



November 21, 2019

Newsletter of Barrington
Congregational Church
United Church of Christ

Calendar

Church office hours: Mon - Fri, 9:30 - 12:30 and 1:30 - 4:30 unless otherwise noted

Fri, Nov 22

Dale on call for pastoral emergencies

Sat, Nov 23

9:30 - 11 am East Bay Women's Clothes Swap, Fellowship Hall

11 am Memorial Service for Michael Guglielmo, Sanctuary

Sun, Nov 24 THANKSGIVING SUNDAY

10 am Worship Service, Advent Arts during Church School time

11:15 am 'Bring and Buy' Bake Sale, Foyer of Fellowship Hall

11:20 am Sing and Celebrate Choir rehearsal, Room 6

11:30 pm Pageant Casting Call, Library

Reduced Office Hours & Closings for Nov 15 - Dec 3:

Mons and Weds: 9:30 - 12:30 only. Tues, 9:30 - 12:30 and 1:30 - 4:30.

Office closed for Thanksgiving: Thurs, Nov 28 & Fri, Nov 29.

Mon, Nov 25

Interfaith Thanksgiving Worship and Service Project @ Temple Habonim:

- 6:30 pm Pizza and Salad Dinner (reservations required)
- 7 pm Worship
- 7:30 pm Service Project

No Mindful Monday

Tues, Nov 26

11 am Staff meeting, Dale's office

11:30 am Book Group, The Coffee Depot

Wed, Nov 27

No choir rehearsal

Thurs, Nov 28 Thanksgiving Day

Office Closed

Fri, Nov 29

Office Closed

Brendan on call for pastoral emergencies

Sun, Dec 1 ADVENT 1

10 am All Ages Worship with Communion, Nursery Care available
11:30 am - 1:30 pm Confirmation Class, Room 9

Mon, Dec 2

11 am Bereavement Group, Library
7 - 8 pm Mindful Monday, Meditation Room (Room 8)

Tues, Dec 3

11 am Staff meeting, Dale's office
7 - 9 pm Knitting for Others Group, Barbara Wuth's home

Return to regular office hours

Wed, Dec 4

Noon Deadline for eBridge
7 - 8:15 pm 'Exploring the Bible-1', Library
7 pm Mission and Justice team meeting, Room 6
7:30 - 9 pm Choir rehearsal, Vestry

Thurs, Dec 5

1:30 - 3 pm Women's Faith Group, Library
3 - 5 pm Community Office Hours, The Coffee Depot in Warren
6 - 7:30 pm NAMI RI Family Support Group, Room 6

Fri, Dec 6

Dale on call for pastoral emergencies

Sat, Dec 7

7:30 pm BHS Jazz Band Holiday Concert Fundraiser, Sanctuary

Sun, Dec 8 Advent 2 and New Member Sunday

10 am Worship Service with Reception of New Members, Church School
2 - 6 pm Open House at Fireside Parsonage

For the complete church calendar visit <http://bccucc.view-events.com>
Send calendar information to office@bccucc.org

Send information for inclusion in the next eBridge to office@bccucc.org
Deadline for the next eBridge is Noon on **Wednesday, December 4th**

Forward the eBridge to a friend and invite them to [join our email list](#)

Be sure you get to see ALL of the eBridge. Some platforms - including gmail - only show part of it with a link at the bottom to the remainder.

This weekend

East Bay Women's Clothing Swap

Following the success of the first two, a WOMEN's Clothing swap has been scheduled for every other month - the next one **this Sat, Nov 23rd** from **9:30 - 11 am** in Fellowship Hall. \$3 - 5 entry, no-one turned away. Clean out your closet and bring shoes, bags and clothing that you no longer need to the swap - and bring home a whole new wardrobe! The event is open to the whole community so invite your friends!



Advent Arts for our church school children

Advent Arts is **this Sunday, November 24th** in Fellowship Hall during church school

time. There will be some new crafts this year in addition to old favorites, so we hope all the children will come over after the children's time for this annual fun event.

'Bring and Buy' Bake Sale

Just in time for the start of the holiday season, **this Sunday, November 24th** we will be having our first mission trip fundraiser for the group going to Puerto Rico in June, 2020. All are encouraged to bring a baked item to church that can be sold and buy something that someone else made. Baked goods will be placed on a table in the foyer. Meet our friendly mission trip participants who will be tending the table. Buy yummy baked goods for Thanksgiving and support our church's mission trip. The mission trip team thanks you for your support!



Casting call for the Christmas Pageant

Calling all aspiring wise people, barn animals, angels, and shepherds! Mary and Joseph we need you too! All kids in the church school are encouraged to come to the pageant casting call after church on **Sunday, November 24th** at 11:30 am in the library. The nativity puppets are still on strike and so we are going to have a traditional pageant this year. We are asking the kids in the church school to come and sign up for their part in the pageant! We will have a LIVE nativity this year! This might be your child's opportunity to be a star... literally! For more information contact our Christian Education Coordinator, Andrea Bullard, at andrea@bccucc.org or (401) 246-0111 x 107.



Barrington Community Thanksgiving

Interfaith Thanksgiving Worship and Service Project

on **Monday, November 25th**

at **Temple Habonim**, 165 New Meadow Road, Barrington.

- **6:30 pm** Pizza and Salad Dinner (reservations required)
- **7 pm** Interfaith Worship Service
- **7:30 pm** Service Project



Each year Barrington gathers for an interfaith Thanksgiving service on the Monday before Thanksgiving. We will gather for a pizza and salad dinner first (no charge, but reservations required) followed by a brief interfaith service of thanksgiving led by clergy and lay leaders from our community, and then engage in an act of *tikkun olam*, doing work to heal the world.

This year we will support the work of Dorcas International Institute of Rhode Island, a 501(c)(3) non-profit that provides programs and services to immigrants, refugees, and those looking to overcome cultural, educational, economic, and language barriers. Dorcas International has worked to empower newcomers for nearly 100 years now and strives to create a welcoming environment for all who come to settle here in the Ocean State.

For our activity following the short worship service, we will make welcome cards and assemble shoe-box sized containers including a welcome card, small toys and school supplies (children) or toiletries and personal items (adults). Dorcas will distribute these welcome boxes to refugees as they arrive and are resettled in their new homes. We will also learn about the resettlement process in Rhode Island.

Here's how you can help. Start collecting items now from friends and neighbors and bring them with you to our Thanksgiving Worship and Service Project Evening. Go to

this link <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0E48A4AB28A75-refugee> for a complete list of items needed and to register the items you'll be bringing.

If you plan to come at 6:30 pm and attend the family dinner, please go to the Temple Habonim website at www.templehabonim.org to sign up. Due to the generosity of a number of local houses of worship, there is no charge for the dinner, but we need to know how many people are attending so we can have the correct amount of food present. **The deadline for signing up for dinner has been extended to Sunday evening.**

Reservations are required only for the dinner part of the evening. The worship and service project are open to everyone who wishes to attend. All ages are welcome!

This week at BCCUCC

Reduced office hours, holiday closing, and staff away

Christine will be out of the office from Mon, Nov 25th thru Tues, Dec 3rd. The office will be open as normal on Tuesdays, Nov 26th and Dec 3rd, but for mornings only from 9:30 am – 12:30 pm the other days; except for Thursday and Friday, November 28th and 29th when it will be closed for the Thanksgiving holiday.



From the Stewardship Team

Giving Card Reminder

Since Consecration Sunday on Nov. 3rd the church has received 108 Giving Cards from members and friends with their financial commitment for 2020. Thank you! If you intend to return a Giving Card for 2020, we hope to hear from you as soon as possible. Our Finance Team and Church Council are in the process of finalizing the 2020 budget and many of their decisions are based on these financial commitments. If you need a new Giving Card please contact the church office (cards are also available from the rack outside the office and from the Vestry table). You may also email Financial Secretary Pat Stoddard (pat@bccucc.org) with your financial commitment for 2020, and she will confirm receipt of your email and the amount. You may also mail in your card or place it in the offering plate. Your continued financial support allows our church to "Be the Change" in the local community and beyond.



Was this card from you?

We have received a Giving Card that has an illegible signature, so unfortunately we do not know who has made this financial commitment to our church. The return envelope is postmarked Nov. 18th but has no return name or address on it. This donor indicated interest in electronic giving. If this is your commitment, please email Financial Secretary Pat Stoddard (pat@bccucc.org) with your name and contact information and she will confirm your commitment. Thank you!



Make sure that you see ALL of the eBridge.

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Click on that link at the end of what's visible, to see the rest of the newsletter!

Advent at BCCUCC

We are preparing a sacred place for Jesus and need your help!

This Advent season we are doing something special. We are building a life-size creche in our sanctuary. The creche is going to start off empty and each week we will be filling it up with our gifts. Some of these gifts we will get back when the season is over. Other gifts we will leave and donate to the Women's Resource Center.

Dates and gifts are:

Dec. 1 – Stuffed animals. (People of all ages are invited bring one of your their favorite stuffed animals to prepare the creche for Jesus! These you can take back after Christmas.)

Dec. 8 – Baby and new mother items. (diapers, wipes, onesies, and toiletries - These items must be new and will be donated to the Women's resource Center in Warren.)

Dec. 15 – Our song! (Come enjoy the Cantata and celebrate the gift of joyful noise.)

Dec. 22 – Precious memories. (People of all ages bring something precious or meaningful to you. These gifts of love will help warm the creche for Jesus' arrival. These you can take back after Christmas.)

Please help us prepare our creche and our hearts to receive Jesus on Christmas morning!



All Ages Worship is December 1st

Our next All Ages Worship will be held on **Sunday, December 1st**. We are building a life-sized creche in our sanctuary and will be filling it up all through Advent (see article above). On that day, people of all ages are invited bring one of their favorite stuffed animals to prepare the creche for Jesus! These friends will stay in the sanctuary through Christmas and can go back home after the big day. Also on December 1st, we will have readers of all ages, a special song led by Brendan, and an intergenerational message from Dale. See you there!



Advent Candle Lighters needed

Volunteers are needed to read the short liturgy and light the Advent Candles on **Sundays, December 15 and 22**, and on **Christmas Eve** at the 6 pm and 10 pm services. Volunteers should contact Rev. Dale Azevedo at (401) 246-0111 x 103 or dale@bccucc.org. Individuals, couples or families are invited to do this.



Celebrate the holidays!

Holiday Open House at Fireside Parsonage

A message from Dale and Elizabeth:

"We are so blessed to be serving in ministry with you and this is our way of saying, "thank you." On **Sunday, December 8th** from 2-6 pm, Dale and Elizabeth are having an Open House at the Parsonage (7 Fireside Dr, Barrington). Yes, we know that the Patriots are playing that day. We promise to have the game on the TV for you, in addition to yummy food and great company. This event is not just for grown-ups, we promise family friendly food and maybe even some kid activities. Please come and visit with us. All are invited."



Holiday Jazz Concert - fundraiser for Mission Trip

The Barrington High School Jazz Band will give a concert of holiday music in our sanctuary on **Saturday, December 7th** at 7:30 pm. Tickets available at the door. All proceeds will support the BHS Jazz Band, and also the 2020 BCCUCC Mission Trip to Puerto Rico. Come listen to some great music from a group of very talented young musicians, while supporting our mission trippers.



Christmas Eve Worship Services

As you make your holiday plans, please note that our Christmas Eve services on **Tuesday, December 24th** will be:

6 pm Family Service with Children's Pageant

10 pm Service of Lessons and Carols with Choir



'Tis the season for giving

The Giving Tree

Mission and Justice's "Giving Tree" will be in Fellowship Hall beginning **Sunday, December 1st** with envelopes for your donations of various amounts to apply to gift cards for supermarkets, pharmacies, gas stations, utilities, etc. The gift cards will be given to the Women's Resource Center to help families there afford the necessities, and also allow the women to have money to purchase gifts for their families and themselves. *Donations need to be made by Sunday, December 15th* and should be by cash or check made out to 'BCCUCC' with 'Giving Tree' in the memo line. Questions? Contact Nancy Arena at nancy.arena@outlook.com or 246-0212.



Mitten Tree

The Mitten Tree will be up in the narthex beginning **Sunday, December 1st** to start receiving your donations of warm hats, gloves, scarves, and mittens etc. - both purchased and handmade - for children, youth, and adults of all sizes. This year items on the mitten tree will be donated to Amos House and also to Loaves and Fishes RI. Donations may be made *through December 22nd*. Thank you for your donation!



Chancel Fund donations requested

Every Christmas we invite the congregation to make donations to The Chancel Fund which is used to pay for the plants that decorate the sanctuary at Christmas, as well as the plants that are delivered

by the Deacons to our homebound, sick and recently bereaved. A dedication of your choice is included in the bulletins for the Christmas Eve services. Donation forms will be included in the church bulletins on Dec 1, 8 and 15. Deadline for donations is Monday, December 16th. [More information and donation form.](#)



Staff Christmas Gift

A message from Dale and Brendan...

"During the weeks of Advent you will find in the pew racks an envelope marked "Staff Christmas Gift." We are blessed to have wonderful people working here who give more hours to our church than expected or are compensated for. We therefore invite you to join with us in giving them a gift during these holidays. Your gifts will be divided up among six different people; Christine and Pat in the office, Andrea our CE Coordinator, Marina at our organ, and Paul & John on the custodial staff. Each staff person will receive this gift according to the number of hours they work. Thank you ahead of time for your generosity."

Checks should be made payable to 'BCCUCC' and mark the memo line 'Staff Gift'.

They can be put in the offering plate or sent directly to the church office. Thank you.



Thank you for all the food donations

The Mission and Justice Team would like to thank everyone who donated to the Thanksgiving Food Drive for TAPIN. Altogether we collected almost 200 food items (stuffing mix, cranberry sauce, gravy, instant mashed potatoes), which together with the donations from the other houses of worship and the RI Food Bank, will go into the TAPIN Thanksgiving food bags, being distributed this weekend to 350 local families in need.



Shop Thru Amazon Smile and make money for our church!

As you do your holiday shopping don't forget that when you shop online at Amazon, if you log in thru AmazonSmile, every eligible purchase you make will raise 0.5% of the purchase price for our church. To learn more visit <http://smile.amazon.com> and choose 'Barrington Congregational Church' as your charitable organization. Or [click on this link](#) to go there directly. Each quarter the church receives a donation from Amazon and all you have to do is start your shopping at AmazonSmile. Thanks.



Some upcoming deadlines

Last call for photos!

The last date to submit a photo for the church directory is **Sunday, December 1st**. This hopefully gives you one last chance while your family is together for the Thanksgiving holiday to snap a casual family photo. Photos can be texted to Elizabeth Azevedo 860-301-2915, please include your family information OR they can be emailed to Elizabeth at eazevedo17@gmail.com. We hope to have directories printed before the end of the year, more information about distribution will be announced in early December.



Do you want to go on the mission trip to Puerto Rico?

For our annual mission trip, we are leading an intergenerational

(age 16+) mission/service trip to Puerto Rico from June 20-27, 2020. We have 10 folks signed up with room for a few more. Are you interested? If so, contact Dale (dale@bccucc.org) or the church office (office@bccucc.org) by **Monday, December 2nd**. If you aren't able to join us on the trip, please consider supporting our team at any of our upcoming fundraising events being scheduled throughout the year. For more information see the church website (www.bccucc.org)



Can you help?

Altar flower donors needed

Celebrate a birthday, anniversary or remember loved ones with altar flowers in the sanctuary. We have openings for donors to pay for vases on **Sundays, December 15th and 22nd**. A donation of \$30 is requested for each vase. Contact Chancel Team member Beth Buckley at elizabethbuckley21@msn.com or (401) 247-0324 if interested. Thanks.



Loaves and Fishes Ministry

On **Wednesday, December 11th**, volunteers from our church will be going to Trinity Methodist Church in Providence to provide nourishment to those in need. The truck will not be available, so they will be travelling in cars instead. Specific food and clothing items are needed – to see what's needed, check the [online sign-up sheet](#) and sign up how you can help. Prep starts in the kitchen at 4 pm to prepare the food and start loading up. For more information, questions, or if you are unable to sign up on line, contact Liz White (401-245-0285 or lizzyw2@aol.com) or Phyllis Buckley (401-742-7320 or pbuckley6@cox.net). Thank you.



Coffee Hour needs your help

Thank you to everyone who has volunteered to help the assigned teams with coffee hour on a Sunday between now and the end of the year. If you haven't yet signed up but would like to help with providing food, serving or clean up, there are still opportunities. Sign up in Fellowship Hall during coffee hour on a Sunday, or contact Jane Tonn at jtonn2@cox.net or 289-2349. Those who sign up will receive an email reminder the Wednesday before the Sunday that they have volunteered to help.



Regular Weekly and Monthly happenings (listed alphabetically)

Bereavement Group

The group will meet **Monday, Dec 2nd** at 11 am in the library. The group is open to anyone (not just church members) who has lost a loved one at any time. For more information, contact the facilitator Betsy Brenner at jsbeeb@aol.com or 245-8031.

Book Group

Book Group meets **Tuesday, November 26th** at 11:30 am at

The Coffee Depot, 501 Main St, Warren (*note the change of time and location*). They will be discussing *The Girl Who Wrote in Silk* by Kelli Estes: "Estes's debut novel alternates between the turn of the 20th century and today, when Inara Erickson finds a beautifully embroidered sleeve hidden in the staircase at her newly inherited island estate. Intrigued, she asks a professor of Asian history to help her find out more and together they discover a century's worth of secrets, horror, and love stitched onto the delicate sleeve. As they unravel the mystery behind the embroidered story, alternating chapters reveal the sorrowful life of Mei Lein, a Chinese girl who left behind her story stitched on silk." (Library Journal). For more information about the group, please contact Helen Schall at helenschall@hotmail.com or 245-4724. All are welcome!



Community Office Hours

Community Office Hours are held on **Thursday afternoons** from **3–5 pm** at **The Coffee Depot**, 501 Main Street, Warren. Anyone from the church or community is welcome to stop by and chat with Brendan in this more informal setting. (*Not happening on Thanksgiving Day!*)



East Bay Kids Clothing and Toy Swap

Held on the 3rd Saturday of the month, the next one is on **Saturday, December 21st** from 9:30 - 11:30 am in Fellowship Hall. Trade in clean clothes, shoes, and gently used toys, and get new (to you) items! Size newborn to age 12. Give what you can, take what you need. \$3 - 5 donation at the door, but no one turned away. Open to the community.

Learn more at <https://www.facebook.com/EastBayKidsClothesSwap/>



Knitting Group

Knitting for Others Group will meet **Tuesday, December 3rd** from 7 – 9 pm at the home of Barbara Wuth, 3 Fireside Drive, Barrington. Please RSVP to Barbara at (401) 245-7291 or bwuth54@gmail.com so she knows how many to expect. The group meets monthly - on the 1st Tuesday - makes a variety of different items to be given away (prayer shawls, hats for children in Head Start etc) and can provide patterns and help. All knitters and crocheters are welcome, especially new faces! For more information about the group, contact Nancy Arena at 246-0212 or Nancy.Arena@outlook.com.



Mindful Mondays

Mindful Mondays with Brendan happen every Monday (except on holidays or otherwise noted) from 7 - 8 pm in the Meditation Room. The hour consists of a 20 - 25 minute guided meditation, a contemplative reading or poem, followed by tea and discussion. The sessions are designed to be inclusive for people of all faiths and are open to the public. All are welcome.



NAMI RI Family Support Group

NAMI RI (*National Alliance on Mental Illness*) holds a monthly support group at our church for family members of people with mental illness. Open to anyone in the community the next meeting is **Thurs, Dec 5th** from 6 – 7:30 pm in Room 6. For more info contact NAMI RI at info@namirhodeisland.org or call (401) 331-3060.



Women's Faith Group

The Women's Faith Group meets the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month from 1:30 – 3 pm in the church library, and they next meet on **Thursday, December 5th**. They are reading *Pieces of Happiness* by Anne Ostby. Copies are available for purchase from the church office. The group welcomes women of all ages from BCCUCC as well as other churches and faith traditions. For more information contact Jane Tonn at 289-2349 or jtonn2@cox.net.



Make sure that you see ALL of the eBridge.

Some platforms - including gmail - only show part of it with a link to the remainder. Click on that link at the end of what's visible, to see the rest of the newsletter!

Community Notices

Community Sing of Handel's 'Messiah'

Sunday, November 24th at 2 pm at Carter Center for Music Education, 667 Waterman Ave, East Providence, RI 02914. Start the holiday season with **Providence Singers** and Christine Noel in an informal afternoon 'performance'. Bring your score or borrow one. All are welcome to join them for an afternoon of beautiful music, seasonal treats, and good company. Suggested donation \$5. All skill levels and voices are welcome!



Tots' Cooperative Nursery School Annual Holiday Wreath Sale

Once again this year, Tots (the nursery school that meets in our building) will be having a wreath sale to raise money for their program. For more information or to place an order email tots.barrington@gmail.com. **Orders due by November 26**, and delivery will be December 7/8. Items available are: Traditional Wreath: 12in evergreen wreath with decorative bow \$20 * Pinecone Wreath: 12in evergreen wreath with bow and 3 groups of 3 pinecones \$25 * Swag: Beautiful mix of evergreens, blue berried juniper and red berries \$15.



'From the River's Edge' - the pastors' blog

We've made a change...

We now email to the congregation on alternating Thursdays either the eBridge newsletter, or a new blog from Dale or Brendan. We will still include the latest blog in the eBridge in case you missed seeing it the previous week. **The latest blog is from Brendan** **"If we want to be the change then we cannot be neutral"**



If you missed any earlier blog posts they are all on the church website [at this link](#). There are also links to the most recent ones from the homepage of our website www.bccucc.org

Reminders

Nametags

Both adult and children's nametags are stored in the racks in the vestry hallway. Please pick up yours as you come into worship and wear it through coffee hour. As you leave put it in one of the collection baskets - to be returned to the nametag rack ready next time. **Need a nametag?** Sign up in the vestry hallway or at the back of Fellowship Hall or email the office at office@bccucc.org - be sure to indicate if you want a clip, pin or string style of holder. Newly made nametags are placed in the specially labeled basket on the sideboard in the vestry hallway for you to pick up.



Sermons available on line

If you miss church on Sunday or want to hear the sermon again, you can do so at the following link [Sermon Archive](#).



Please 'Like' and 'Comment' on our posts to keep us visible!

Help us stay visible on Facebook by both liking AND commenting (in 5 or more words) on our posts! That way the Facebook algorithm allows our church's page (www.facebook.com/bccucc) to show up in more people's feeds. You can also find us on Instagram at [BarringtonUCC](#).



Make sure your emails are reaching us!

We only receive emails sent to the following addresses:



Dale dale@bccucc.org Brendan brendan@bccucc.org Christine office@bccucc.org
Pat pat@bccucc.org Andrea andrea@bccucc.org.

Keep up to date with what's happening at church!

2019-2020 Church Calendar can be seen at <http://bccucc.view-events.com> or from the bottom of any page on our church website www.bccucc.org.

Please notify Christine with information about meetings/events etc. so the calendar can always be kept up to date. Contact her at office@bccucc.org or 246-0111.

Raise money for the church when you shop at Amazon

You can raise money for the church every time you shop at Amazon by going through AmazonSmile. [Learn more at this link](#) and choose 'Barrington Congregational Church' as your charitable organization. Every eligible purchase raises 0.5% of the purchase price for our church, and we receive a quarterly deposit from Amazon! Thanks to everyone who already does this.



Useful Links

[Upcoming Worship Services](#)

[Our Church Calendar](#)

[BCCUCC 2019 Annual Report](#)

[RI Conference UCC Website](#)

[Our Church Website](#)

[Listen to the sermon](#)

[Our Sunday Announcements](#)

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Feedback wanted: We hope you enjoy reading the eBridge and find it informative. Your feedback/comments/suggestions (good and bad!) are always welcome. [Email them to Christine](#)

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