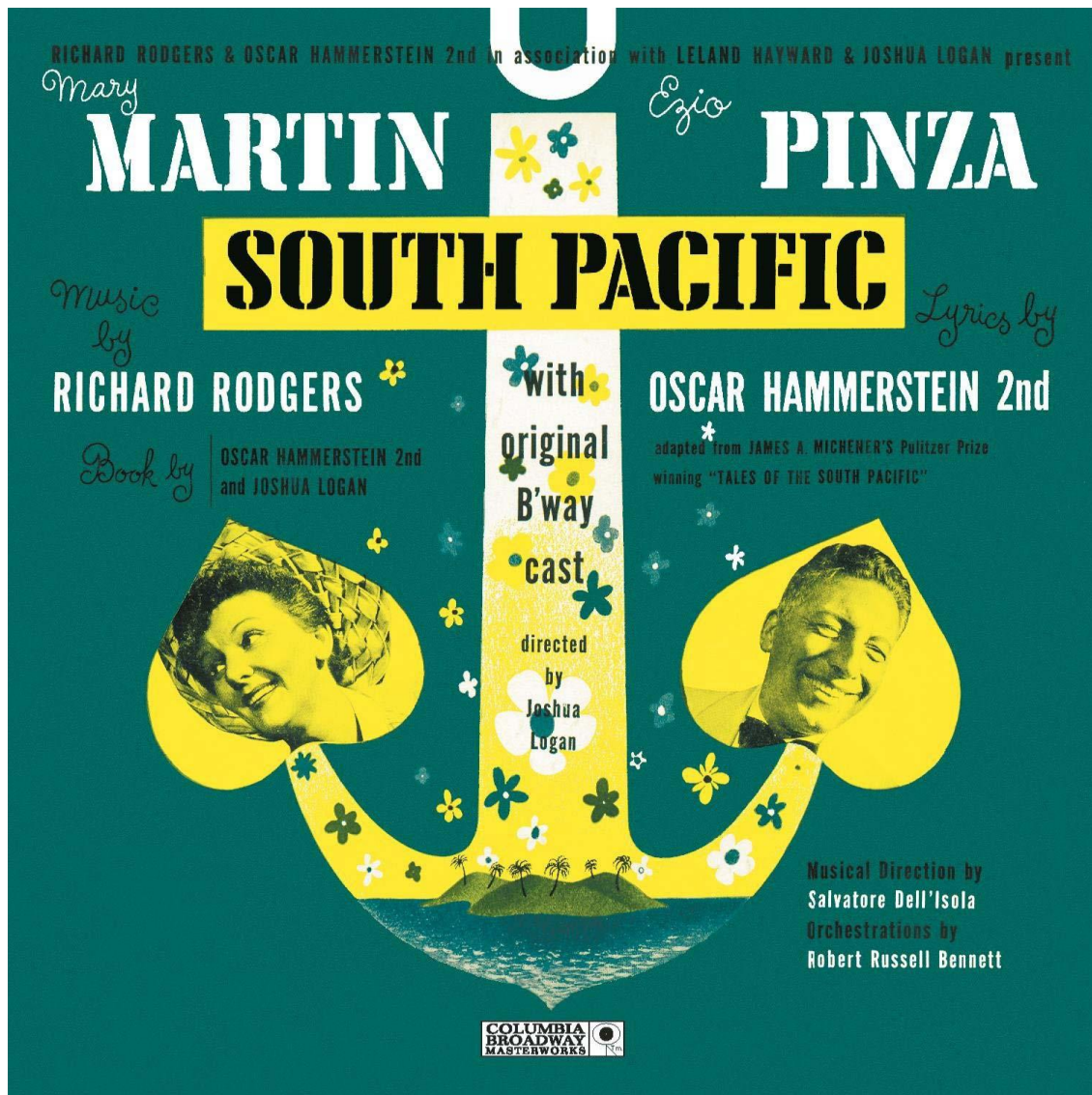


Inspired by the love and teachings of Jesus Christ, the Barre Congregational Church seeks to be a welcoming and caring congregation that supports each other and serves the wider world."

The Barre Congregational Church
United Church of Christ



Sunday, July 26th, 2026
Ninth Sunday After Pentecost
Rev. James Semmelroth Darnell
Pastor

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude

Call to Worship

Pastor: Welcome to a time of wonder

People: and music that calls us home

Pastor: Welcome to hear God's words that inspire and challenge

People: and to reminders that we are offered holy hospitality -

Pastor: Hospitality that teaches us how to open our lives to others

People: leading us to fully live open minds, open hearts, open doors.

Special Music

"You've Got to Be Carefully Taught"

* Opening Hymn

"In Christ There Is No East or West"

#687

Prayer of Confession (*Unison*)

For the times we are afraid of the stranger, for the times we refuse the stranger, because we think our resources are just too meager, Lord, forgive us.

For the times we stereotype the stranger as enemy, as dangerous, as inferior somehow, Lord, forgive us.

For the times we are too busy trying to impress our guests— the times we think we are being hospitable, but instead serve only our own needs— Lord, forgive us.

For the times we miss the gift of the stranger, for the times we close our door in fear, for the times we miss your face in the other, Lord, have mercy. Forgive us.

Assurance of Grace

Reading from the Old Testament

Numbers 12: 1 - 16

Reading from the Epistles

Hebrews 13: 1 - 2

Reading from the Gospel

Mark 12: 28 - 34

Responding to the Word (*Responsive*)

One: The word of God, for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

The Gospel According to Broadway: South Pacific

Special Music

“Some Enchanted Evening”

Expressions of Gratitude, Joys, and Concerns

After each prayer shared, we respond, “O Lord, hear our prayer.”

Pastoral Prayer & The Lord’s Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us for our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

*Hymn

“My Love Colors Outside the Lines”

Insert

Call to the Offering

Offertory

*Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God all creatures high and low.
Praise God for all that love has done.
Creator, Christ, and Spirit one. Amen.**

Prayer of Dedication

*Closing Hymn

“Help Us Accept Each Other”

#487

Benediction

**Postlude

*Please stand if you are able.

**Please sit quietly for the postlude.



If you'd like to donate to the work of the BCC, please scan the QR Code with the camera application on your cell phone. A link will pop up.

Please click it and fill out the donation form.

Announcement:

Volunteers Needed on Sunday Mornings!

We need your help to make Sunday morning worship an inspiring and welcoming experience for members and friends alike. Please consider signing up as a lector (reading Scripture during the service), usher, or greeter. The blue sign up book is available at the table in the back of the sanctuary. You can also sign up by reaching out to deacons Cathy James (lectors), Bev Thomas (greeters), or Rev. James at revjames.bccucc@gmail.com.

Welcome Guests!

We are so glad that you are worshiping with us today! The Barre Congregational Church, United Church of Christ is an open and affirming congregation where no matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you're welcome here! We are blessed by your presence with us. Restrooms are located in the hallway to the right of the sanctuary and downstairs. We heartily invite you to join us for conversation and refreshments in our Fellowship Hall following the service.

We welcome the seekers.
We welcome those who question.
We welcome those who believe without question.
It is not for us to turn anyone away.
Arms wide open.
Welcome home.

Upcoming events and meetings:

Saturday, August 1st: Saturday Morning Breakfast, 8 - 9:30 am
Sunday, August 2nd: Worship Service with Rev. James, 9:30 am
Saturday, August 8th: Saturday Morning Breakfast, 8 - 9:30 am
Sunday, August 9th: Scholarship Sunday Worship Service with Rev. James, 9:30 am
Wednesday, August 12th: Finance Meeting
Tuesday, August 18th: Council Meeting
Please inform the church office of all upcoming events

Serving this Sunday

Jackie Johnson, Lector
Todd and Mary Ronson, Greeter
, Flowers
Worship and Arts, Coffee Hour
, Welcome
, Usher

Thank you to our volunteers for their service to the Church.