  
Treasurer  
Organist  
Chair, Board of Deacon

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



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

## Important Reminders:

### **Beacon**

Articles and reports due on the 10th of each cycle. Final requests for changes due by the 20th.

Thank you.

**The 2019 Altar flower donation chart is now hanging on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall. There are plenty of Sundays available to sign up for flowers. They are \$22.00 each.**

### **Annual Meeting**

The Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 26th at 11 AM following worship service. Annual reports are due to Chinue, Secretary, by January 10th.

Betty Stratton, Clerk pro tem

## *A Message From Rev. Carol Lewis*



Dear Friends,

It is that time again! Time to connect with all of you who are near and far from Broad Brook and let you know that we are thinking of you and to fill you in on upcoming events.

As I write this message I am looking out on Lake Champlain from Grand Isle, Vermont. It is a place of quiet rural beauty, country charm, and warm hospitality. For me, it is a place of restoration and blessing.

When I saw a draft of the Beacon, with its Christmas message, I was not ready to jump ahead to Advent and Christmas. I am in a state of gratitude and thanksgiving.

I am thankful for the members and friends who have suffered illnesses this Summer and Fall and are recovering now. I am thankful for those who are still going through their journey of recovery but doing it with courage, strength, perseverance, and faith. I continue to lift them all in prayers! They are a source of inspiration to me and a living example of what faith can mean for someone.

I am thankful for the small but committed band of saints that continue God's work in a myriad of ways at Broad Brook Congregational Church. I am blessed to pastor such an extraordinary community of believers.

Yes, we will soon be gearing up for Advent—preparing our hearts for the rebirth of the Christ child. Advent is a time of waiting, preparing, and anticipating the arrival of the greatest gift of all. I am thankful for that time too. It is hard to separate ourselves from the busyness of the secular hubbub but it is worth it.

(continued on next page)

Of course the finale is Christmas and every part of me rejoices with praise and thanksgiving for the gift of the babe in a manger.

While the picture on the front of the Beacon foretells Christmas, I invite you to be in an attitude of gratitude for your blessings not matter how small from now til then.

May it be so,  
Rev. Carol



### The Difference

I got up early one morning and rushed right into the day. I had so much to accomplish that I didn't have time to pray. Problems just tumbled about me, and heavier came each task. "Why doesn't God help me?" I wondered. He answered, You didn't ask," I wanted to see joy and beauty, but the day toiled on, gray and bleak. I wondered why God didn't show me. He said, "But you didn't seek.: I tried to come into God's presence. I used all my keys at the lock. God gently and lovingly chided, "My child, you didn't knock." I woke up early this morning and paused before enter the day. I had so much to accomplish that i had to take time to pray.

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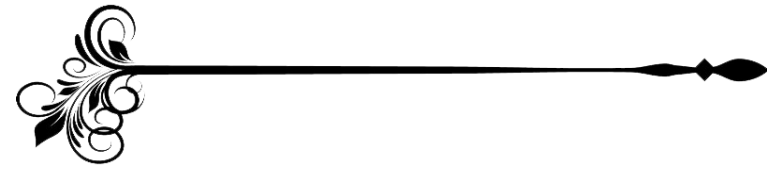




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Fax: (860) 872-8200  
Email: [pietrasfhs@att.net](mailto:pietrasfhs@att.net)

**Volunteers for BBCC always welcome!**  
**We can use a hand with:**

- **Food pantry donations/collection**
- **Refreshments after church service**
- **Prep and clean up for fundraisers**
- **Lay readers and greeters**
- **And more**



Enjoy this special time of year with as much family and friends as possible. May the time together be such a joy with new memories to cherish and keep in your heart. Keep refreshing your favorite memories with updated family traditions. Families matter no matter how they are made. Try to remember your most treasured moments and give thanks for having them. Help a child develop new ones every year.

With the holidays on our doorstep, please don't forget to add a special "Grace" of thanksgiving, hope and thankfulness for everyone.



Blessings for the holidays!





The Sunday School welcomed all children to join us on Rally Sunday, September 15, 2019 with an intergenerational worship service and an ice cream social to follow. This year we continue to have a multiage class of three to five students each week. The Shine Curriculum was ordered but has not come in yet.

Linda York was not able to start the year due to the critical illness and hospitalization of her husband. Sheri Brown is teaching with assistance from Debbie Signor. We are very thankful for their creative work without curriculum. Sheri and Debbie have created lessons and crafts around the theme of Creation. We especially thank Sheri for her enthusiasm and creativity to make animals, crosses, and prayers for the sanctuary. She is also planning community service work with cats. Come and join the fun.

Sherri Brown and Linda York are looking forward to Christmas, including the theme of Creation in our annual Christmas pageant on December 15, 2019. We are looking for many volunteers to help us put on the play called "Christmas in Genesis? How Could This Be?". The play is a traditional Christmas play told mostly from the animal's perspective. It includes many puppets as well as the traditional roles of the Holy family, shepherds and kings. Let's make it a friends and family day where everyone of all ages can be involved in one way or another. We are especially looking for a baby to be Jesus. All are welcome. Please spread the word and contact Linda York at 860-623-4287 with any questions.

## ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATION FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Dedication (in memory or honor of):

Date for when flowers are to be dedicated:

Please give this form to Betty Stratton.

Payment can be made via check to:

Broad Brook Congregational Church

or via paypal:

[staff@broadbrookcongregationalchurch.org](mailto:staff@broadbrookcongregationalchurch.org)

12/2018



# 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)

[illegible]

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



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

- Betty Stratton

The fall season is here, our worship service is in full bloom, the children are back to Sunday School, and the choir is also back singing each week

Broad Brook Congregational Church celebrates our Veterans. On Nov. 10<sup>th</sup> all Veterans who are worshipping with us will be honored with a carnation. We thank them all for their service.

Thanksgiving Sunday Family Worship will be held on Nov. 24<sup>th</sup> at 10 am. The pulpit is decorated with a cornucopia filled with many fruits and vegetables from the local gardens. Special music is sung.

The calendar for the Advent season is:

Dec. 1- First Sunday in Advent

## 15- Children's Program

22- Family Christmas Worship service @ 10 am

24- Christmas Eve candlelight service @ 7 pm

25- Merry Christmas to everyone!

# ← Ways and Means →

The last event held for fundraising purposes was our popular tag sale. Another tag sale was on the planning board since we had such great leftovers. Unfortunately schedules got busy, health concerns popped up, work loads increased; all preventing us from making it happen but haven't given up with still doing something!! We have tabled other extra activities temporarily and are researching some new plans in the meantime. With the holidays coming, everyone will inevitably get even busier. So less is more right now for our little church as we tend to do our best work together.

For our readers, in lieu of us hosting a full fledged hard-working fundraiser, may I encourage you to consider contributing to any of our missions our little church supports regularly. We still send monthly pledges and work on community projects close to home whether we fundraise or not. We have a "Clip-a-coupon" with a list of ideas of where to make any contribution within our church or other areas as there is room to specify where you want your money to go. These donations can be made in memory/honor of someone special.

Not listed are a few very dear and personal favorites we fundraise for. We support our 5 corner cupboard food pantry by collecting/delivering items each month, plus in addition, collect cash donations from our congregation for the items the pantry is in need of but has not received through collections. Another favorite is that we sponsor a scholarship to give to a high school student that would like to further their education. This particular scholarship goes to a student who has struggled with their grades but has shown most improvement and is least likely to receive a scholarship from other various groups who offer them.



## DONATION COUPON

Making a donation as a wonderful way to remember a special anniversary, to say "thank you," celebrate an event, or to donate in memory of a 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)	\$
<input type="checkbox"/>	Deacon Wish List	\$
<input type="checkbox"/>	Discretionary Fund	\$

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

(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





### **BBCC Sunday School Staff**

We are so fortunate to have teaching our children in Sunday School 2 well educated retired teachers. **Linda York**, Director of Faith Formation at Broad Brook Congregational Church, is the head teacher. She is retired after over 35 years teaching the younger children in school and was Teacher of the Year in Tolland in 2013. She loves children and helps them achieve their highest achievement. She has been a member of BBCC since 1982.

**Debbie Signor**, also a retired special education teacher. She has been a member of BBCC since 1984. She is a member of the Religious Education Committee. She loves working with children of all ages and understands children.

**Sheri Brown** who attended BBCC Sunday School for 12 years and was confirmed at BBCC in 1984. She is a member of the Religious Education Committee. She has had a great deal of experience working with local school children and being a mother of 3 and grandmother.

Ours is called "Touch Another Life". Our scholarship is given with hopes to keep encouraging that student to continue with furthering their education and by giving them that much needed financial hope to start them off. We challenged our congregation this year to double the amount we needed, we surpassed that amount so we were able to give 2 scholarships in 2019. At Thanksgiving time we make up food baskets for families in need of help and at Christmas we sponsor families with secret Santa gifts.

These are all very worthy causes that deserves much support. Please consider making a contribution to any of these mentioned or for a cause dearer to your heart. Our treasurer will always acknowledge your contribution with a letter for your record.

Many blessings to you and your families this holiday season.



# Missions Committee

The Missions Committee continues to support the 5 Corner Cupboard with food collections and monthly monetary donations from the congregation. Any donations of food or money are highly appreciated. Don't forget the needed items that are not food such as soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, toiletries, paper towels, personal items, and other.

Our town is lucky to have Pauline's Stockpot Kitchen at 55 North Main Street, East Windsor, CT located in the Wesley Methodist Church. They serve a healthy free meal every Friday night to anyone who comes. It operates entirely on donations. Volunteers and donations are needed. Along with free food, they collect clean clothing, blankets, flashlights, non-perishable snacks, toiletries, sleeping bags, tents, pillows, socks, long-johns and more, for the homeless. Please think of them as you clean out your closets and plan for holiday donations.

The East Windsor Hunger Action Team assists families with food for the weekends and vacations. Elementary students can take home Power Packs with nutritious food and snacks. Middle school and high school students also have a program for them called the East Windsor Panther Pack Program. Donations can be given to the East Windsor Social Services Department. 25 School Street, East Windsor, CT.

The Missions Committee will be meeting soon to finish planning for our 2019 Missions Giving and special projects. If you would like the church to support a worthy project or organization, please 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.



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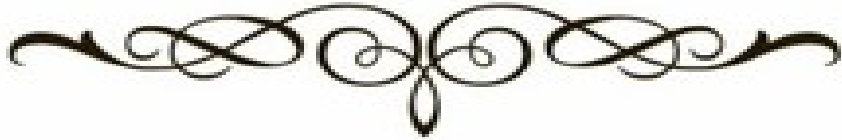
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year off right! Regis-  
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ble online!**



**Sunday School**  
**MAKES A DIFFERENCE**

**Contact us for more  
information!**

Life has been crazy crazy busy this fall so it hasn't left much time to try any new recipes. With the "Holidays" approaching, focus on something from the popular keto diet for this issue of the Beacon would have been nice. Research had found quite a few recipes worthy of trying but they require purchasing some ingredients not kept regularly in our kitchen. Some research on this keto diet was also necessary to have a good understanding of what is needed to commit and maintain such a diet. The hope was to find recipes that would be great to substitute the usual unhealthy choices we tend to make this time of year. What was decided on with this research was that the Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners would not be the same if following this diet since it consists of high protein, high fat, low carb diet. Not a good fit with our holiday menus so not so sure the family would appreciate giving up their traditional family favorites. The keto diet requires replacing all white flour with Almond and/or Coconut flours; erythritol, liquid stevia or other expensive sugar substitutes for sugar; eliminates all bread/cereal/pasta/rice, starchy fruits and vegetables and so on. The holidays are busy enough, never mind trying to follow a restrictive diet that doesn't fit into family traditions and recipes. Very interested in giving it a try though when food is not a focus! We already tend to forgo some types of food for dietary reasons and the keto diet just takes it a step further with deeper cuts/substitutions.





Since its Pumpkin time (woohoo) I am one of those that loves “everything pumpkin” <3!! Here’s a low carb option for a no bake cheesecake that is made in single serve vessels. Most of us love those Keebler graham crust no-bake cheesecakes with cherry or blueberry filling on top. Well this recipe is similar in theory to those being very rich and creamy but without the crust, the nuts replace that. Since my husband has oodles of canning jars of every size and shape like the smaller jelly jars or the 4 oz short stack mason jar where a lid can be used, they tend to get used the most. They work the best to transport in a lunch sack making a great snack at work (they go great with a hot pumpkin latte too!). To dress it up a little for company, use any pretty set of glasses or ramekins you may have in those cupboards of yours. The cheesecake has nice looking layers like a parfait, can be an impressive presentation. Notice that this recipe is written with a sugar substitute as opposed to regular sugar, this was modified for me. I tend to use organic stevia packets for my beverages and Stevia in the Raw for baking. You may use regular powdered sugar (it’s less grainy) if you prefer. I will be making these for thanksgiving along with my pumpkin pie hmm hmm yum!



Marjory Brewer

Harry Coville

Terry Edwards

Connie Pitney

Selma Johnson

William Arnold

Hazel Cutta

Carl Curtis

Connie Fillmore

Red Edwards

Kaye Pippin Zeuschner

Dick Pippin

Florence Zeuschner

Kurt Zeuschner

Mildred Myers

Charles Cheslick

Ed Neild

Lyman Nelson

Julie Grant

Phil Chapman

Helen McCuley

Irene Signor

Cliff Nelson

Marie Olisky

Sarah Loubier

Walter Feldman

Claire St. Martin

Ruth Huntley

Gerry Arnold

Donald Lang

Bob Barlow

Irene Watson

Louise LaCross

George Yosky

Gail Skinner

Charles Brewer

Lois Cheslick

Phyllis Bushnell

Catherine Nelson

Bob Grant

Veronica Barlow

Esther Chapman

Jim Stoughton

Charlie Sharos

Abigayle E. Morin

Nancy Niemi

**Broad Brook Congregational Saints**

# 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: \_\_\_\_\_

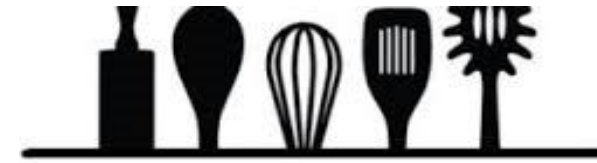
In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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Music Committee  
Broad Brook Congregational Church  
122 Main Street  
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## No Bake Pumpkin Cheesecake

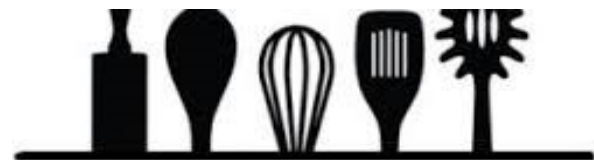
### Ingredients

- 1 1/2 cups nuts (I prefer to use 1 cup pecans & 1/2 cup walnuts)
- 1 Tablespoon Stevia
- 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
- 8 oz cream cheese softened (room temperature)
- 1 cup heavy whipping cream
- 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 teaspoon pumpkin pie spice
- 1/2 cup stevia for baking (or other sugar substitute)
- 3/4 cup pumpkin puree (canned)
- Extra nut halves for garnish
- Extra cinnamon for light sprinkles

### Instructions

1. To make the crust, add nuts, cinnamon and the 1 Tablespoon of sugar substitute in a food processor and grind until the nuts become moist and sticky.
2. Divide mixture evenly into the ramekins, jars or whatever container you are using.
3. Add the cream cheese, pumpkin and sugar substitute to a bowl of your mixer. Mix on high until everything is smooth and creamy.
4. Add your vanilla, pumpkin pie spice and cinnamon and mix until well incorporated.





## Instructions, con't



5. Add your heavy cream and mix on high for about 5 minutes or until the mixture is nice and fluffy.
6. Spoon cream cheese mixture into your ramekins or containers then lightly sprinkle some cinnamon and garnish with a walnut or pecan half.
7. Refrigerate until ready to eat.

Tell us how you did; post your results on our facebook page!  
<https://www.facebook.com/BBCongregationalChurch>

# Happy Birthday

## November

Robert Jones	2nd
William Vince	3rd
Kevin Yosky	7th
Tracey Nieroda	8th
Janice Lang	10th
Brianna Cadence York	10th
Theresa Drolett	14th
Wade Signor	16th
Katherine Adams	24th
Emma Zoe McMahon	26th
Isabelle Marie McMahon	29th
Rev. Carol B. Lewis	29th



Hannah Townsend	1st
Marilyn Yosky	2nd
Debra Duffy	5th
Diana Walker	5th
Susan York	5th
Avery Mary Marschall	7th
Veronica Pippin	12th
Makayla Ivanisin	16th
Deborah Breton	18th
Genevieve Callahan Cameron	27th

## December

## **Lay Readers**

### NOVEMBER

3- Joyce Bonelli

10- Debbie Signor

17- Mike Siekiera

(Thanksgiving Sunday) 22- Dr. James Clark

24- Rich York

### DECEMBER

1- Bob Cormier

8- Mike Siekiera

15- Joyce Bonelli

22- Dr. James Clark

29- Katherine Mickens

## **Children's Sermon**

### NOVEMBER

3- Communion

10- Dr. James Clark

Veterans Sunday

17- Wade Signor

24- Rev. Carol

Thanksgiving Sunday

### DECEMBER

1- Communion

8- Carol Innes

15- Children's Christmas Program

22- Christmas Sunday

29- Rev. Carol

# Calendar

### NOVEMBER

3- Communion

10- Veterans Sunday-All veterans are honored

11- Veterans Day

24- Thanksgiving Sunday

27- Thanksgiving Day

### DECEMBER

1- Communion

First Sunday Advent-Hope

8- Second Sunday Advent- Peace

15- Third Sunday Advent- Joy

Christmas Program

22- Fourth Sunday Advent- Love

Christmas Sunday

24- Christmas Eve Service @ 7 pm

25- MERRY CHRISTMAS

31- New Year's Eve

### JANUARY 2020

1- New Year's Day

5- Communion

10- Annual Reports due

26- Annual Meeting @ 11:15am

Pot luck lunch

November 3rd





## Worldwide Communion Sunday 2019



## Christmas Poinsettias 2019



Please use a separate form for each order of Christmas Poinsettias.

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory Of \_\_\_\_\_ OR

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

I will take the poinsettia after service on Christmas Eve.

Yes\_\_\_\_ No\_\_\_\_

Please donate my plant to a homebound member.

Yes\_\_\_\_ No\_\_\_\_

Each plant is \$13.00. Make checks payable to **Broad Brook Congregational Church.**

Return to Betty Stratton or Joyce Bonelli by December 15, 2019.