



December 6, 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 6

3 - 5 pm Community Office Hours, The Coffee Depot
6 - 7:30 pm NAMI Family Support Group, Room 6

Fri, Dec 7

Brendan on call for pastoral emergencies

Sun, Dec 9 Second Sunday of Advent

9 am Renewal Group, Library
10 am Worship Service, Church School
11:20 am - 12:30 pm SPRT meeting, Dale's Office

Mon, Dec 10

11 am Lay Visitation meeting, Library
7 pm Mindful Monday with Advent Candle Lighting at 7:50 pm, Meditation Room

Tues, Dec 11

11 am Staff meeting
7 pm Church Council, Room 6

Wed, Dec 12

7:30 - 9 pm Dress Rehearsal for the Christmas Cantata, Vestry

Thurs, Dec 13

Noon - 3 pm Office Closed (Staff Christmas Lunch)
3 - 5 pm Community Office Hours with Brendan, The Coffee Depot in Warren

Fri, Dec 14

Dale on call for pastoral emergencies

Sat, Dec 15

9:30 - 11:20 am East Bay Kids Clothes Swap, Fellowship Hall
2:45 pm BCCUCC Volunteers leave for Soup Kitchen in Pawtucket
7:30 pm Barrington High School Jazz Band Holiday Concert, Sanctuary

Sun, Dec 16 Third Sunday of Advent
BCCUCC Family Christmas Spectacular!

10 am Worship Service for All Ages, with Cantata from the choir, Nursery Care only
After Worship - Cookies, Crafts and Cocoa at Coffee Hour!
11:30 am - 1:30 pm Youth Group go Caroling then have a 'White Elephant' gift swap

Mon, Dec 17

11 am Bereavement Group, Library
7 - 8 pm Mindful Monday with Advent Candle Lighting at 7:50 pm, Meditation Room

Tues, Dec 18

11 am Staff meeting
11:30 am Book Group, The Coffee Depot in Warren

Wed, Dec 19

Deadline for eBridge
2 pm Communion Service at Atria Senior Living
7:30 - 9 pm Choir rehearsal, Vestry

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
6 pm Family Service with Pageant, Sanctuary
10 pm Traditional Service of Lessons and Carols, Sanctuary

Tues, Dec 25 Christmas Day

Office Closed

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

The deadline for information to be included in the next eBridge is
Wednesday, December 19th at Noon. Send info to office@bccucc.org

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



A message from the Stewardship Team

Giving Card Reminder

Thank you to the 107 households who have completed a Giving Card with their financial commitment to support BCCUCC in 2019. If you haven't yet done so and intend to return a Giving Card for 2019, please do so a.s.a.p. Our Finance Team and Church Council are working to finalize the 2019 budget and many of their decisions are based on these financial commitments. If you need a new Giving Card they are available from the rack outside the office and from the Vestry table. 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 with your financial commitment for 2019, and she will confirm receipt of your email and the amount. Thank you.

'Tis the season.... and there are some deadlines!

Giving Tree

Mission and Justice's "Giving Tree" will be in Fellowship Hall thru Sunday, December 16th with envelopes for your donations of various amounts to apply to gift cards to 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 16th.** Contact Nancy Arena at nancy.arena@outlook.com or 246-0212 for more information or with questions.



Mitten Tree

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. 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 23rd.**



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 decorated the sanctuary at Christmas, as well as the plants that are delivered by the Deacons to our homebound and sick. A dedication of your choice is included in the bulletins for the Christmas Eve services. **Deadline for donations is Monday, December 17th.** [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.



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.

This holiday, make a difference while you shop

Shop for holiday gifts and supplies at smile.amazon.com and Amazon donates

You shop. Amazon donates.
amazonsmile



For I was hungry and you gave me food..... I was naked and you gave me clothing" Matthew 25:35

Soup Kitchen - extra help needed

Membership and Finance teams are responsible for the Soup Kitchen on **Saturday, December 15th**. If you are able to help by donating or helping to serve, we would appreciate it. All food donations should be marked "12/15/18 Soup Kitchen" and left in the BCC kitchen by 2:30 pm on Sat, Dec 15th. Servers should be at BCC UCC by 2:45 pm that day to retrieve all soup kitchen foods and be at the Park Place Church by 3:15 pm. We will assemble the sandwiches and prepare the tables and plates at the Soup Kitchen. We should be finished and ready to return to BCC UCC by 4:45-5:00 pm.

Sign up to help at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508084da4ab2caafb6-soup>



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**. 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 we ask that those going out on the truck be at least age 16. Donations of specific food and clothing items are requested. To

volunteer to donate items, help with prep or go out on the truck visit <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050a4aaca2aa75-mobile3>. Please remember to indicate the quantity of a food item you are able to donate.

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) or Phyllis Buckley (401-742-7320 or pbuckley6@cox.net). If you are interested in helping with shopping or being a driver please contact one of them at



the links above. Thank you for your continuing supporting of this important outreach ministry.

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). In preparation we are collecting warm clothing to give out to those in need and so are seeking donations of new or gently used items for adult men and women. These includes hats, gloves, scarves, socks, sweatshirts, sweatpants etc. There is a collection bin on the stage in Fellowship Hall for your donations. Thank you.



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



O, Worship the Migrant!

by Rev. Dale Azevedo, Sr. Minister - December 1, 2018 "Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod..."

[Read more](#)
www.bccucc.org



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

BCCUCC Family Christmas Spectacular!

BCCUCC Family Christmas Spectacular!

On Sunday, December 16th, the
Barrington Congregational Church,

UCC, will host its Family Christmas Spectacular!

The festivities begin with a special service at **10:00 AM**, where the BCCUCC choir, along with special musical guests, will present **Joy! A Gospel Christmas**, by Joel Raney. This upbeat and powerful telling of the Christmas story delights audiences with Christmas carols like you've never heard before interspersed with scripture readings on the theme of joy. People of all ages are welcome to stay in worship and enjoy the production, but childcare and special children's activities are available for those who need to get their wiggles out. At **11:00 AM**, everyone is invited to retire to our Fellowship Hall for **cookies, crafts, and hot cocoa!** Listen to your favorite carols, enjoy the Christmas decorations, and nibble on holiday favorites while making family crafts that you can take home! The whole community is welcome to share in this special day to help get us all in the Christmas spirit.



Candle Lighters and Readers needed

Advent Candle Lighters needed

Volunteers are needed to read the short liturgy and light the Advent Candles on **Sundays, December 16th and 23rd** at the 10 am service, 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.



Readers needed for Christmas Eve 10 pm service

Volunteers are needed to read scripture at the 10 pm Christmas Eve Service of Lessons and Carols. If interested, contact Rev. Dale Azevedo at (401) 246-0111 x 103 or dale@bccucc.org.



Pageant at 6 pm Christmas Eve Service

Volunteers needed - Casting Call and Rehearsal Schedule!

19 volunteers are needed to make the pageant come to life! Those with experience are especially encouraged to return. If you're interested in either operating a puppet or having a speaking role, please contact Brendan **by Monday, December 10th** at brendan@bccucc.org.

For the full list of parts (and age requirements) [click here](#).



A full rehearsal with the puppets and other cast members will take place after church on **Sunday, December 23rd from 11:30-12:45**. All those operating a puppet along with participants with speaking/singing roles need to be able 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 on Sunday, December 23rd**. These children should be at church with their families **by 5:45 pm on Christmas Eve**.

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!



There's lots happening at BCCUCC!

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, December 6th** from 6 – 7:30 pm in Room 6. For more info contact info@namirhodeisland.org or call (401) 331-3060.

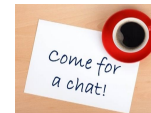
Mindful Mondays with Advent Candle lighting

During Advent Brendan is incorporating the lighting of Advent candles into "Mindful Mondays." **Every Monday** at 7:50 pm we will read an Advent scripture, a psalm, and light a candle on the Advent wreath in Room 8 (the Meditation Room.) You are welcome to come for the full hour (7 – 8 pm) or if you'd simply like to join in for the lighting of the candles you are welcome to do so at 7:50 pm. Please respect the quiet, contemplative space as the intention is to hold space to honor the sacred and find a moment of peace together amidst the busyness of the season.



Community Office Hours

Community Office Hours are held every **Thursday afternoon 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. All are welcome.



East Bay Kids Clothing Swap

Held on the 3rd Saturday of each month, the next one is **Saturday, December 15th** 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>

Holiday Jazz Concert

The Barrington High School Jazz Band will give a concert of holiday music in our sanctuary on **Saturday, December 15th** at 7:30 pm. Tickets are \$5 and are available at the door. All proceeds support the BHS Jazz Band and the 2019 BCCUCC Youth Service Trip. Come listen to some great music from a group of very talented young musicians, while supporting our youth.



BCCUCC's Family Christmas Spectacular!

On **Sunday, December 16th** at 10 am come hear the choir, together with several guest musicians, sing an upbeat cantata during the service, then go to Fellowship Hall for cookies, crafts and cocoa! All are invited.

See earlier article for all the details or [click on this link](#)



Youth Group Caroling and Christmas Party

The youth group (for anyone in Grades 6-12) will meet on **Sunday, December 16th** after church, following the "Family Christmas Spectacular" (see above). After refreshments they will gather in Room 9 and depart for caroling at 12 pm to a couple of nursing homes in the area. When they return from caroling they'll have their own party with a "white elephant" gift exchange where everyone brings a repurposed gift to swap. Maybe you were given a gift in the past that you would like to re-gift. Maybe you have something you like but would be willing to offer to someone else as a Christmas gift. Come celebrate the Christmas season together! Christmas cookies will be provided!



Bereavement Group

The group next meets on **Monday, December 17th** 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 or 245-8031.

Book Group

Next meets at the Coffee Depot, 501 Main Street, Warren, on **Tuesday, December 18th** at 11:30 am, to discuss *Best Cook in the World* by Rick Bragg: Heartfelt, often hilarious stories from an Alabama kitchen, a place from which issue wondrous remembrances and wondrous foods alike. For more information about the group contact Helen Schall helenschall@hotmail.com or 245-4724. All are welcome!

Women's Faith Group Christmas Lunch

The group next meets on **Thursday, December 20th** at Noon at Trafford's restaurant in Warren for their Annual Christmas Lunch. Those wishing to attend should RSVP to Jane Tonn at 289-2349 or jtonn2@cox.net, or to the church office at 246-0111 or office@bccucc.org by Tuesday, December 18th.

Christmas Eve Worship Services

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. The 10 pm service will be a traditional service of Lessons and Carols with music from the choir and handbells. We hope you can join us.



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. To learn more about the group, contact Mary Lou Slicker at 245-0085 or rislick@fullchannel.net.

Haiti Trip in January

The RIUCC Haitian Task Force is planning a trip to Haiti from **January 9th – 15th, 2019**. Suzanne Swanson will be both coordinating and going. She emailed that the cost of flights has gone down. She will make reservations at the Auberge Hotel. Anyone interested can call Trish Sylvester at (401) 297-0390 or email Suzanne at suzanneswanson12@yahoo.com



Thank you

Temple Habonim thanks us for the hearts

Following the murders at a synagogue in Pittsburgh on October 27th, the BCCUCC congregation was invited to decorate hearts with messages of support for our local synagoue, Temple Habonim, with whom we've had a long friendship. The congregation responded and 100 hearts were taken to the Temple and displayed on a wall there. An article about this was on the [front page of their latest bulletin](#). Many thanks to everyone who decorated a heart - it meant a lot to our Jewish neighbors.



2018 Senior Luncheon

Many thanks to the members of the Membership Team and the Women's Faith Group who hosted the 2018 Senior Luncheon held earlier this week. Thanks also to Blounts Fine Foods for donating the soups. After the meal there was a sing-a-long of Christmas songs and carols to get everyone in the holiday spirit! [See photos](#)

Year end reminders

Deadline for 2018 Reimbursable Expenses

The end of our fiscal period is December 31st. If you have any invoices or expenses that you need to be reimbursed for, please fill out vouchers (which must be signed by the leader of your ministry team) and send them to the church office, with receipts attached, *by Friday, December 14th*. Vouchers are available from a folder on Pat's desk in the church office, [or at this link](#). Expenses turned in after the deadline will be charged to next year's budget.

Giving reminder for tax purposes

Please note that 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.

From the church office

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 so that they can be added to the calendar. Also please notify the office of 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. 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.

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. 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.



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](#)

[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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