



December 31, 2020

The bi-weekly newsletter of
Barrington Congregational
Church, United Church of
Christ.

If your email platform only lets you see part of this email, then click on the following link to [View as Webpage](#) We don't want you to miss anything!

Calendar

Church Office is CLOSED until further notice.

There will be no in-person worship services at church thru Jan 2021

Sun, Jan 3 Epiphany Sunday

10 am Live-streamed Worship Service with communion (No in-person worship). Watch at www.facebook.com/bccucc or on our website [at this link](#)

Mon, Jan 4

7 - 7:30 pm Meditative Coloring for Adults, via Zoom

Tues, Jan 5

11 am Staff meeting via Zoom
2 pm Worship Tech Team meeting via Zoom
7 pm Knitting for Others Group meet via Zoom

Sun, Jan 10

8:30 am CEYM meet via Zoom
10 am Live-streamed Worship Service (No in-person worship). Watch at www.facebook.com/bccucc or on our website [at this link](#)
11:30 am - 12:30 pm Confirmation Class

Mon, Jan 11

5 pm Barrington Interfaith Partners meet via Zoom
7 - 7:30 pm Meditative Coloring for Adults, via Zoom

Tues, Jan 12

11 am Staff meeting via Zoom
2 pm Worship Tech Team meeting via Zoom
7 pm Church Council meeting via Zoom

Wed, Jan 13

Noon - *Deadline for next eBridge*

Sat, Jan 16

10 am Buildings and Grounds meeting, Terrace

Sun, Jan 17

10 am Live-streamed All Ages Worship Service (No in-person worship). Watch at www.facebook.com/bccucc or on our website [at this link](#)

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

Send calendar information to office@bccucc.org



Miscellaneous

Clergy away

Dale is currently on vacation and will be unavailable through Saturday, January 2nd. During his absence, please reach out if needed to our Associate Minister, the Rev. Linda Hartley at linda@bccucc.org or (401) 246-0111 ext 104.

Sanctuary Poinsettias available

If you are interested in having one of the 16 poinsettias that have been decorating the sanctuary, they will be available **beginning Monday, January 4th**. You will need to arrange for a pickup time as follows:

- For pick up on a weekday between 10AM and Noon, please contact Pat Stoddard (401-829-0654 or pat@bccucc.org).
- For pick up on a weekday afternoon, please contact Liz Rosenholm (401-563-8675 or elizabethrosenholm@gmail.com) or Bethia Rosner (401-383-5538 or bethiarosner@gmail.com) and they will meet you at the church for pickup at an agreed upon time.



'These Days' Booklets Delayed

Due to the extreme backlog in the US Mail system, the "These Days" daily meditation booklets have not yet arrived. Pat Stoddard has confirmed with the publisher that they have been mailed; they noted that they started mailing them in November and they are just starting to be received by their customers!

Contribution Envelopes for 2021

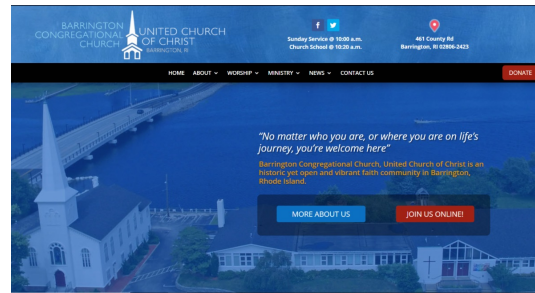
Contribution envelopes for those of you that had them for 2020 have been

ordered. When they are received, they will be mailed to you. We expect delivery in mid-January. Please contact Financial Secretary, Pat Stoddard, if you would like a set of envelopes for 2021 (additional sets will be available).



Announcing a New BCCUCC Website!

Early this January we will be unveiling a new church website. This web design has been in the works since August and is just about ready to go live. First and foremost this new website is designed to be welcoming to visitors and easy for them to navigate. It will have an entirely new layout and appearance. It will also contain nearly all the same information as our old website so all of your important questions can be answered there. It will probably be **around January 10th** that the website goes live but we wanted you to have a head's up so you have something to look forward to and won't be caught off-guard by the changes.



Sundays at BCCUCC

Our **online worship service** is at **10 am** every Sunday morning and you can watch it live either on our Facebook page www.facebook.com/bccucc (click on the 'posts' or 'videos' link to find it) or on our website www.bccucc.org/live-stream-page/. If you miss it live, a recording can be watched later at the same links.



We include on the screen all of the information needed for participating in worship each week. Please note that there will be no in-person worship through January 2021 - all of our worship services will be online only. At their January meeting Church Council will discuss how to proceed beyond then, and we will keep you informed.

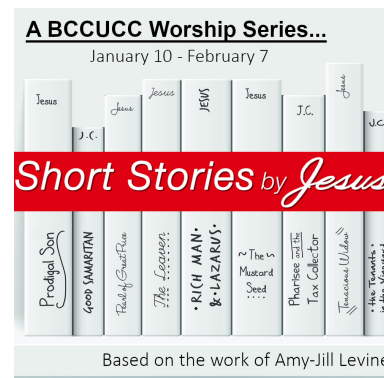
We celebrate Communion during worship on January 3rd

On the first Sunday of every month we celebrate communion during the virtual service. We invite everyone who wishes to participate to have elements prepared ahead of time for you to join in this celebration. If you have bread and juice (or even wine) feel free to use it. However, we invite you to participate with whatever elements you have on hand. Christ is present and will not be denied if you do not have the "proper" elements. God understands and joins us however invited, if invited with an open and loving heart.



A new sermon series begins on January 10th

Dale and Linda are introducing a **new sermon series** beginning on **January 10th** entitled *Short Stories of Jesus*. They will be exploring five of Jesus' parables found throughout the gospels. Many of these stories you will have heard before. What makes this series interesting is that the sermons will be based on the work of Amy-Jill Levine, a professor of Jewish studies at Vanderbilt Divinity School. She tries to approach the New Testament as one of Jesus' original listeners might have. Come and hear these timeless stories in a new way!



Altar Flower dedications

On Sunday, January 3rd:

One arrangement is given by Jennifer and Hannah Melker in loving memory of Katharine (Mom-Mom) Pegg.

The other arrangement is given by Francis and Susan Seader in memory of his father, Edward Seader, Jr.



On Sunday, January 10th:

One arrangement is given by Mary Lou and Clyde Slicker in memory of her parents, J. Harold and Frances Van Ness.

The other arrangement is given by Beth and William Buckley in celebration of grandparents' birthdays, Blanche and Max Daves.

Birthdays being celebrated

The week of January 3rd: Eli O'Brien, Harrison Ogden, Bill Rooks, Jim McCartney, Hazel Milliken, Becky Porter, Bernie Hawes, and Gracie Restituyo.



The week of January 10th: Sophie Milisauskas, Clare McMillan, Andrew Porter, Eileen Dennis, and Tom Macedo.

If your name doesn't appear and you'd like it to, please contact the church office so we can add your birthdate to our data base. Thank you.

Prayer requests

Deadline for submitting prayers to be included in worship is **8 am Sunday morning**. You can either leave a message on the church's answering machine (401) 246-0111, or email Dale dale@bccucc.org or Linda linda@bccucc.org. Please be sure that the person you are lifting up is comfortable with them reading your prayer to the whole community, and consider using first names only.



Deacons

Amy Barkat (chair), Nancy Arena, Steve Fodor, Lory McCoy, Pat Stoddard, Carol Strakosch, Jeff Stumpff, and Jane Tonn. In a pastoral emergency if you cannot reach either of our ministers, please reach out to one of our deacons.

Ongoing ways to participate - all welcome!

Weekly Meditative Coloring for Adults

Elizabeth Azevedo offers an online (Zoom) weekly meditative adult coloring small group on **Monday evenings** at **7 pm** via Zoom for about 30 minutes. Each week, participants get the coloring page ahead of time so that when they meet virtually they can color together and discuss the "page" for the week. So come, relax and color an uplifting message together. If interested in participating, please email Elizabeth at eazevedo17@gmail.com. The next sessions are on **Monday, January 4th and 11th**.



Knitting for Others Group

The group meets virtually each month and will next meet on **Tuesday, January 5th** at 7 pm via Zoom. All knitters and crocheters are invited to attend and new faces are very welcome. For more information on

the group, contact Nancy Arena at 401 246-0212 or nancy.arena@outlook.com. Zoom info is not included here for security reasons but was in the eBridge emailed to the congregation.



Book Group

The Book Group will next meet virtually via Zoom on **Tuesday, January 19th at 9:30 am.** to discuss *With the Fire on High* by Elizabeth Acevedo. For more information about the group, contact Helen Schall at helenschall@hotmail.com or 401 245-4724. All are welcome to participate. Zoom info is not included here for security reasons but was in the eBridge emailed to the congregation.



BCCUCC COVID Commemoration Tile Project

Our congregation is working to come together through ART! Create a personalized tile to hang at church as a way to remember this time apart during the pandemic.

Someone from the project group will be reaching out to you to arrange your participation. We are using contactless drop-off/pick-up methods arranged personally with each family. The materials are also sanitized between use.



It is our sincere hope to have EVERYONE in the congregation participate. As we expect this project to take several months with only a few tiles safely out at a time, if you do not receive a phone call soon, no worries. If you are really excited about participating and have not received a phone call yet, feel free to reach out sooner to one of us listed below.

Any questions, please contact Joanne Ela (gsbse@me.com), Heather Williamson (williamsonheather300@gmail.com), Miriam Duvel (msduvel@cox.net), or Elizabeth Azevedo (eazevedo17@gmail.com).

Pictured are some of the tiles that have been created so far.



From the Mission and Justice Team

Interfaith Coalition to Reduce Poverty

The new legislative session at the Rhode Island State House is different this year amidst pandemic protocols, but one tradition remains the same: the coalition's 13th Annual 'Fighting Poverty with Faith' Vigil will take place on **January 5th at 3pm on Zoom.**

This year the vigil will be held virtually. The event's agenda will include keynote speakers, elected officials taking the virtual podium, music and prayer, and the attendance and encouragement of you, faith and poverty advocates, alike.

Let's start the year together and declare that in 2021 we will fight for justice and equality and encourage our elected official to do the same. Together, through policy, we can lift up those in need and walk hand in hand on the road to end poverty. [Register for the Event](#)



"What's Possible: Faith and Climate Policy in 2021"

This free webinar, sponsored by the UCC and Interfaith Power and Light, will take place on **Wednesday, January 13th** from **1 – 2 pm**. After the Georgia Senate runoff election on January 5th, we will know the legislative landscape for the new Congress. What will be possible for climate policy? Aside from congress, what might President Biden accomplish through executive orders? This webinar will address these questions with an eye toward what faith communities can do to put their values into action in pressing for the kind of climate policies urgently needed in this time of crisis and inequality.

Register at <https://www.ucc.org/event/whats-possible-faith-and-climate-policy-in-2021/>



What's Possible?

**Faith & Climate Policy
in 2021**

A Free Webinar



Help Raise Awareness of a Treaty to Ban Nuclear Weapons

East Bay Citizens for Peace (EBCP) and other RI peace organizations are trying to raise awareness in RI about the United Nations Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons that goes into force on January 22nd, 2021. They hope to raise enough money through a GoFundMe campaign to put placards on RIPTA buses. [Read the letter from EBCP](#). You can also learn more about their efforts and make a donation [at this link](#) (be sure to click on the 'read more' link to watch their video). Information about the treaty is at the [ICAN](#) website (International Campaign Against Nuclear Weapons) where you can also find out which countries have signed the treaty and which have yet to do so.



ican
international campaign to
abolish nuclear weapons

**NOBEL
PEACE
PRIZE
2017**

Thank You

From the church staff...

"When the pandemic hit in early 2020, the church staff had to quickly adapt to the changes needed - both in the work to be done, and from where they were able to work.

With the necessary precautions, Pat and Andrea have been able to continue to safely work from their offices at church, but Christine needed to work from home. Modern technology made that possible giving Christine remote access to everything she needed to continue to get her work done. Andrea came up with a number of creative ways to stay in touch with our church school families, and Pat has kept a watchful eye on everything in the church buildings - notifying B&G of any problems – in addition to doing all of her financial work!

With the help of our worship technology team and in particular Erik Ela, Marina was able to work from her home and record the music for the hymns and the choir anthem each week, as well as playing 'live' the prelude and postlude for the livestreamed worship services on Sundays. Our remaining part-time custodian, John, has also been able to work at the church a few hours each week, while observing COVID safety precautions.

We are all very grateful that we have been able to keep our jobs during the pandemic and know that many people have not been as fortunate. We would therefore very much like to thank all those from the congregation who donated to the 'Staff End of Year/Christmas Gift.' It is very much appreciated by us all – especially at the end of this difficult year – and we will receive your gift in our pay checks in early January.



We wish everyone a safe and healthy 2021.
With many thanks from *Christine, Pat, Andrea, Marina, and John.*"

In case you missed these emails sent over the holidays..



Turn the Page...

Every year around this time all the TV stations usually come out with their "The Year in Review" shows that highlight all the major events of the past year. I seldom watch them because I lived through the year and feel I can probably remember the ...

[Read more](#)

www.bccucc.org

Death of a church member

It is with much sadness that we report the death of long-time church member **Fred MacDonald**. Fred passed away peacefully Christmas morning. Due to the current COVID-19 restrictions, the funeral will be private. Fred's final resting place will be at Swan Point Cemetery. Condolences may be sent to Helen MacDonald, 305 Terrace Avenue, Riverside RI 02915. We keep Helen and all of Fred's family in our prayers. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Barrington Congregational Church at 461 County Road, Barrington, RI 02806 or the Philip Hulitar Hope Hospice Center at 1085 North Main Street, Providence RI 02904. [Obituary and tribute wall](#)



Conference Happenings

Keep up to date with our Conference - SNEUCC

The Southern New England Conference, UCC (SNEUCC), publishes several newsletters - one of which 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.



Southern New England Conference
United Church of Christ
Living the Love & Justice of Jesus

Reminders

Keep yourself and others safe

The [BCCUCC Guidelines for Outdoor Gatherings](#) is a one page document that all are asked to read and observe when they attend any BCCUCC outdoor gathering. Thank you.



Building Safety

A reminder that the church buildings remain closed until further notice. If you need to drop something off, or have asked to pick something up, the items can be deposited or retrieved from the white wooden "Church Mailbox" that's located at the top of the stairs by the office entrance, next to the boiler room door. We ask that people not enter the building. Thank you.

Stay connected with each other - and call the ministers if needed

During this time of separation, we are all encouraged to keep in touch with each other. If there's someone in the church you'd like to reach out to - maybe someone living alone - but you don't have their contact information, please call the church office and leave a message (401 246-0111 x 101) or email office@bccucc.org. Christine will then get their contact information to you.



If you're in the hospital, a nursing home or rehab, or you're simply staying home, but would like a visit with a minister, please don't hesitate to call them and they'll be happy to visit with you over the phone. Their numbers are Dale (401) 246-0111 x 103; Linda (401) 246-0111 x 104. Leave a message and they'll get back to you.

Ways to watch our live-streams

We are doing our live-streams using Zoom and 'Facebook Live' and there are two places to watch it online:

1. On the church's Facebook page www.facebook.com/bccucc
2. On the church's webpage www.bccucc.org at the '[BCCUCC live-stream](#)' link from the home page, where the feed will be embedded.



For Facebook live, simply go to www.facebook.com/bccucc to watch. You don't need a Facebook account to see it. If you do have an account, search for the church's Facebook Page which is 'Barrington Congregational Church UCC'. If you 'Like' our page you should then get our news feeds, and also be able to comment on our posts and the live feeds. Once on the church's Facebook page, you will need to click on 'posts' or 'videos' to find the live feed, or watch the recording later.

If you're not able to watch live, you can watch a recording later, on the [live-stream page](#) of our website.

The office is closed but you can still reach us

Until further notice, the church office will remain closed. However you can still be in touch with the ministers and staff. You can either send an email or leave a message on the answering machine at the person's extension. Both emails and voice mail messages are checked regularly. Our contact information is:

Dale dale@bccucc.org (401) 246-0111 x 103



Linda linda@bccucc.org (401) 246-0111 x 104

Christine office@bccucc.org (401) 246-0111 x 101 (or just stay on the line)

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

Andrea andrea@bccucc.org (401) 246-0111 x 107

Clergy Days off each week: Linda is off on Mondays and Dale is off on Fridays.

Connect with us



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THE END !