



**December 19, 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*

**Thurs, Dec 19**

Noon Women's Faith Group Christmas Lunch at Crossroads  
3 - 5 pm Community Office Hours, The Coffee Depot in Warren

**Fri, Dec 20**

*Dale on call for pastoral emergencies*

**Sat, Dec 21**

9:30 - 11:30 am East Bay Kids Clothing and Toy Swap, Fellowship Hall

**Sun, Dec 22 Advent 4**

*Christmas Fund Offering*  
10 am Worship Service, Church School  
11:30 am - 12:15 pm Pageant rehearsal, Sanctuary

**Mon, Dec 23**

7 - 8 pm Final Mindful Monday, Mediation Room (Rm 8)

**Tues, Dec 24 Christmas Eve**

*Office Closed*  
6 pm Family Service with Children's Christmas Pageant  
10 pm Service of Lessons and Carols with Choir

**Wed, Dec 25 Christmas Day**

*Office Closed*

**Thurs, Dec 26**

*Office Closed*

**Fri, Dec 27**

*Office open 9:30 am - 12:30 pm only*  
*Brendan on call for pastoral emergencies*

**Sun, Dec 29 Watchnight Sunday**

10 am Worship Service, Nursery Care available

**Mon, Dec 30**

*Office open 9:30 am - 12:30 pm only*

**Tues, Dec 31 New Year's Eve**

*Office open 9:30 am - 12:30 pm only*

**Wed, Jan 1, 2020 New Year's Day**

*Office Closed*

*Noon Deadline for eBridge*

**Thurs, Jan 2**

3 - 5 pm Community Office Hours, The Coffee Depot in Warren

6 - 7:30 pm NAMI RI Family Support Group, Room 6

**Fri, Jan 3**

*Dale on call for pastoral emergencies*

**Sun, Jan 5 Epiphany Sunday**

10 am Worship Service with Communion, Church School

1 - 4 pm RIAUCC Faith Zone/SkyZone (Grades 3-8)

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

Send calendar information to [office@bccucc.org](mailto:office@bccucc.org)

Send information for inclusion in the next eBridge to [office@bccucc.org](mailto:office@bccucc.org)  
Deadline for the next eBridge is Noon on **Wednesday, January 1st, 2020**

**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.

## Sunday, December 22nd

### Help fill the creche - with precious memories

This Advent season we built a life-size creche in our sanctuary. The creche started off empty and each week is being filled up with our gifts. **This Sunday, December 22nd** - the last Sunday of Advent - people of all ages are invited to bring something precious or meaningful to them. These gifts of love will help warm the creche for Jesus' arrival, and can be taken back after Christmas. Help us prepare our creche and our hearts to receive Jesus on Christmas morning!

Thank you to everyone who has already shared their stuffed animals, or donated items for new mothers and their babies.





## Christmas Fund Offering

This special UCC offering is an expression of appreciation and caring to those who have served as our clergy and are now disabled, retired or financially strained. The

gift provides pension supplements, health premium subsidies, emergency assistance to active or retired clergy families, and Christmas checks to hundreds of retirees and to those who are disabled. With our gift we offer thanks to our pastors who have instructed and encouraged us in faith through the years.

Special envelopes will be included in the bulletin **this Sunday, December 22nd**. Please make checks payable to 'BCCUCC' and mark the memo line 'Christmas Fund'. Thank you. More information [at this link](#) where online donations can also be made.

## ★ THE CHRISTMAS FUND

for the Veterans of the Cross and the Emergency Fund

## Mitten Tree - donations needed by this Sun, Dec 22nd

The Mitten Tree is up in the narthex ready to receive your donations of warm hats, gloves, scarves, and mittens etc. - both purchased and handmade - for children, youth, and adults of all sizes. Items on the mitten tree will be donated to Amos House and to Loaves and Fishes RI. Donations may be made **through December 22nd**. Thank you for your donation!



## 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

THANK  
YOU

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.*

## Pageant Rehearsal for Church School children

Church school aged kiddos of all ages have the opportunity to participate in the pageant at the 6 pm service on Christmas Eve. Rehearsal will happen after church **this Sunday, December 22nd** from 11:30 am – 12:15 pm in the sanctuary. These children are also asked to be in church with their families by 5:00 pm on Christmas Eve. This will be the last chance to sign up to be in the pageant. Please contact our Christian Education Coordinator, Andrea Bullard, at [andrea@bccucc.org](mailto:andrea@bccucc.org) or (401) 246-0111 x 107 with any questions.



## Christmas at BCCUCC

### *Christmas Eve Worship*

*6:00 PM - Pageant*

*10:00 PM - Lessons & Carols*



## Christmas Eve Worship Services

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  
**ALL ARE WELCOME**



## Church Office Hours over the holidays

CLOSED: Tues, Wed, & Thurs, Dec 24, 25 & 26  
OPEN 9:30– 12:30 only: Fri, Dec 27  
OPEN 9:30– 12:30 only: Mon & Tues, Dec 30 & 31  
CLOSED: Wed, Jan 1

## Clergy away

Dale will be on vacation from Dec 26 thru Jan 1.  
Brendan will be away at NGLI (Next Generation Leaders Initiative) from Jan 3 - 9.



## Thank you for your donations to the Chancel Fund

Many thanks to everyone who made a donation to the Chancel Fund. Money from the fund was used to purchase poinsettia plants that the Deacons have delivered to our homebound, sick, and

recently bereaved, and will also pay for all of the plants that will decorate the sanctuary on Christmas Eve, and the wreaths on our front doors. In addition, money from the fund has helped pay for various improvements to the sanctuary in the past, including upgrades to the sound system and new carpeting.



## We're almost there!

### Fellowship Hall Arch Project

As many of you know we have been running a small capital campaign to perform essential structural repairs on the arches in Fellowship Hall. The cost of the project is approximately \$30,000. Thanks to tremendous support from our lead givers as well as additional support from so many other families in the church, we are nearly at our goal. We are presently at \$29,000! That is excellent. For those who have already given, thank you. For those who have pledged, and not yet sent in your contribution, thank you and please send it in soon. For others, it's not too late to join the team. We can raise this last \$1000 (or more) and then celebrate. If you would like to learn more about the project or to see the work that will be done, look for the yellow "caution" tape in the hall and reach out to Paul Dennis or Rev. Dale Azevedo. Construction is set to begin on January 6 and last for approximately 2-4 weeks. During that time the hall will have no or very limited use. Once again, thanks for your support!



### 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!

**Information about all of the groups that meet regularly, is found later in this email....scroll down to find it!**

## Some items of note

### Save the date of Brendan's leaving!

As announced last month, Brendan has been called to serve a church in Forest Grove, Oregon. His last day at BCCUCC will be **Sunday, January 26th**, Please mark your calendars and plan to join us that day as we say farewell to Brendan and thank him for his five and a half years of ministry with us. Stay tuned for more details. In case you missed it, you can [read his letter of resignation here.](#)

### Mindful Mondays are ending

The final Mindful Monday will take place on **Monday, Dec 23rd** from 7 – 8 pm in the Meditation Room. There will be a 20-25 minute guided meditation, a contemplative reading or poem, followed by tea and discussion, led by Brendan. Open to the public for people of all faiths. With low attendance and Brendan leaving, these Monday evening sessions will not continue into 2020.



### Giving reminder for tax purposes

Please note that if you wish any contribution to be recorded as being received by the church in 2019, it must be in the hands of the office by December 31st, or postmarked by that date.

## 2020 Pledge envelopes

**Pledge envelopes for 2020** will be available for pick up beginning Sunday, December 29th from the table in the narthex. If you didn't request a set of envelopes but would like some, please contact our financial secretary, Pat Stoddard, who will be happy to assign some to you. Pat can be contacted at (401) 246-0111 x 102 or [pat@bccucc.org](mailto:pat@bccucc.org)



## Faith Zone/Sky Zone Youth Event

Youth in grades 3-8 are invited to this event organized by the RI Association UCC on **Sunday, January 5th** from 1 – 4 pm. There's a program at a church first (location tbd), and then the youth will go jumping at SkyZone! Cost is \$12. Youth must attend the church program first in order to get the group rate. Brendan is out of town at NGLI, so any youth wishing to attend should contact Kristen Putney at (774) 991-1555 or [mitchmoon12@hotmail.com](mailto:mitchmoon12@hotmail.com) for more information and to sign up.



## No Swaps in January!

Due to repair work happening in Fellowship Hall in January, there will be no Childrens Clothes and Toy Swap, and no Women's Clothes Swap in January. They will resume in February.



# Can you help?

## Greeters needed

The Membership team is now recruiting greeters for 2020. Greeting is an easy way to participate in the ministry here at Barrington Congregational Church, UCC. No experience is necessary and greeters can be individuals, couples or families! Greeters arrive at church 20 minutes early and welcome everyone as they come up the stairs to the sanctuary. Sign-ups are now available on the welcome table in Fellowship hall for all of next year. Worried about forgetting? Make sure to include your information so that the team can send you a reminder. Thanks to everyone willing to do this important and welcoming ministry.



## Sign up to help with coffee hour in January or February

Volunteers are being asked to help the assigned teams with coffee hour on a Sunday in January or February, and can help with providing food, serving or clean up. You can either sign up in Fellowship Hall during coffee hour on a Sunday, or contact Jane Tonn at [jtonn2@cox.net](mailto: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

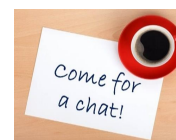
The group next meets **Monday, Jan 13th** at 11 am in the library. The group is open to anyone (not just church members) who has lost a loved one at any time. For more information, contact the facilitator Betsy Brenner at [jsbeeb@aol.com](mailto:jsbeeb@aol.com) or 245-8031.

## Book Group

Information about the Book Group meeting in January was not available at the time of publication. For information about the group, please contact Helen Schall at [helenschall@hotmail.com](mailto: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. *There will be NO community office hours on Thursday, December 26th or January 9th.*



## East Bay Kids Clothing and Toy Swap

Held on the 3rd Saturday of the month, the next one is **this 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/>

*Please note that there will be NO kids clothes swap in January as Fellowship Hall is unavailable due to repair work being undertaken.*



## Knitting Group

Knitting for Others Group will meet **Tuesday, January 7th** from 7 – 9 pm in the church library. 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](mailto:Nancy.Arena@outlook.com).



## 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, Jan 2nd** from 6 – 7:30 pm in Room 6. For more info contact NAMI RI at [info@namirhodeisland.org](mailto:info@namirhodeisland.org) or call (401) 331-3060.



## Women's Faith Group

The Women's Faith Group has it's next regular meeting

scheduled for **Thursday, January 9th** (a week later than usual) from 1:30 – 3 pm in the church library. Their new book will be *The Windows of Malabar Hill* by Sujata Massey, Copies are available for purchase from the church office for the discounted price of \$13. 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](mailto:jtonn2@cox.net).



## Death of a former church member

### Nancy Hazard (3/8/25 - 12/17/19)

It is with sadness that we report the death of former church member Nancy Hazard who moved from Riverside to California in 2015 to be closer to her son, Dan. Nancy had been a member at BCCUCC since 1970. Dan let us know that she passed away on December 17th and that she will be cremated and then interred with her mother and great grandparents at Prince's Hill Cemetery here in Barrington later in 2020. Condolences can be sent to Daniel Hazard, 19172 Quietsands Cir, Huntington Beach, CA 92648 or at [danmh999@gmail.com](mailto:danmh999@gmail.com).



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

We 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 "[Waiting for the revolution](#)"**



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](http://www.bccucc.org)

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## Reminders

### 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.



### 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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto:dale@bccucc.org) Brendan [brendan@bccucc.org](mailto:brendan@bccucc.org) Christine [office@bccucc.org](mailto:office@bccucc.org)  
Pat [pat@bccucc.org](mailto:pat@bccucc.org) Andrea [andrea@bccucc.org](mailto: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](http://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](mailto:office@bccucc.org) or 246-0111.

## Useful Links

[Upcoming Worship Services](#)

[Our Church Calendar](#)

[Our Church Website](#)

[Listen to the sermon](#)

[Our Sunday Announcements](#)

[Contact Us](#)

[BCCUCC 2019 Annual Report](#)

[RI Conference UCC Website](#)

[RI Conference UCC Newsletter](#)

[UCC Website](#)

**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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