



Holiday Update for the Barrington
Congregational Church, United
Church of Christ

November 27, 2024



The church office will be closed Nov. 27th - Nov. 29th for Thanksgiving
Rev. Dale Azevedo will be away from Nov. 21st - Dec. 2nd

Calendar

*Office Hours: Open Mon - Fri, 9:30 am - 1:30 pm.
Closed on Federal and State Holidays & where otherwise noted*

Wed, Nov 27 (Office Closed)

Thurs, Nov 28 Thanksgiving Day (Office Closed)

Fri, Nov 29 (Office Closed)

Sun, Dec 1 First Sunday of Advent

10 am All Ages Worship Service with Communion

Mon, Dec 2

6 pm Youth Group families visit La Salette Shrine

Tues, Dec 3

10 am Staff meeting, Dale's office

6:30 pm Knitting for Others Group, Library & Zoom

Wed, Dec 4

Noon: *Deadline for The Bridge newsletter*

7:30 pm Choir rehearsal, Vestry

Thurs, Dec 5

8:30 - 9:30 am Coffee Chat, Plant City in Barrington Center

1:30 - 3 pm Women of Faith Reading Group, Library

Sun, Dec 8 Second Sunday of Advent

10 am Worship Service, Church School

For the complete church calendar visit <http://bccucc.view-events.com>

Send calendar information to office@bccucc.org

**If you can't be with us in person, we invite you to
worship with us online!**

Our **Sunday morning services** are livestreamed for those

unable to attend in person. They can be viewed on [our Facebook page](#) or on [our YouTube channel](#) - either live or watched later. Once the service is over, a recording of the service can be found on [our website](#).



Sunday, December 1st

First Sunday of Advent: Hope All Ages Worship

Bring the family and join us on December 1st to celebrate the first Sunday of Advent in an all-ages worship service with communion.



Bridge News & Updates

Advent Candle Lighters Needed

Volunteers are needed to read the short liturgy and light the Advent candles at the 10 am services on Sunday, December 15th and Sunday, December 22nd. Volunteers can be individuals, couples, or families. Please contact [Rev. Dale Azevedo](#) or [Rev. Racquel Ray](#) if you are interested in volunteering.



New Member to the Chancel Team

Join us in welcoming Paula Rooks to the Chancel Team! Paula has been a member of BCCUCC for years, loves flowers, and is looking forward to helping with all aspects of the Chancel team's goals for the year.



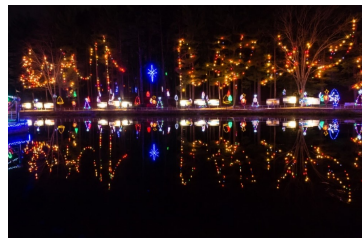
NEW: 'From the River's Edge' with Racquel

Don't miss the latest Pastors' blog, "Behold", by Rev. Racquel Ray. [Read it here.](#)



Youth Group Visit to La Salette Shrine

On Monday, December 2nd, the BCCUCC Youth Group families will be meeting at the gate of the National Shrine of Our Lady of La Salette (947 Park Street, Attleboro, MA 02703) at 6 pm. Questions? Contact Rev. Racquel Ray at racquel@bccucc.org.



Nearby Events

Barrington Public Library : Film Screening & Discussion

Join the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee on Sunday, December 1st at 1 pm or Wednesday, December 4th at 6:30 pm for a screening of Two Towns of Jasper, a documentary about a Texas town that was forever altered by the lynching of a black man in 1998. Free and open to adults & teens. Registration is recommended.



DOCUMENTARY & DISCUSSION

TWO SHOWINGS!
 Sun. Dec. 1 @ 1 pm
 Wed. Dec. 4 @ 6:30 pm
 Solem Family Auditorium

Two Towns of Jasper
 2002 - 1 hr 30 mins - Not Rated



Bristol County Chorus Christmas Concert

The Bristol County Chorus will present their 43rd annual Christmas concert on Sunday, Dec 8th at St. Mary's Church, 330 Wood Street, Bristol, RI, at 3PM. The Chorus, accompanied by a professional chamber orchestra, will be conducted by Director of Music Nicholas Rocha. Presenting, Come All Ye Faithful, the program features festive, colorful holiday music, and a special arrangement of O Magnum Mysterium written and conducted by Mr. Rocha. Tickets are \$20.00 in advance, and \$25.00 at the door, and are available locally at the George Hail Library in Warren, at Paper Packaging and Panache in Bristol, and online through brownpapertickets.com. Be sure to follow and check the group's [Facebook page](https://www.facebook.com/bristolchorus) for additional information.



Bristol County Chorus
43rd Annual Concert With Orchestra
COME ALL YE FAITHFUL
Sunday, December 8th
3:00 PM

Under the direction of Nicholas Rocha

Tickets \$25 at the door \$20 in advance at
 St. Mary's Church 330 Wood St. Bristol, RI
 Paper, Packaging & Panache
 The George Hail Library
 BrownPaperTickets.com

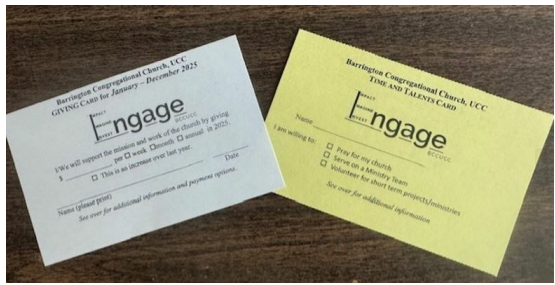
Handel's Messiah with Providence Singers Performance

Join the Rhode Island Philharmonic and the Providence Singers for the holiday performance of Handel's Messiah at The Vets on Sunday, December 15th at 3PM. For tickets or more information visit www.ProvidenceSingers.org or the [Rhode Island Philharmonic website](http://RhodeIslandPhilharmonic.org).



HANDEL'S MESSIAH
 WITH PROVIDENCE SINGERS

Opportunities to Give & Give Thanks



Thank YOU!

Thank you to everyone who has returned an Estimate of Giving card or Gift of Time and Talents card for 2024! For anyone who may need a card or a copy of the current Ministry teams to see how you can give (financially or with your time and talents), please contact the office at office@bccucc.org or (401)-246-0111.



2024 Giving Tree



2024 Mitten Tree

The Local Outreach Team, which is part of the Service Ministry, will once again support the Women's Resource Center and the Giving Tree. The Women's Resource Center provides advocacy and support for those seeking assistance and safety from domestic violence. Domestic violence occurs throughout the state of Rhode Island and impacts a variety of socioeconomic groups. The need for assistance is greater than ever due to food insecurity, financial hardship, and the lack of funding for charitable organizations.

The Women's Resource Center will use donations to assist families in need. We are hoping to bring holiday joy to as many families as possible. The Women's Resource Center would prefer to receive donations by the first week in December, so that the staff has time to coordinate the best way to assist clients (gift cards, cash, etc.) To this end, the Local Outreach Team has approved a \$600 donation to the Women's Resource Center from its annual budget. This \$600 donation is just a "jump-start" for the campaign, which will run through December 29. All monies raised, both before and after the first week in December, will be given to the Women's Resource Center to support the survivors of domestic violence and their families. Donations should be given to the church office as cash, check, or online through Tithe.ly on the church website. Checks should be made out to "BCCUCC" with "Women's Resource Center" written in the memo line.

For online donations from the church website, visit bccucc.org/donation/ to take you to the 'Giving to BCCUCC' page. In the middle is a link to Tithe.ly through which you can donate, either using a credit card or directly from your bank. Use the drop-down menu to make your donation go to 'Women's Resource Center.'

Questions? Contact Nancy Arena at nancy.arena@outlook.com or by calling (401)-246 0212. Thank you for your donation!

Multiple teams will work together this December to sponsor the Mitten Tree. These teams include, but are not limited to, the office and custodial staff, Rev. Racquel Ray, the Local Outreach Team, and the Knitting for Others Team. Members of the congregation are urged to purchase warm hats, gloves, scarves, mittens etc. - both purchased and handmade - for children, youth, and adults of all sizes.

The Mitten Tree will be upstairs in the sanctuary beginning the first week in Advent and will remain there through the end of December to receive donations. The congregation is asked to place their donated items on or under the tree before or after the worship service. All donated items will be given to organizations serving individuals and families experiencing financial hardship. If anyone wishes to make a donation, but is not currently attending in-person worship, please contact Nancy Arena at (401) 246-0212 or nancy.arena@outlook.com to arrange for pick-up.

Thank you for your donation!

"We are able to accomplish our mission only with the support of our members and friends. Because of you, less people in Rhode Island go hungry, the sick or shut-in are visited, God's justice is proclaimed, and more people learn about the love and welcome of Christ. Thank you!"

Rev. Dr. Dale Azevedo

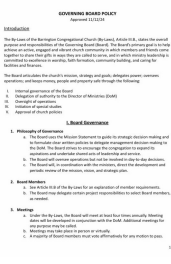
Donating to BCCUCC

Interested in donating online? Visit the [BCCUCC donation page](#) and click on '[Donate Now](#)' under the Tithe.ly option. Be sure to click on the drop-down box in Tithe.ly to choose where you'd like your donation to go. Should you need assistance with the website, please [let the office know](#). Thank you for all of your financial support of BCCUCC!

BCCUCC Governing Board

Governing Board Updates

The BCCUCC Governing Board continues to meet regularly, usually once per month. We are charged with implementing the new BCCUCC governance structure as defined by the new By-laws adopted by the Congregation in January 2024. One of our duties has been to draft policies that supplement



our By-laws. The first was the Congregation Policy approved by the Congregation last June. Most recently we have written and approved our own Governing Board Policy. This is now available for your review by [clicking here](https://bccucc.org/wp-content/uploads/Governing-Board-Policy-11-12-24.pdf) to visiting <https://bccucc.org/wp-content/uploads/Governing-Board-Policy-11-12-24.pdf> . Our next task is to work with the Finance Coordinator to finalize the 2025 budget. This will be presented to the Congregation at our budget meeting in late January. Please contact Governing Board Chair Laura Ward if you have any questions or concerns: Lnakshian@gmail.com.

Ongoing Groups

Knitting for Others Group (Monthly)

The Knitting for Others Group will meet both **in person and via zoom** on the first Tuesday of each month. The next meeting will be on **Tuesday, December 3rd** from **6:30 - 9 pm**. Feel free to stop into the library or join the call at any time and stay as long as you like. All knitters and crocheters are invited to participate and new faces are very welcome. For more information on the group or the Zoom login info to participate, contact Nancy Arena at (401) 246-0212 or nancy.arena@outlook.com.



Women of Faith Reading Group (Biweekly)

The group welcomes women of all ages from BCCUCC as well as other churches and faith traditions to discuss books, faith and life. The group meets from **1:30 - 3 pm** on the first and third Thursdays every month. The next meetings will be on **Thursday, December 5th** and then on **Thursday December 19th** in the church library. For more information, contact Jane Tonn at 289-2349 or jtonn2@cox.net



Bereavement Group (Monthly)

This support group is open to anyone (not just church members) who has lost a loved one at any time and new members are always welcome. The group meets once a month from **10 - 11 am** in the church library and will meet again on **Monday, December 9th**. For more information contact one of the facilitators, Betsy Brenner at betsybrenner3@gmail.com or 245-8031, or Aubrey Atwater at aubreyfolk@aol.com or (401) 392-1909, or Rev. Racquel Ray at racquel@bccucc.org (401) 246 0111 x 104.



Book Group (Monthly)

The Book Group next meets on **Tuesday, December 17th** at **10:30 am** in the Church Library to discuss *Clear* by Carys Davies. For more info about the group contact Helen Schall at helenschall@hotmail.com.



Youth Group

- December 2nd** Youth Group families will be meeting at 6 pm at the gate of La Salette Shrine (947 Park St. Attleboro, MA 02703)
- December 16th** Youth Group will have a "Quiet Retreat" in the Church from 6 - 7 pm.



All youth in **grades 5 - 9** are welcome to join us on **Monday nights** from **6 – 7 pm**. We're looking forward to Games and Crafts nights, Youth Group Soup, a trip to La Salette, a Quiet Retreat, community service work, and exploring a mission trip. Please email racquel@bcc.org to learn more or register. *Note: There is no youth group when Barrington Public Schools have a day*

off.

Veterans Coffee & Conversation at Atria (Monthly)

Rev. Racquel invites you to join her for coffee and donuts with the Veterans at Atria Bay Spring Village. We meet once per month for coffee and conversation - and donuts. The stories and living history are profoundly sacred. Please email or call Rev. Racquel to sign up at racquel@bccucc.org or (401) 246-0111 x 104.



Choir Rehearsals (Weekly)

If you enjoy singing, why not join the church choir - no audition needed! Rehearsals are on **Wednesday evenings** from **7:30 pm** in the Vestry for an hour or so. To learn more, speak with our music director Matthew Marion after church or at (401) 954-7107 or mmarion1811@gmail.com. Or speak with any choir member - they'd love to welcome some new faces and voices! Come make a joyful noise to the Lord!



Coffee Chat (Weekly)

The Thursday Morning Coffee Chat meets at **Plant City** in the Barrington Shopping Center (188 County Road). Please join Rev. Racquel and others on **Thursday mornings 8:30 - 9:30 am** for conversation and companionship. Contact Rev. Racquel with any questions racquel@bccucc.org



Worth repeating

Deadlines for Announcements and The Bridge

The deadline for receiving information for inclusion in The Bridge and the Sunday Announcements is **Noon on the Wednesday prior to publication**. Deadline for the next Bridge newsletter is **Wednesday, December 4th**. Please send information to office@bccucc.org.



2024-2025 Church Calendar

Our church calendar can be viewed at <http://bccucc.view-events.com> or from the calendar page on our church website <https://bccucc.org/calendar/>. Please notify the office at office@bccucc.org or 246-0111 with information about meetings/events etc. so the calendar can always be kept up to date. Thank you!



Do you need a name tag?

If you would like a nametag please contact the church office at office@bccucc.org or call (401) 246-0111 and let us know what name you'd like on the nametag plus your preference for a clip, pin or string holder. Nametags are stored on the rack in the vestry hallway, or you can keep it in your car or purse where you can easily find it on a Sunday morning.



Keep up with BCCUCC

View our latest bulletins, announcements, video streams and more through the following channels:

- [BCCUCC website](http://bccucc.org)
- [Youtube](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...)
- [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/bccucc)



News from SNEUCC & National UCC

The latest from SNEUCC



The Southern New England Conference, UCC (SNEUCC), publishes several newsletters - one of which normally comes out weekly and is titled '**5 Things to Know and Share**'. Read the latest edition [at this link](#) and sign up to subscribe and get it sent to your inbox. [Click on this link](#) to see the archive of all of the different SNEUCC newsletters - and subscribe to any that are of interest to you.

Connect with Us

Rev. Dale Azevedo Senior Minister dale@bccucc.org (401) 246-0111 x 103

Rev. Racquel Ray Associate Minister for Congregational Life racquel@bccucc.org (401) 246-0111 x 104

Sara Bagwell Office Administrator office@bccucc.org (401) 246-0111 x 101 (or stay on the line)

Pat Stoddard Financial Secretary pat@bccucc.org (401) 246-0111 x 102

Andrea Bullard Faith Formation Director andrea@bccucc.org (401) 246-0111 x 107

Matthew Marion Music Director mmarion1811@gmail.com Music Director

Church Office Hours: Open Monday – Friday, 9:30 am – 1:30 pm.
Closed on Federal and State holidays.

Building Security: The Education building remains locked at all times, even when the office is open. Please ring the bell for entry and we'll be happy to let you in - or use the code on the keypad if you have it.



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