



**December 20, 2018**

Newsletter of Barrington  
Congregational Church  
United Church of Christ

**Be sure you get to see ALL of the eBridge.** Some platforms will only allow you to see the first portion of the eBridge, with a link to see the remainder

## Calendar

*Office open Mon - Fri, 9:30 am - 12:30 pm & 1:30 - 4:30 pm, unless otherwise noted*

**Thurs, Dec 20**

Noon Women's Faith Group Christmas Lunch, Trafford's Restaurant  
3 - 5 pm Community Office Hours, The Coffee Depot

**Fri, Dec 21**

*Brendan on call for pastoral emergencies*

**Sun, Dec 23 Fourth Sunday of Advent**

*UCC's Christmas Fund Offering*

10 am Worship Service, Children prepare for Pageant during Church School time  
11:30 am - 12:45 pm Pageant Rehearsal, Sanctuary

**Mon, Dec 24 Christmas Eve**

*Office Closed*

5 pm Final rehearsal of pageant, Sanctuary.

**6 pm** Family Service with Pageant, Sanctuary

**10 pm** Service of Lessons and Carols with choir, trumpet, oboe and handbells, Sanctuary

**Tues, Dec 25 Christmas Day**

*Office Closed*

**Wed, Dec 26**

*Office Closed*

4:30 pm Loaves and Fishes RI prep in kitchen, then take truck to Providence

**Thurs, Dec 27**

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

**Fri, Dec 28**

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

*Dale on call for pastoral emergencies*

4:30 pm Wedding rehearsal, Sanctuary

**Sat, Dec 29**

2:30 pm Wedding (Dwyer/Jablonski), Sanctuary

**Sun, Dec 30 1st Sunday after Christmas / Watchnight**

10 am Worship Service for All Ages, Nursery Care only

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

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

**Tues, Jan 1, 2019 New Year's Day**

*Office closed*

**Wed, Jan 2**

*Deadline for eBridge*

7:30 - 9 pm Choir rehearsal, Vestry

**Thurs, Jan 3**

1:30 - 3 pm Women's Faith Group, Library

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

6 - 8 pm Feasting at Fireside, Parsonage

**Fri, Jan 4**

*Dale on call for pastoral emergencies*

**Sun, Jan 6 Epiphany**

8:30 am CEYM meeting, Library

10 am Worship Service with Communion, Church School

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

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

The deadline for information to be included in the next eBridge is  
**Wednesday, January 2nd** at Noon. Send info to [office@bccucc.org](mailto:office@bccucc.org)

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



**Images in this email may not display**

Constant Contact is currently working on a problem they're having with their image editor, so the images in this email may not download. All necessary information is included in the text.

**Sunday, December 23rd**

## Christmas Fund/Veterans of the Cross 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 on **December 23rd**. Please make checks payable to 'BCCUCC' and mark the memo line 'Christmas Fund'. Thank you.

### ★ THE CHRISTMAS FUND for the Veterans of the Cross and the Emergency Fund

## Mitten Tree - deadline for donations is Sunday

The Mitten Tree is up in the narthex to receive your donations of warm hats, gloves, scarves, and mittens etc. - both purchased and hand-made - for children, youth, and adults of all sizes. Items are being donation to Amos House and also to Loaves and Fishes RI. ***Donations may be made through this Sunday December 23rd.***



## Staff Christmas Gift

*A message from Dale and Brendan...*

"During the 4 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.*

***Deadline for donations is Sunday, December 23rd. Thank you.***



## Pageant Rehearsal Schedule

A full rehearsal with the puppets and other cast members will take place after church **this Sunday, December 23rd from 11:30-12:45**. All those operating a puppet along with participants with speaking/singing roles need to attend this rehearsal and will also need to come to a final run-through of the pageant beginning **promptly at 5 pm on Christmas Eve**.



Children participating in the pageant will rehearse a song and make a craft **during church school this Sunday, December 23rd**. These children should be at church with their families **by 5:45 pm on Christmas Eve**.

## Christmas Eve Services

# Christmas Eve Worship

6:00 PM - Pageant

10:00 PM - Lessons & Carols



Christmas Eve services will be held in the sanctuary at **6 pm** and **10 pm**.

- The **6 pm** service will be a Family Service that includes a Pageant - and you're invited to come in costume (see below)
- The **10 pm** service will be a traditional service of Lessons and Carols with music from the choir, trumpet, oboe, and handbells.

We hope you can join us as we celebrate Christ's birth.

## Christmas Eve 6 pm service - please come in costume!

We again want to include the whole congregation in this year's pageant. Adults and children of all ages who plan to attend the 6 pm Christmas Eve service have the option to come dressed as their favorite nativity character. Would you like to be Mary or Joseph? Maybe a donkey or sheep? Or perhaps an angel, a shepherd or a wise man? Please make a costume during advent then wear it to the pageant to be part of our living nativity with the puppets!



## What's happening during Christmas week

### Loaves and Fishes Truck to go out the day after Christmas!

We will be taking out the Loaves and Fishes RI truck to Trinity Methodist Church and Crossroads in Providence on **Wednesday, December 26th**. Thanks to everyone who has already signed up to help. Additional specific food and clothing items are still needed – find out which from the online sign up sheet at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050a4aaca2aa75-mobile3>. Please remember to indicate the quantity of a food item you are able to donate. Prep starts in the kitchen around 4:30 pm to prepare food and load the truck. All ages are welcome to help with food prep, but those going out on the truck must be at least age 16. For more information, questions, or if you are unable to sign up on line to donate items or help with prep etc, please contact Liz White (401-245-0285 or [lizzyw2@aol.com](mailto:lizzyw2@aol.com)) or Phyllis Buckley (401-742-7320 or [pbuckley6@cox.net](mailto:pbuckley6@cox.net)).



### Warm clothing needed for Loaves and Fishes RI

Our church will be sponsoring another Loaves and Fishes RI truck run on December 26th (see above). We are collecting new or gently used adult warm clothing to give out to those in need. This includes hats, gloves, scarves, socks, sweatshirts, sweatpants etc. - a collection bin is on the stage of Fellowship Hall. Thanks to everyone who has donated warm clothing – it will be greatly appreciated by those who receive the items.



## Program cancellations over the holidays

**No Choir Rehearsal** on Dec 26th.

**No Community Office Hours** on Dec 27th and Jan 3rd.

**No Mindful Mondays** on Dec 24th, Dec 31st or Jan 7th.



## Church Office hours over the holidays

**CLOSED:** Mon, Tues & Wed, Dec 24, 25 & 26

**OPEN 9:30– 12:30 only:** Thurs & Fri, Dec 27 & 28

**OPEN 9:30– 12:30 only:** Mon, Dec 31

**CLOSED:** Tues, Jan 1

## Sunday, December 30th

### Are you coming to worship on December 30th?

If you are coming to church the Sunday after Christmas, we have a special request. Dale is inviting everyone who is attending worship on 12/30 to bring an item from home with them that represents an experience of yours from the past year or your hopes for the year to come. We will utilize these items in worship in a special way. The item you bring can be anything from a paperclip, to a stuffed animal, to a garden trowel. As long as it represents something meaningful to you, you are invited to bring it! And don't worry, if you forget, we will have stand in items for you. Children are invited to bring something and participate too. Come join us for worship on December 30th and have a moving meaningful time together.



## 'From the River's Edge' - The Pastors' Blog



### Finding the Light Together

by Rev. Brendan Curran, Assoc. Minister - Dec. 15, 2018 "What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it." -John 1:2-5 We can't find it by...



If you missed reading any earlier posts you can find them all on the church website [at this link](http://www.bccucc.org). There are also links to the most recent ones from the homepage of our church website [www.bccucc.org](http://www.bccucc.org)

## Thank you

### Boy, Was That Spectacular!!

On Sunday, December 16th, we celebrated our first Family Christmas Spectacular!! The highlight of the day was the cantata *Joy! A Gospel Christmas Celebration* by Joel Raney, performed by our choir and a number of musical guests. After such an upbeat and moving event we retired to our Fellowship Hall for cocoa, cookies and crafts. The event was attended by roughly 200 people of all ages and we had a wonderful time!!



[See photos and watch videos](#)

Many people were involved in making this all happen. Special thanks to Marina Zabinski and the choir who had been rehearsing since early Fall, and to our guest musicians and readers. Thanks also to Andrea Bullard and Elizabeth Azevedo for providing the crafts, to Pat Stoddard and Andrea for decorating Fellowship Hall, and to Pat for taking care of so many of the details and stage managing everything. To anyone else who may have been omitted - my apologies and thank you! All of your efforts resulted in a wonderful morning of celebration that people are still talking about!

### Chancel Fund donations

Many thanks to everyone who made a donation to the Chancel Fund. Money from the fund has already been used to purchase plants that the Deacons have delivered to our homebound and sick. The Fund also pays for all of the plants that will decorate the sanctuary on Christmas Eve.



## Some financial reminders

### Giving reminder for tax purposes

If you wish any contribution to be recorded as being received by the church in 2018, it must be in the hands of the office by December 31st, or postmarked by that date. Please note that the church office closes at 12:30 pm on December 31st.

### Have you filled out a Giving Card?

Thank you to the 116 households who have completed a Giving Card with their financial commitment to support Barrington Congregational Church, UCC, in 2019. If you'd like to fill out a card, letting us know what you plan to give next year, it's not too late, but please do so a.s.a.p. Our Finance Team and Church Council are finalizing

the 2019 budget and many of their decisions are based on the congregation's financial commitments on their giving card. Extra cards are available from the rack outside the office. Completed cards may be mailed to the church office or placed in the offering plate. You may also email our Financial Secretary, Pat Stoddard at [pat@bccucc.org](mailto:pat@bccucc.org) with your financial commitment for 2019, and she will confirm receipt of your email and the amount. Thank you.

## Shop thru AmazonSmile 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.

### You can purchase with purpose this holiday season

Buy your holiday gift and supplies at [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) and Amazon donates

You shop. Amazon donates.  
**amazon**smile



## Ways to help

### The Kid's Clothing Swap is recruiting musicians

To make this thriving family event at our church even more exuberant, the clothing swap organizers are looking for musicians of all varieties to come share their talent and provide music for the clothing swappers. If you have a singing voice, sing with a group, play an instrument, or have a musical talent of any kind that you'd like to share, this is a chance for you to enrich a community event with your gifts. Contact Meghan Sheehan [megsheehan@gmail.com](mailto:megsheehan@gmail.com) and Brendan [brendan@bccucc.org](mailto:brendan@bccucc.org) to coordinate! The clothing swaps take place on the 3rd Saturday of every month from 9:30 – 11:30 am in Fellowship Hall.



### Haiti Trip in January - donations and supplies needed

Church members Rev. Jennifer Geary and her husband, Bud, will be heading to Haiti with a group from the RICUCC Haiti Task Force from January 9th - 15th, where they'll be painting the school and orphanage. Donations are being sought to purchase the paint and painting supplies, or folks can donate supplies such as rollers, roller covers, paint trays, lightweight drop clothes, masking tape, sandpaper and rags. They will buy the paint in Haiti but will be taking all the supplies over in their luggage. For more information, contact Rev. Geary at [jenngeary@hotmail.com](mailto:jenngeary@hotmail.com)



### Help us stay visible on Facebook by 'Liking' our posts

Hopefully you've already 'Liked' our church's Facebook page and see our posts in your newsfeed – if not, you can find us at [www.facebook.com/bccucc](http://www.facebook.com/bccucc). The way Facebook works, for our page to keep showing up in your newsfeed and for it also to be seen by the wider community, you also need to 'Like' individual posts from the church that you see. So please help us keep getting our message out about who we are and what's happening at BCCUCC by hitting that 'Like' button for the posts that you see and like. Thank you.



# Coming up in January.....

## Women's Faith Group

The group next meets on **Thursday, January 3rd** from 1:30 - 3 pm in the library. The group welcomes women of all ages from BCCUCC as well as from other churches and faith traditions. For more information contact Jane Tonn at 289-2349 or [jtonn2@cox.net](mailto:jtonn2@cox.net),

## Feasting at Fireside

Elizabeth and Dale Azevedo are hosting another dinner for 6 at the parsonage on **Thursday, January 3rd** from 6 – 8 pm. Church members and friends are invited and there is currently room for two more people. There are also other dates through May, 2019 with openings. Sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0d4eaba823a6f85-feasting>



## 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 **Thursday, January 3rd** from 6 – 7:30 pm in Room 6. For more info contact [info@namirhodeisland.org](mailto:info@namirhodeisland.org) or call (401) 331-3060.

## Bereavement Group

The group next meets on **Monday, January 7th** at 11 am in the library. The group is open to anyone who has lost a loved one at any time, and is open to the community. For more info, contact the facilitator, Betsy Brenner at [jsbeeb@aol.com](mailto:jsbeeb@aol.com) or 245-8031.

## Knitting for Others Group

The group next meets on **Tuesday, January 8th** from 7-9 pm at the home of Marion Fodor, 12 Katie Drive, Warren. The group meets monthly, makes a variety of different items to be given away (prayer shawls, preemie hats, etc), and can provide patterns and help. All knitters/crocheters are welcome, especially new faces! Please RSVP to Marion to let her know if you'll be attending at [smfodor@cox.net](mailto:smfodor@cox.net). To learn more about the group, contact Mary Lou Slicker at 245-0085 or [rislick@fullchannel.net](mailto:rislick@fullchannel.net).



## East Bay Kids Clothing Swap

Held on the 3rd Saturday of each month, the next one is **Saturday, January 19th** from 9:30 - 11:30 am in Fellowship Hall. The swap is a place to trade in clean (non-stained) clothes and shoes, and get clothes the next size up for newborn to age 12 years old. Open to the community, there's a \$3-\$5 donation at the door but no one will be turned away. Learn more at <https://www.facebook.com/EastBayKidsClothesSwap>

## Do you need a nametag?

Wearing a nametag helps everyone get to know each other, and is also welcoming to newcomers. Please wear your nametag for worship and coffee hour on Sundays. If you need a nametag you can sign up for one in the vestry hallway or at the Welcome Table in Fellowship Hall or [email](#) the church office. Newly made nametags are placed in the specially labeled basket on the sideboard in the vestry hallway for you to pick up on a Sunday morning.



## Church Calendar is available anytime on-line.

The church calendar is kept up to date and you can find it at <http://bccucc.view-events.com> If you have any meetings or activities planned, please send them to [office@bccucc.org](mailto:office@bccucc.org) so that they can be added to the calendar. Also please notify the office or any errors or changes. Thank you.

## 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](#).



## Follow the church on Social Media

On Instagram at [BarringtonUCC](#) On Facebook at [www.facebook.co/bccucc](http://www.facebook.co/bccucc). Please 'Like' our page as well as 'Like' our individual posts so that our posts continue to be visible both to you and to the wider community. Thank you.

## Useful Links

[Upcoming Worship Services](#)

[Our Church Calendar](#)

[Our Church Website](#)

[Listen to the sermon](#)

[Our Sunday Announcements](#)

[Contact Us](#)

[BCCUCC 2018 Annual Report](#)

[RI Conference UCC Website](#)

[RI Conference UCC Newsletter](#)

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