



## *The Beacon* **June and July 2023**

“Come to me all you who are weary and carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.”  
Matthew 11:28

Never have these beautiful sentiments of Jesus as recorded in the Gospel of Matthew felt more appropriate to us all than they do right now. Dear Ones, we have been through an extraordinary couple of years as individuals, as a church, as families, as a community and as a nation. Covid, civil unrest of one kind or another, inflation, political infighting, uncivil and unkind public discourse have been the norm for far too long. No wonder we all feel tired and exhausted. We are, and we should be.

These last several years have been a real trauma for all of us, often in more than one way. Just look through the list I just summarized and know that's only scratching the surface! The exhaustion and sense of feeling overwhelmed and anxious is actually pretty normal after all we have been through. That's why for this summer, I am hoping we can all make a real effort to take Jesus' words of invitation above as the guiderails for our respective summers, as a church and as individuals. I hope you will come to worship this summer not because you feel you have to but because you want to be with us, your faith community and family. I hope you will be here because it is a place where you find solace and peace, if only for a moment.

Our church, too, is gearing back over these next two months, giving us all the chance to rest and renew. Congregational Life and the Organ Committee have made the decision NOT to pursue any major events this fall as we did last year to raise money for the organ. NO Estate Sale. NO Art Show. Just the Bazaar in November and December, as usual. Small and simple fundraisers and CL events will continue, but all with the goal of being fun and, just as important, doable as simply as possible.

So, Dear Ones, please take the time to find rest for your bodies and your souls in these next weeks and months. Before you know it, August will be here and we'll be gearing up for a new program year in the church. Until then, let's all just rest and renew so that we are ready for God's emerging new beginnings then.

Your sister in faith,  
Rev. Ruth



**WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

Our Sunday morning worship services  
 In person & on Facebook Live  
 every Sunday at 9:45am.

Please mask if you are feeling unwell or are unvaccinated.

- June 4 – Scholarship Sunday!
- June 11 – Guest Speakers from Westerly Anti-Racism Coalition
- June 18 – Celebrating Father’s Day Memories
- June 25 – ONA/Pride Sunday!
- July 2 – Guest Preacher, Rev. Mary Horan
- July 9 – Lay Preacher, Gary Davis
- July 16 – Hymn Sing Sunday!
- July 23 – Caring & Sharing Sunday
- July 30 – Rev. Ruth is Back preaching about ??

Kindly Note: Copies of sermons will be provided by request only. Speak with Rev. Ruth or Carol to receive one!

**REV. RUTH WILL BE ON VACATION FROM 1 pm on Sunday, June 25 to Wednesday, July 26 when she returns to the office. Please be in touch with any Deacon for Pastoral Care emergencies during that timeframe. Rev. Ruth will be notified of emergency situations at the Deacons’ discretion.**



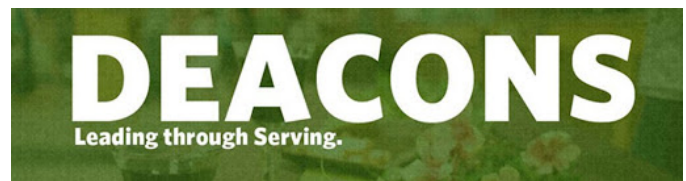
**Diaconate Schedule**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Telephone #</u>
6/4	Lynn Murray	401-539-7578
6/11	Allana Allik	860-599-5212
6/18	Lynn Murray	401-539-7578
6/25	TBD	

The July Diaconate Schedule will be announced weekly in the Worship Resource.

*Please feel free to call the Diaconate Person of the*

***Week at any time with your joys, concerns, and prayer requests. Your church family cares about you all the time, not just when you’re in the building!***



The Deacons are looking forward to Scholarship Sunday on June 4th. Join us that day to hear from our scholarship recipients. A special reception will follow.

Congratulations to our Barbara Murano Scholarship recipients for 2023: Hazel Allik, Erin Blake, Adam Tarasuk and Anna Tarasuk.

The Deacons appreciate the continuing support for the Deacons fund. Those resources are used for various needs within the church and the community. The Deacons’ Fund offering is usually received on the first Sunday of the month but donations for the Fund can be made at any time, through special envelopes in the sanctuary or online through our donate button on the church website, [www.uccwesterly.org](http://www.uccwesterly.org).

Respectfully submitted,  
 Lynn Murray,  
 Chairperson



**Trustee Notes**

Pledges for April were \$4,319, \$1,747 less than the anticipated pledge amount of \$6,066. Total income for April was \$5,735, \$3,955 less than the anticipated income of \$9,690. Expenses for April were \$12,187, \$1,507 more than the anticipated expenses of \$10,680. Thanks to everyone for keeping up with their pledges for this year!

The next trustees meeting is June 20, 2023  
at 6:30 p.m.



## MISSION MOMENTS

Thank you to all that have generously donated to our first month of the Babies and Ladies collection. For the month of June, we will be continuing our "Babies and Ladies" collection with a new twist. Since in the month of June we honor fathers on Father's Day, and we realize that the need for men's care products is also a necessity, we are renaming the collection to "Babies, Ladies and Gents". As well as the need for diapers and wipes for babies and sanitary products for women, you can now include men's toiletries, such as shaving cream, razors and deodorant.

Looking ahead to July and August, we will again be collecting for the "In the Middle" school supplies drive. Please note these collected supplies go to a local middle school where the need is great. Below is a list of the needed items for this collection.

### WISH LIST:

- sharpened pencils
- handheld pencil sharpeners
- eraser caps
- pens
- highlighters
- sticky notes
- index cards
- folders with pockets
- backpacks
- kleenex/tissues
- hand sanitizer
- 3 ring binders
- dividers with tabs (for binders)
- clipboards
- basic calculators

Also, we have our ongoing collections of non-perishable food, pet supplies and food and household paper products (paper towels, toilet paper, paper napkins) for the Pawcatuck Neighborhood Center. The need is great for our neighbors in our community. Please help whenever possible with your donation.



## OPERATION FRESH START—NEW BEGINNINGS

Despite the stormy weather on the day of the fundraiser, the Annual Plant Sale was quite successful. Thanks go out to all of those who donated plants and raffle prizes, bought the plants, set up for the event, and volunteered their time to work. A big thanks also to Jersey Mike's Subs in Westerly for donating three trays of their yummy subs to feed the hungry workers.

## JUNE AND JULY



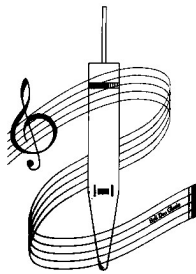
## SCHOOL SUPPLIES!!

➤ Coffee House on Friday, July 7

Operation Fresh Start will be collecting school supplies during the first part of the summer to give us plenty of time to organize all of the backpacks, pencil boxes, etc. that go out to mostly elementary school children in the early part of August.

A reminder that this list is DIFFERENT than the list of the supplies that our Mission Board will be collecting in July and August, as the items are focused on the needs of a different age group. A copy of this list will be attached to the red bins in the bell courtyard narthex.

Donations for Operation Fresh Start should be placed in the red bins in the bell courtyard narthex. Thanks so much for all of your help!!



### Organ Fund Update

Our fundraising efforts continue with several upcoming events in June and July:

- Coffee House on Friday, June 2.
- Bridge and Games Party with Strawberry Shortcake on Tuesday, June 13 from 1-3:30pm.

Remember, you are welcome to contribute to the Repair Fund anytime in 2023, "***The Year of the Organ!***" Donations can be made "In Memory" of a special person, and/or "In Celebration" of a special event or person. A list of donations will be published when the organ work is completed.

For your information, the work on the organ has begun on schedule. Foley Baker started its work on May 22<sup>nd</sup> and we estimate being without the organ from 10-12 weeks. During that time, music for church services will be played in various ways: electronic organ, the Arlene Ainsworth piano, tone chimes, guitar, as well as solos by our own musicians and singers. Reverend Ruth and David Cranmer will be coordinating our worship music.

Thank you all for your help, support, and generosity!

Jenny Brummund  
for the Organ Committee

### Coffee House Performances to Benefit The Organ Fund



## COFFEE HOUSE NEWS!!!

Thank you to all who attended and shared their talents at the first of three Coffee Houses on April 28th!

A huge **Thank You** goes out to Allana Allik and her daughter Hazel for organizing these events! Hazel created the colorful advertising posters (she was also a performer!) and Allana recruited and organized the acts. Allana's father, Louis Leeman, is generously sharing the use of his sound equipment. He is a professional musician, who also performed at the first Coffee House. We are grateful for such a musical and altruistic family!

Spread the word and plan to attend the **next Coffee House on Friday, June 2nd, from 7-9 pm.**

The **third Coffee House will be Friday, July 7th, 7-9 pm.**

As one might expect, coffee will be available along with other hot and cold beverages. Some of the famous UCC Westerly bakers will be offering baked goods for your enjoyment as well.

Donations gratefully accepted each night in the donation baskets provided.



**UPDATES FROM  
CONGREGATIONAL LIFE!!**

Thanks to everyone for their assistance in making the annual ATTIC TREASURES YARD SALE another huge success! Over \$800 raised in just a few hours!

The **Bazaar Pantry** continues being developed as we plan ahead for the Bazaar!



We know there are many people in the church who would like to bake but can't for various reasons. Those people have mentioned that they would like to be able to contribute to the baked goods room in some way. More bakers always welcome but another way for folks to contribute to our baking efforts without actually baking would be to help stock the "Bazaar Pantry." Early in April we cleared out an area in the kitchen storage room in Fellowship Hall to make room for donated baking supplies. As the bazaar nears, we will also be creating space in the kitchen refrigerators for other supplies.

How can you help? When you are out shopping and see a great sale on one of the ingredients listed below, please pick it up and place it in the designated place in the storage area. It's never too early to shop for the dry goods, as we will store the ingredients carefully. When our bakers begin their work, it will be so very helpful for us to grab a few ingredients from the pantry. We are providing a list of the most-used ingredients. Please feel free to print it and refer to it whenever you are looking through the weekly ads. Any ingredients remaining in the closet after the bazaars will be donated to the PNC or Jonnycake.

Thanks so much!  
Your Bazaar Bakers

Thursday, June 22, 1-3pm  
Watch our Facebook Page for last minute additions to this  
schedule...

### Bazaar Pantry Items for Baked Goods:

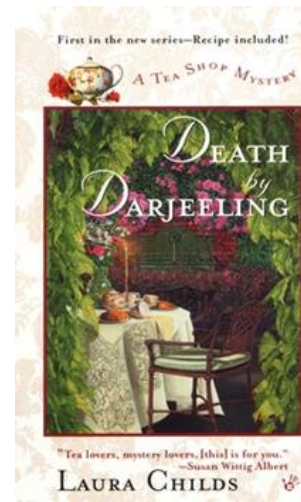
#### Dry Goods

Granulated sugar  
Light brown sugar  
Dark brown sugar  
Confectioners' sugar  
Molasses  
Vegetable oil  
Solid Crisco  
Peanut butter  
Chocolate chips (also white chips and cinnamon  
chips)  
Cocoa  
Cider vinegar  
Jelly jars  
Pint-sized Mason jars  
Flour (King Arthur preferred)  
GF flour (Bob's Red Mill 1to1 Baking Flour)  
Pecans and walnuts

#### Refrigerated items

Butter (unsalted and salted)  
Eggs  
Plant butter (Earth Balance sticks)

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### An Invitation to Join us at **BOOKS**

A group of folks who love to read, talk about  
what we read or just talk...

### OUR SUMMER PLANS!

We are embarking on the reading of the Tea  
Shop Mysteries series by **Laura Childs**.  
We are all reading Death by Darjeeling  
plus a second book from the series of our  
choice. Due to Rev. Ruth's vacation we won't  
be meeting again until mid-August giving  
everyone plenty of time to read the two books.

### Our next gathering:

Wednesday, August 16, 2023 @ 12:30pm  
Join us for a BYO Lunch & Beverage  
**DESSERT PROVIDED!!**

**REMEMBER!**  
**REV. RUTH'S COMMUNITY OFFICE HOURS**  
**SAVOY BOOKSTORE & CAFÉ**

Canal Street in Westerly  
Wednesday, June 7, 2-4pm

EVERYONE WELCOME! These books are available to borrow through your local library or for purchase through your favorite bookstore.

BOOKS is an on-going discussion group ministry of UCC Westerly. Please speak with Rev. Ruth for any questions.



Carole & Joseph Cravinho  
2304 Messina Drive, Pearland TX 77581

Linda & Ernie Evans  
312 Pequot Trail, Pawcatuck, CT 06379

Sandra Hoffman  
22 Horne Drive, Westerly, RI 02891



The Sunshine Cards Ministry is Updating their Birthday and Anniversary lists. If you are unsure if we have your birthday/anniversary on record please contact Carol in the office.

## The Grief Group

Meetings for June:

Wednesday, June 14

@ 2:30pm

This group is for anyone struggling with life in the midst of loss of a loved one, a job, a change of life status never imagined. Please speak with Rev. Ruth for more details. This will be the final meeting of this group for the summer. Meetings will resume in the fall.



### **Brighten Someone's Day...**

We don't see each other as often as we would like to these days. Here are a few suggestions of folks who might like to receive a card or note from you! Check out the newest Church Directory for more!



### **BEACON PRAYER LIST**

*Our church has a very active and vital prayer ministry which involves our Prayer Tree, requests for prayers during Sunday morning worship and this invitation in the Beacon each month to pray for specific folks who are requesting prayers here. So, that means we*

have multiple active prayer lists at any given time! How wonderful is that! Below is this month's list for the Beacon Prayer List.

Madelyn Stratton	Judy
Shirley M	Jennifer Woodhall
Donald	Emma
Scott	Evan
Finn Fox	

If you would like anyone added or removed from this list for the next newsletter, please call the office. Thank you.

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Emma Sugar - 28

### **June Anniversaries:**

Ed & Judy Stratton – June 6, 1970

### **July Birthdays:**

Kevin Dows – 3  
Jimmy Stott – 4  
Joann Spurley – 14  
Ane Torres – 21  
Elvis Torres – 30

### **July Anniversaries:**

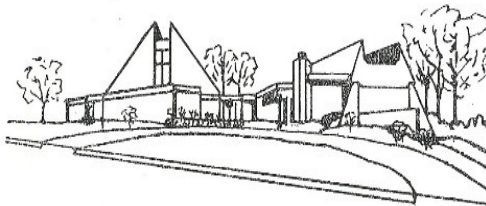
Elvis & Ane Torres – July 20, 2002  
Gary & Sandi Davis – July 20, 1974

Please add in your special days by calling the church office at 860-599-1226!!

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### **OUR STAFF**

*Pastor:* The Rev. Ruth Shilling Hainsworth  
*Organist & Choirs Director:* David Cranmer  
*Secretary:* Carol Lindsay

### **June Birthdays:**

Eric Sadowski – 5

### **CHURCH OFFICE SPECIFICS**



*Mailing Address:* 9 Castle Hill Road  
Pawcatuck, CT 06379

*Telephone:* **860-599-1226**

*E-mail:* **uccwesterly@gmail.com**

*Website:* **www.uccwesterly.org**

*Office Hours:* Monday 9 am-1 pm; Thursday 9 am-3 pm

**Please be aware that the Format and spacing for the BEACON may appear differently on your computer or device depending upon which WORD version you have. Thank you for your understanding!**