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Broad Brook Congregational Church

United Church of Christ

122 Main Street, Broad Brook, CT 06016



The Wayside BEACON

November-December 2023



Publication of the Broad Brook Congregational Church

BBCC Mission Statement

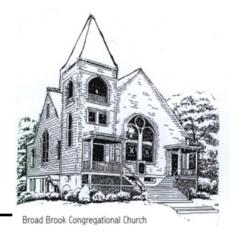


Our Mission Statement

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



Pastor Brian Baeder
Ministers All Congregation Members
Moderator Wade Signor
Treasurer Rich York
Organist Dr. James Clark
Chair, Board of Deacon Betty Stratton
Secretary Chinue Clifford



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.

Please email staff@broadbrookcongregationalchurch.org with announcements or corrections to the weekly Bulletin or the Beacon.





Please Patronize the stores at **TOWN CENTER SHOPS**

next to
Broad Brook
Congregational Church
860-432-8900

Pastor's Paragraphs



Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ! ~ Ephesians 1:2

These are the words of greeting that the Apostle Paul used in writing to the churches he had established during his missionary journeys. Appropriate words for any salutation. May God's grace and peace be with you as we end year 2023 and approach 2024.

What a year 2023 has been. And, it appears as we begin 2024 we are still riding this bizarre "roller coaster" called COVID, characterized by ups and downs, twists and turns, and physical as well as emotional consequences. During the past year, Broad Brook Congregational has continued to grow and attract visitors and new members! We have experienced meaningful worship and deepened our bonds of faith in this community. Since being called as your pastor in July of 2022, I have seen a rebirth of faith here! With your help. I will strive to keep us growing!

Personally. Jan and I have been challenged. Falling trees, a time of "wandering" from house to house, and experiencing my quintuple by-pass surprise, had led to some uncertain times! But with God's help and your steadfast support, we made it through. Clearly, God has communicated that there is still more work to accomplish – and I am up to the task.

Even as we experience the turmoil of war in Ukraine and Israel, I must believe that there is hope for fallible humanity. The Old Testament Prophet Ezekiel spoke for God with these words. "A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you; and I will remove from your body the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh." Ezekiel 36:26

(Pastor's Paragraphs con't)

And, the Apostle Paul wrote to the Corinthians, "If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! 18 All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; 19 that is, in Christ, God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them." 2 Corinthians 5:17

In reference to our fragile planet and unpredictable "mother nature," there is promise of a new creation: "Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away... 2 And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. 3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; 4 he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away." 5 And the one who was seated on the throne (Jesus) said, "See, I am making all things new" Revelation 21:1-5.

Our hope is in God's capacity to make all things new! So, let us be thankful and prayerful as we put 2023 behind us and celebrate a Happy, Prosperous and PEACEFUL2024.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Brian

Broad Brook Congregational Saints

Madelaine Clark
Christopher Couillard
Philip M. Grant
Russell Marinoni
Roger McCully
Scott Osborn



25

Broad Brook Congregational Saints 2023

Gerry Arnold	Walter Feldman	Ed Neild
William Arnold	Connie Fillmore	Nancy Niemi
Carol Ballard	Bob Grant	Nancy Nodwell
Bob Barlow	Julie Grant	Marie Olisky
Veronica Barlow	Selma Grant	Dorothy Pease
Charles Brewer	Ruth Huntley	Dick Pippin
Marjory Brewer	Selma Johnson	Connie Pitney
Phyllis Bushnell	Donald Lang	Charlie Sharos
Esther Chapman	Louise LaCross	Gordon Shortman
Phil Chapman	Sarah Loubier	Irene Signor
Charles Cheslick	Claire St. Martin	Gail Skinner
Lois Cheslick	Helen McCulley	Jim Stoughton
Connie Cormier	Carol Anne (Stratton) McMahon	Mary Melissa Tatro
Robert Cormier	Katherine Mickens	Irene Watson
Harry Coville	Abigayle E. Morin	Warren Wenz
Carl Curtis	Tyler Morin	George Yosky
Hazel Cutta	Mildred Myers	Marilyn Yosky
Red Edwards	Catherine Nelson	Kaye Pippin Zeuschner
Terry Edwards	Lyman Nelson	Kurt Zeuschner
Carolyn Feldman	Lyman iveison	Florence Zeuschner



- Betty Stratton

Fall is upon us the weather has turned much cooler and the leaves are turning color and falling off the trees. There has been much activity at Broad Brook Congregational Church. Sunday School has started. There are plans to have a children's choir with Sylvia Sylvester leading it.

We are once again participating in the "Haunted Highway" on Oct 26 @ 5 pm. Our theme this year is "Noah's Arch". Bags have been filled, ready to pass out to all the children who come to East Windsor Park and will participate in the parade of cars going through.

Oct 22 during the morning worship service, we are proud to announce the new members whom have joined Broad Brook Congregational Church. They are: Christa Berthold, Melissa Dopp, David and Judy Merrill, Joseph and Kathy Molinari, and Sylvia and Charles Sylvester. Welcome!

Nov. 1 is All Saints Sunday. We will be remembering all of Broad Brook Congregational Church Members who have passed during 2023 and those who have passed in years passed.

Nov. 12 is Veteran's Sunday when we will remember all veterans both living and those whom have passed. Those worshiping with us will receive a red carnation as a special honor to them.

Stewardship Sunday is Nov. 12th. Time to consider one's pledge for 2024.

Nov. 19 will be Thanksgiving Sunday. There will be a cornucopia decorating the Communion Table. Reminding us of the abundance of things we can be thankful for.

Our wishes to all for a Happy Thankgiving.

December 3 is the first Sunday in ADVENT. The time we are to prepare for the coming of Jesus. There will be a Litany reading each week, a time when individual families can volunteer to read.

(Deacon News con't)

The Christmas Pageant is planned for December 10. Not only is the Sunday School students involved but the entire congregation participates.

After the pageant there will be a Christmas Pot luck lunch.@ 11:30 am. Each family should plan on bringing a dish to share. There will be Christmas music and a "Yankee swap" for those wishing to participating. For more information on the Yankee swap, please see Jan Baeder.

December 24th (4th Sunday in Advent) there will be a Christmas Eve morning worship at 10 am as well as a Christmas Eve Service at 6 pm. All are welcome to come.



Faith Formation Classes (Sunday School) began on Rally Sunday, September 17, 2023. Children ages three through confirmation were invited to attend during the Sunday worship service starting at 10:00 AM. An Ice Cream Social and parent's meeting followed the services and classes. We thank Linda York for setting up the Sunday School area, printing and learning the curriculum, and gathering supplies.

Join Us for our Christmas Pageant Potluck and Yankee Swap December 10th @ 10am





Please bring a dish to share after the Christmas Pageant.

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Broad Brook Congregational Church Poinsettias Form 2023



Please use a separate form for each plant ordered.

Given By:
In Memory of:
Or In Honor of:
I will take the plant after the Christmas Eve service:
yes no
Please donate my plant to a homebound member:
yes no
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Each plant is \$15.00. Make a check payable to Broad Brook Congregational Church and return to Betty Stratton, Judy Tetrault or Joyce Bonelli before December 10, 2023. They can also be mailed to:

Broad Brook Congregational Church 122 Main St. PO Box 466 Broad Brook, CT, 06016.





Each Faith Formation session starts with a Bible story and whole group activity. Then the classes split to do age-appropriate discussion, work sheets and activities if appropriate. We began the year using the Shine Current Curriculum called "Seeking God Together". This curriculum "explores thirteen spiritual practices in interactive, age-appropriate ways that can deepen and transform our relationship with God and others." Each lesson contains many activities and ideas and will be taught in two- or three-week lessons.

This year we are following "Safe Church" procedures including having two adults downstairs for class at all times. Linda York is teaching the class, and a sign-up sheet has been made for the assistant each week. Thank you for signing up and supporting the Sunday School. We have volunteers for most of the Fall sessions.

Please consider helping Linda York in the Sunday School this year as a teacher, assistant, or substitute. The lessons are easy to follow and include all instructions, stories, pictures, and worksheets. Please let Linda know how you can help.

Extra activities are being planned through the Fall, including participating in the town Haunted Highway on October 26th, helping to collect items for Thanksgiving families, and participating in our Annual Christmas Pageant. The Annual All-Church Christmas pageant called "Listen to the Sounds of the First Christmas" will be on December 10, 2023. The congregation will act out the story as Mary, Joseph, town people, animals, angels, shepherds, wisemen, and a star. There are no speaking parts other than making the sounds of the characters. Costumes and props are provided by the church starting at 9:30 that morning. The narrator will tell the story and direct the action. A special potluck luncheon will follow with delicious food, holiday treats and fellowship. Please come and experience this fun family time to make the story of the first Christmas come alive in our hearts, bringing joy and peace to all who attend. Feel free to bring your children, grandchildren, and friends. Contact Linda York at 860-716-4395 or Lyork76769@sbcglobal.net for questions or special needs. All are welcome.

Missions Committee

The Mission's Committee continues to support the Five Corner Cupboard with food collections from the congregation and collections in the community. We thank Wade and Debra Signor for picking up food from our donation boxes in the community and taking the food to the food bank each week. We thank the community for their generous donations of food.

The Town of East Windsor is asking for donations to their holiday basket program. They are hoping to collect 100 turkeys and \$125.00 gift cards to area grocery stores in support of the Thanksgiving program. Donations can be brought during regular business hours to 25 School Street, East Windsor, CT. Monetary donations can also be given to Linda York at church to purchase gift cards for the town.

The Mission's committee will be meeting soon to give to international, national, state, and local needs. Please give your suggestions to Linda York, Debra Signor, Karla Vince, or Judy Tetrault. The committee thanks everyone for their generosity and time to help others.

Hymnals Order Form

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

Hymnal Donated by:

In Memory of:

In Honor of:

Please send your donation to:
Music Committee
Broad Brook Congregational Church
122 Main Street
Broad Brook, CT 06016





Thanks to

Broad Brook
Gardens
for our wonderful
flower
arrangements!



Join Us For Communion the first Sunday of every month





Way and Means

It's that time of year where all the fun and family holidays are upon us. The clocks get turned back so it gets dark earlier, the cold weather starts to filter in and we all start to become hermits (sort of) with the exception of parents with young children and teenagers. They are busy with school and/or team sports, other outside activities, fundraisers, homecoming, parent teacher conferences and so on. We here at Broad Brook Congregational Church tend to get in the spirit of the seasons. We support those parents by helping purchase from those fundraisers but also start thinking about our outreach programs we support in our community with holiday meals, warm clothing, and Christmas presents for families in need.

We do fundraising throughout the year as we continue to support these outreach programs, not only within our community but statewide and international organizations that need help with these natural disasters that we hear about often on the news. We only held 2 external fundraisers this year to support our general fund for such needs as our volunteers times were limited. The needs in our communities keeps on growing with the cost of living out of control. Our little church is amazing because no matter the circumstances and needs of others, we continue to shine with relief efforts as these needs are requested and supported.

As the year gets closer to New Years Eve, we have a big ask for those of you out there that can send in a donation of any amount. Please see our coupon page to see where you would like your donation to go. You may also just write in your preference for the so many causes we support. For example our Missions Committee is not listed on that coupon page, if there's an outreach program you like to help support, be specific, we will make sure your money gets applied to that program along with additional support from us.

(Ways & Means con't)

One of our favorite place to earmark money for is the "Discretionary Fund". Most don't understand what that is about or for. That fund is used by the pastor only, when money goes into that account it's used specifically by the pastor for an emergency situation the pastor has to act quick on, for example the request could be from the Town of East Windsor's Human Services department. The Human Services screen and handle dire situations for families or individuals and know when their situation is valid and where it needs help with raising funds to help in these situations. For example the families home was just involved in a serious fire. These families need a place to stay, food, clothing, etc. They work with the Red Cross on this type of situation. Every little bit of help we can contribute helps someone in serious need.

The other one of favorite places to donate the money to is our "Touch Another Life" Scholarship given to a worthy high school student upon graduation to help continue their education. This scholarship is only given to a student that will be continuing their education but doesn't qualify for receiving any for various reasons given upon applying for them.

It doesn't matter the amount, or where you'd like your money to go, any dollar amount supports our church with funding all aspects of our internal or outreach programs. Your donations are tax deductible. Remember you can make your donation in memory of or honor of a specific loved one or occasion. It will be acknowledged and recognized as such. Thank you for remembering us. Have a safe and happy holiday season, may the New Year bring you many happy times, good health and prosperity.

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:

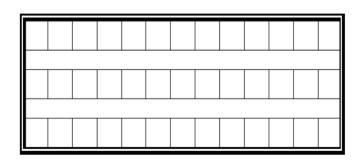
Memorial Garden

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



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



Debbie's Kitchen Corner

Southwest Chicken Skillet Dinner

With the colder months coming, and the busy holiday seasons to add chaos to our schedules, I chose an easy one-skillet meal that can be made in minutes. It's fairly healthy for your waistline if you don't go crazy with sides. It's quite fulfilling and flavorful all on it's own but for a family that requires more fillers on the side, the possibilities are plenty. Our ultimate favorites with this meal are either rice or quinoa with a fresh batch of corn bread. Give it a try, it sure won't disappoint in flavor.

Ingredients:

- 2 lbs boneless skinless chicken breasts
- 1 tsp olive oil
- Black Pepper to taste
- 1 lb frozen corn
- 1 15oz jar chunky-style salsa
- 1 15oz can low-sodium black beans, drained and rinsed
- 1 lime

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

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Instructions:

Heat 1 tsp olive oil in a large skillet over medium high heat.

Place chicken breasts in a single layer in pan; sprinkle with pepper.

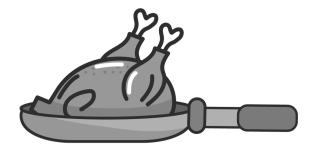
Let cook undisturbed for 5 minutes, until chicken starts to brown; flip and cook for another 5 minutes.

Add corn, salsa and beans to skillet, along with ½ cup of water, stir.

Reduce heat to medium; cover and cook until chicken is cooked through and through approximately 15 minutes.

Squeeze lime over top.

Makes 6 servings





Building Maintenance	\$
Music Committee	\$
Kitchen & Cleaning Supplies	\$
Office Supplies	\$
Sunday School	\$
Coffee hour	\$
Historian	\$
Deacon Wish List	\$
Discretionary Fund	\$
Other (Please Specify)	\$
Total Amount of Donation	\$

Check payable to	Broad Brook Co	ongregational Church:
Name:		
Phone:		
Reason for Donat	ion:	
reason for Bonat		



Drop in collection plate or mail to: Board of Trustees Broad Brook Congregational Church PO Box 466 Broad Brook, CT 06016



NOVEMBER				DECEMBER
5	Debbie Signor		3	Karla Vince
12	Wade Signor		10	Dr. James Clark
19	Rich York	132	17	Debbie Signor
26	Joyce Bonelli		24	Joyce Bonelli
			31	Jan Baeder



Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Walker Nov 12th



Calendar

Calendar					
NOVEMBER					
5	Communion All Saints Day Day light savings time begins				
12	Veterans Day Sunday- Stewardship Sunday				
14	Deacons meet @10:00am				
19	Thanksgiving Sunday Council Meeting @ 11:15am				
23	Thanksgiving Day				
	DECEMBER				
3	Communion, 1st Sunday in Advent				
10	Christmas Pageant @10am Christmas Potluck Party & Yankee Swap @11:00am 2nd Sunday in Advent				
17	3rd Sunday in Advent				
24	Christmas Eve Services @10am & 6pm 4th Sunday in Advent				
25	Merry Christmas to All!				

Announcements:

Thank you to Judy Tetrault for making the lovely fall wreaths for the Fellowship hall and kitchen doors.

The 2024 Lay Reader list is hanging on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall. Any questions, please see Betty Stratton.

The 2024 Altar flower donation chart is ready for signups. Please see the back wall of the fellowship hall for the sign up chart on the bulletin board. They are \$25.00. For questions, please see Betty Stratton, Joyce Bonelli or Judy Tetrault.

In case of inclement weather, please watch Channel 3, WFSB for storm closings.

Five Corner Cupboard: Each week we deliver donations to our local food pantry. They are grateful for any food or toiletries. Thank you for adding items to our "Five Corner Cupboard" box located in the kitchen by the back door- Missions Committee.

Happy Birthday November



Robert Jones	2nd
William Vince	3rd
Kevin Yosky	7th
Tracey Nieroda-Outlaw	8th
Brianna York	10th
Theresa Drolett	14th
Wade Signor	16th
Jade Baeder	23rd
Katherine Adams	24th
Emma McMahon	26th
Isabelle McMahon	26th

December

Hannah Townsend	1st
Diana Walker	5th
Susan York	5th
Avery Marschall	7th
Jerry Cruz	15th
Deborah Breton	18th
Charles Joe Siekiera	27th
Genevieve Callahan Cameron	27th