

November 2006

# THE WHITE CHURCH



Dear Friends,

I was talking with one of our custodians Kenny the other day about how in my previous church we had five different custodians in the eight years I was there and how lucky we are here to have such a loyal staff. Did you realize that custodian Jack celebrated his 30<sup>th</sup> year with us this past month! What a gift to us!

In a time of what seems like many changes, look at the constants: Jack (30 years), Frank (19), Kenny (12), Jimmy (8), Christine (8), and Pat (5). No wonder our facilities look so beautiful and our office runs so smoothly! You should see some other churches!

And yet, I am also reminded that Jesus' whole ministry happened in about 3 years. So, there is value in continuity and power in short-time.

One of the strengths of our particular church family is the diversity of longevity sitting in our pews each week. Some have been here for 50 years, others for the first time ever...each one valuable and equal in the eyes of God. Each brings a history of church experience to our gathering that is important for us all to recognize. Those who have been here a long time can remind us of the valuable lessons over the years. Those who are recent additions can give us ideas of how it is done elsewhere and can lead us to new places.

And there are many who have never been here – some of your neighbors, friends, family members. If coming here is important to you, they are an opportunity for you to show it and share it. And we all need to remember that when someone slides into the pew beside us this week they may be here for the first time. Their decision to come a second time may very well hinge on how you treat them. What a great moment for you to show that your faith is alive and well!

God's blessing to you in all that life brings this month,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jeff', is written below the text.

## Sunday Services



- November 5 10 a.m. *All Saints' Sunday and Dedication Sunday* (see pages 4 & 8)  
Worship Service with Communion, Church School
- November 11 10 a.m. *'Bring a Friend to Church' Sunday* (see page 5)  
Worship Service with Sing and Celebrate Choir,  
Church School
- November 19 10 a.m. Worship Service with Bells, Church School  
After Worship Advent Craft Fair (see page 6)
- November 26 10 a.m. Worship Service, Church School

*Church School for Pre-School through Grade 8*

*Child Care Available*

*Handicapped Accessible*



### INTERFAITH THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE

**Wednesday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>  
at 7:30 p.m.**

location and preacher t.b.a.

(watch the weekly bulletin announcements for details)

All are invited to attend this annual service  
organized by the Barrington Clergy Association.

The **Church Office** will be **closed** on  
Friday, November 10<sup>th</sup> for the Veterans'  
Day holiday, and on Thursday and Friday,  
November 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> for Thanksgiving.

The Rev. Jeff Larsen's  
formal **Installation** as  
our Senior Minister  
will be held on Sunday  
afternoon,

*Mark Your  
Calendar!*

**December 17, at 4:00 PM**  
in our sanctuary.

This is a gathering of our church family  
along with representatives of Jeff's  
previous church in Dartmouth, MA, the  
RI Conference UCC, and members of  
the wider church family to celebrate our  
new beginnings.

The Rev. Jeff Larsen will be out of the  
office Thursday through Saturday,  
November 2<sup>nd</sup> -4<sup>th</sup>.

## Some October Reminders.....

**Sunday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>**

*Stewardship Sunday*

The Rev. Jennifer Cook's last Sunday at BCCUCC.

Following the 10 a.m. worship service there will be a special reception in Fellowship Hall to honor Jenny's ministry. This will be a time to express our appreciation for her many talents and gifts that she shared with us.

Pick up your pledge packet from the Vestry (see page 8)

Sundae Sunday has been postponed to October 29.

11:30 am Meeting in the Vestry for 9th graders interested in confirmation and their parents.

**Sunday, October 29<sup>th</sup>**

*Daylight Savings Time ends*

9 a.m. Coffee Tailgating in the parking lot for those going to the RICUCC Anniversary Service.

9:45 a.m. Carpoolers leave for RICUCC Anniversary service.

10 a.m. Worship Service at BCCUCC.

Sundae Sunday following worship

10:30 a.m. RICUCC 200th Anniversary Worship Service at Rhodes on the Pawtuxet.



## Are you willing to serve on a Ministry TEAm?

Some of our Ministry Teams still have vacancies and we need members of the congregation to fill them. Please prayerfully consider filling one of the following:

5 vacancies on the Christian Fellowship Ministry Team,

1 term ending in 2007, 1 term ending in 2008, and 3 terms ending in 2009

1 vacancy on the Chancel Ministry Team, term expiring 2009

2 vacancies on the Endowment Ministry Team, terms expiring 2008

2 vacancies on the Finance Ministry Team, 1 term expiring 2008, 1 term expiring 2009

2 vacancies on the Missions Ministry Team, 1 term expiring 2008, 1 term expiring 2009

1 vacancy on the Music Ministry Team, term expiring 2008

2 vacancies on the Social Action and Justice Ministry Team, terms expiring 2008

1 vacancy on the Stewardship Ministry Team, term expiring 2009

For information on roles and responsibilities of each team, or to sign up to fill a vacancy, please call Greg Voigt at 245-9606 (home) or 863-8762 (work).

**THANK YOU!**

*Our by-laws state that to serve on a ministry team, you have to have joined the church and be a member. Non-members are still welcome to help with the work of a ministry team.*



## Remembering Our Loved Ones Who Have Died

During the worship service on All Saints Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup>, we will toll the bell and remember by name our loved ones who have died since last All Saints' Day. The congregation is asked to please submit names *ahead of time* by calling the church office at 246-0111, no later than noon on Friday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>.

In addition, the Rev. Jeff Larsen invites the congregation to bring photos to the worship service, with some identification attached, of those whom they want to remember who have died at anytime (not just in the past year). A table will be set up in Fellowship Hall so that after the service they can be placed for viewing during coffee hour.

Kathleen Larsen, wife of our Senior Minister, is starting an "E-Prayer" list of people who would like to intentionally keep members of our extended church family in confidential prayer during the week. A prayer would be sent out by Kathleen mentioning the name and particular request submitted for prayer. It would be sent to an email list of those who agreed to be part of our prayer group. Names would be mentioned only of those people who had agreed or requested that they be included.



If you would like to be part of this e-mail prayer group please contact Kathleen directly at [klarsenswc@hotmail.com](mailto:klarsenswc@hotmail.com) making sure your name and e-mail address are clearly identifiable.

**Prayer requests** may also be e-mailed directly to Kathleen, or you can call the parsonage at 247-1787 and speak with her, or leave a message.



## Cottage Meetings

A subcommittee is organizing a series of "Cottage Meetings" to be held throughout the congregation during the months of January-March. These would be informal in-home gatherings for 1 ½ hours to meet with Jeff and Kathleen and talk about your dreams for our church. We are hoping to hold at least 10 of these meetings, probably mid-week, to get a sense of the breadth of our membership, the diversity of opinions and ideas, and the common factors that make us a thriving and faithful church. We will be looking for people to host these gatherings as well as facilitators and scribes for each meeting. More information to follow.

# Bring a Friend to Church

on **Sunday, November 12.**

Bring a  
Friend to  
Church



Would you like to share what is happening here with someone who might like to be part of it? Here is your chance. It might be someone who needs to be invited back, or someone who is not part of any church family. If we are to do what we have been commanded to do by Jesus, we must spread the word. If we are to do what we need to do to be a vital and growing church in the greater Barrington area, we must spread the word.

Please make an effort to come that Sunday with another person—a family member, neighbor, friend, or co-worker who has been searching for a place to worship. We will welcome all with joyfully open arms.

*A message from The Membership Ministry Team.....*

## **WANTED.....NEW FRIENDS**

We are not looking for food donations, clothing, money, or an extra pair of hands, etc. Our search is for people. All kinds of people. People who want to share in conversation with one another about joining our church community at BCCUCC. Our first informal meeting will be held on **Sunday, November 12<sup>th</sup>** and we would love to see you there.

“**Conversation about our church**” will take place in Room 9 and the Rev. Jeff Larsen will lead an informal discussion about who we are, why we do what we do, and why you are important to us. It is open to all but if you are particularly interested in joining our church please make an extra effort to be there. New members will be officially received during worship on Sunday, December 3.

The *Women in the Bible* group will meet on **Thursdays, November 2 and 16**

from **10:30 a.m. - Noon** in the **Resource Room.**

The will continue their discussion of the book



**Wisdom’s Daughters: Stories of Women around Jesus** by Elizabeth G. Watson.

This group is open to any woman who wants to learn more about the women in the Bible and hear how God speaks to us through these women’s stories. You needn’t be a member of this church to participate so feel free to invite friends.



## FAITHWorks

Our FAITHWorks topic for November is

**The Good Samaritan.**

Our Disciples this month are

Heaven's Hash: Matt Stein

Creative Christianity: Chris and Ellen Brady

Thou Art: Sue Clemens and Linda Cook

Godly Games: \* **Volunteer still needed**

**\*To volunteer, please contact Bill DeWitt (245-3352).**



## Sundae Sunday

has been postponed a week and will now take place on

**Sunday, October 29<sup>th</sup>**

following worship.

ALL ARE INVITED.

Hosted by the Christian Education and Youth Ministries Team



## Sunday, November 19<sup>th</sup> Advent Craft Making

Following worship there will be an opportunity for anyone interested to make an Advent craft. All of the materials will be supplied – we just need you to come and provide the labor! This is a fun activity for all and is especially great for families to do together—but anyone is welcome to participate.

*This activity is sponsored by The Christian Education and Youth Ministries Team*

The PF youth are in need of **empty shoe boxes** for *Operation Christmas Child*. If you have any, please drop them off in Room 6. Deadline for receipt of boxes is **Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>**. Thank you.



The **Pilgrim Fellowship** will be holding a bake sale

**BAKE SALE**



on **Sunday, November 19<sup>th</sup>** during coffee hour to raise money for *Operation Christmas Child*.

Please support them in their efforts by purchasing items.

There are still some openings to teach Church School or be a FAITHWorks disciple. If you're interested in working with our children and youth, please contact Bill DeWitt at 245-3352 or [wcdewitt@cox.net](mailto:wcdewitt@cox.net) to find out what is still available. Volunteers make a short term commitment only, so please consider if you could fill one of the empty slots.



# youth Group

**Junior PF**, open to all 6-8 graders and their friends, will be meeting on the first Sunday of each month, beginning Nov. 5. The group this year is being coordinated by Camilla Hemingway with parents taking responsibility for each month's programs. Please spread the word and join us for any of these events! Questions about Junior PF or to volunteer to help? Contact Camilla Hemingway at 245-0300.

November 5      4—5:30 p.m. *Buildings and Grounds Support.* The youth will weed and plant bulbs in the back terrace area. Pizza afterwards. Please bring \$3 contribution for the pizza. Contact person: Mary Louise Gamache (245-9914)

December 3      *Operation Christmas Child.* All bring a shoebox. Time tba Will meet at church and go shopping at Walmart then return to church to wrap gifts. Contact people: Mary Louise Gamache (245-9914) and Kim Godfrey (245-3924).



January 7, 2007 *Celebrate the New Year* with Pizza and Movie Night. Time tba Contact person: Tom Lennon (694-0715)

February 4      *Let's Go Tubing.* Outing to Yawgoo for an afternoon of tubing. Time tba. Contact person: Sandy Miniati (247-9337)

**Senior PF**, open to all high school students and their friends, will be meeting on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of the month under the direction of Kim Godfrey (245-3924) and Ali Jean (246-0864)

They will meet in November on Sundays November 5 and 19 at 4:00 PM (*note the earlier meeting time*).



The YARD  
WORK  
FUNDRAISER

has been  
cancelled due to changes  
in the Senior PF program.

## Calendar Information Please

Church members are reminded to please call or e-mail the church office with information that should go on the church calendar, including ministry team meetings, events, activities etc. And also be sure to let the office know of any changes. Thank you.



The **2007 Stewardship Campaign**  
begins on **Stewardship Sunday, October 22**  
and ends with **Dedication Sunday, November 5.**



Pledge packets will be available in the vestry for everyone to pick up after church on Sunday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>. Please stop by the vestry to pick up your packet and then prayerfully consider how you can support the increasing needs of the church. Completed pledge forms should be returned on Dedication Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup>.

If you have any questions, please contact Eileen Dennis, Bill DeWitt or Ron House.

### **A letter to the congregation from the Finance Ministry Team**

Dear Members and Friends of BCCUCC,

On the next page is a draft budget for 2007 that is built on budget requests from some teams and some good guesses based on last year. The basic assumptions are as follows:

- Personnel structure remains the same and there is a 3.5% pay raise per conference recommendation. Total increase is almost \$19,000.
- UCC missions are per conference request – increased over last year by \$5,800.
- Non-UCC missions are restored to 2005 levels – increase of about \$2,500.
- Planned rental income is down by \$7,500 due to renting Nathaniel road parsonage for six months vs the planned 10 months this year.
- Expenses at Nathaniel have been included as if we did not have a renter.

In all, this will bring us short for the year by nearly \$42,000.

As we as a church work through the budget process we will find a way to make this a balanced budget. There are several assumptions that will be modified over the next month based on input from the various teams.

I am excited about Jeff's ministry at BCCUCC and the energy and faith that he brings. I have faith that together we will bring new life and energy to our relationships and church life.

Faithfully submitted,  
Tom Colby, Finance Team Leader

	<b>Budget 2006</b>	<b>Budget 2007</b>	<b>\$ diff 07/06</b>	<b>% chg</b>
<b>Income</b>				
<b>Committee</b>				
<b>Total Pledges</b>	348,570	348,570	-	-
<b>Pledges-Prior year</b>	4,500	4,500	-	-
<b>Total Offerings and Gifts</b>	25,200	25,200	-	-
<b>Donations by members and friends</b>	378,270	378,270	-	-
<b>Total Desig. gift/collct for Missions</b>	5,700	5,700	-	-
<b>Total Desig. gift/collct non Missions</b>	4,540	4,540	-	-
<b>Total Investments</b>	19,000	21,500	2,500	0
<b>Total Rentals</b>	30,460	22,960	(7,500)	(0)
<b>Total Other</b>	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Income</b>	437,970	432,970	(5,000)	(0)
<b>Expense</b>				
<b>Total Staff Expense</b>	274,439	293,385	18,946	0
<b>Total Church Life</b>	15,315	17,815	2,500	0
<b>Total Maintenance and Utilities</b>	54,625	59,205	4,580	0
<b>Capital</b>	24,000	24,000	-	-
<b>Total Insurance</b>	16,550	16,550	-	-
<b>Misc. designated gift</b>	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Mission-General Funds</b>	37,450	45,851	8,401	0
<b>Total Missions</b>	5,700	5,700	-	-
<b>Total Missions</b>	43,150	51,551	8,401	0
<b>Total Office</b>	11,800	12,150	350	0
<b>Total Expense</b>	439,879	474,656	34,777	0
<b>Net Income</b>	(1,909)	(41,686)		
<b>Diff as a % of total pledges</b>	-0.5%	-12.0%		



## Opening Ourselves to God

This year's Stewardship Campaign continues with our church year theme "Opening Ourselves to God". Making a financial commitment to the church in the form of a pledge is part of our spiritual development. Are we open to what God is calling us to give?

Church members are not like members of a social club who have to pay dues, but rather are followers of Jesus Christ who give unselfishly as an act of discipleship. As you consider your pledge for 2007, try to see your giving as a way to grow spiritually. And if you've never made a pledge before, consider doing so this year. The money you give will support our church's continuing mission and ministry.

### NEW MEMBER SUNDAY

December 3<sup>rd</sup>

Anyone interested in becoming a member of our church will have the opportunity on New Member Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>. Those interested should make every effort to attend the "Conversations about our church" on November 12 (see page 5). If you have questions, our Senior Minister, Jeff Larsen will be happy to speak with you.



Are you and/or your family interested in taking a weekend to go to a beautiful camp on the shores of Lake Winnepesaukee with other church folks to have some fun and fellowship together? Jeff and Kathleen Larsen have been taking groups for years to Camp Brookwoods on the Alton/Wolfboro line that is a gorgeous facility with winterized cabins for year-round availability. Often the groups have a Friday and Saturday night program around a theme, Sunday worship together, and the day Saturday to divide into different activity groups that might include skiing or snowshoeing in the winter, hiking in the spring and fall. All meals are provided, sleeping is in bunk beds with several families sharing a cabin. Cost of the suggested family retreat is: \$95 per person for 2 nights and 5 meals. There are a few private rooms available for individuals or couples for an additional \$35



Right now the weekend of March 16-18 is available...or we can plan for something next fall or winter if there is interest. Jeff welcomes your feedback.

## Could you be part of the Music Ministry of BCCUCC ?

We have three choirs, all of which are looking for more participants.

- The Adult Vocal Choir needs singers in all parts, particularly sopranos and altos.
- The White Church Ringers, our handbell choir, must have 10-11 ringers to play in a service. We now have 9, including one new ringer, so we need one or two more.
- The Sing and Celebrate Choir, made up of children from grades 1-6, currently has six members. They are all good, strong singers, but they need other children standing and singing (or ringing) along with them.

If you think you would like to join one of these groups, or just get more information, or just try one out, please speak to any member of the appropriate choir. Whether or not you have any interest in becoming a singer or a ringer, all members of the congregation are invited to attend one (or more) rehearsals of each choir. You are always welcome.



The rehearsal times are:

Adult Vocal Choir	Wednesdays	7:30 – 9:00 p.m. in the Vestry
Handbell Choir	Tuesdays	7:30 – 9:00 p.m. in the Vestry
Children's Choir	Sundays, immediately after church and church school in Room 6 of the Education Building.	



Please make every effort to keep your 2006 pledge payments up to date. Our church is self supporting and relies totally on your pledges and gifts, plus a small amount of endowment income, to support its mission and ministries, as well as pay its bills and its staff!

# Our First Meeting House

by Van Edwards

In honor of the two-hundredth anniversary of our church building, a variety of activities have been planned. This brief historical note is the first of several that will increase knowledge of our Church's history and will culminate in a full exposition of the history of the 1806 church that will be presented at the end of March.

Our present sanctuary is actually the third building erected by the Barrington Congregational Church and this note will be limited to our first church. However, this first meeting house is surrounded in mystery. We know that about 1710 a number of Congregationalists petitioned the Massachusetts legislature for the right to form a town with a learned and orthodox minister, independent of Baptist Swansea. At first, the Massachusetts Assembly rejected this petition, but in November of 1717, the residents of the Western part of Swansea were granted the right to form a town, named Barrington, after the governor's brother, who had received the title Lord Barrington the year before.

The earliest town records refer to a meeting house, but we don't know exactly when this meeting house was erected. According to the memory of those living in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, this meeting house stood on the south side of Jenny's Lane near the residence of Lewis T. Fisher, Esq. Today, this would be 33 Jenny's Lane, but we should remember that in 1717 this road was probably a dirt path winding toward the ferry to Warren and had far fewer houses on it than today.

What did this meeting house look like? We have no idea. We do have a view of the Second Meeting House reconstructed from memory in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century and we can suspect that the first meeting house, if anything, was even smaller. Therefore, in all probability, the first meeting house was a simple, box-like affair with two windows on each side, no steeple and a simple vestibule entrance.

And what happened to this old meeting house? Here the records are even more confusing. At one point, Bicknell, our town's historian, claims the church was taken down in 1734; in another passage in 1737. It is clear from town records that the process of replacing the old church was still going on in 1740. It is also clear that there was a considerable amount of controversy regarding the displacement of the Church from the south end of town (Jenny's Lane) to its present-day more central location. Finally, although Bicknell always refers to taking down, removing and reusing the boards of the original meeting house, suggesting some part of the original church may still be preserved in today's building, there is the persistent myth that the original meeting house was dragged up the frozen Barrington River, while the minister, Peleg Heath, was away at the court in Bristol attending to legal business. Can anyone show me in print where this myth is verified?

## Help bring our historical church building up to fire code !

Our current church building is 200 years old this year. Over the years there have been a number of changes made to the building, and historian Van Edwards is writing a series of articles for the Bridge in which he describes the history of our current building as well as the previous buildings that stood on this site (see article on previous page).



The new, stricter fire codes in Rhode Island require that we make some major changes to the church building by creating an additional, covered egress from the sanctuary. Plans to build a new internal stairway from the front of the sanctuary down to the lower level have been drawn up and an artist's rendition of what it would look like can be seen outside the entrance to Fellowship Hall. This is just one of the changes that needs to be made.

The estimated cost of all these improvements—most of which are required by law—is \$250,000. We still have a long way to go to meet our goal. Thanks to a recent generous donation, we have now raised a little over \$46,000. But we've received donations from only 14% of the households in the church and are hopeful that more households will respond.

To make a donation, please make your check made payable to 'BCCUCC' with the memo line marked 'Fire Safety Campaign'. Additional donation forms and envelopes are available from the table at the back of Fellowship Hall, the vestry table, or the rack outside the church office. Questions? Contact Paul Dennis at 245-6296.



## Deadline for the December/January *Bridge*

There will be a combined December and January *Bridge* again this year which will be mailed out around Thanksgiving. All material for inclusion will need to be in the church office by **Monday, November 13**. Information will need to be submitted for events happening in both December and January by that date.

### DEACONS FOR NOVEMBER

Chris Brady (star deacon),  
Marshall Hoyler, John Muth, Susan Seader,  
Achina Stein, and Beverly Travers.

*If in a pastoral emergency you cannot reach Jeff  
(247-1787) please call on one of the deacons.*



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

From Your Social Action and Justice Ministry Team.....

## Food Drive for TAPIN

On Sunday, November 12 the Social Action and Justice Committee will sponsor a food drive to benefit TAPIN (**T**ouch **A** **P**erson **I**n **N**eed).

On **November 5** we will pass out decorated bags and ask that you return them filled on **November 12**. As always, if that time is not good for you, the bins in the back of the church are available for your TAPIN donations. We will see that all the food is brought to TAPIN on Monday. Some suggested items follow:

- Desert mixes, such as brownies or cookies.
- Soups
- Peanut butter
- Dish detergent
- Personal products, such as toothpaste, deodorant, shampoo
- Canned veggies, (green beans, canned corn)
- Coffee, tea bags
- Canned gravy
- Cranberry sauce
- Rice and pasta
- Spaghetti sauce, canned tomatoes
- Tuna fish or canned chicken



TAPIN - a non-profit organization, made up of volunteers from our community - is always grateful for donations of items as well as volunteer time. If you have time available and you want to help, there is always a place for one more volunteer. For information call 245-1444 between 9 am and Noon.

## SPOTLIGHT ON GLOBAL WARMING

The Social Action and Justice Team Ministry is teaming up with Interfaith Power & Light for a special showing of *An Inconvenient Truth*\*. The mission of Interfaith Power & Light is to “deepen the connection between ecology and faith” and “to mobilize a religious response to global warming in congregations through the promotion of renewable energy, energy efficiency and conservation”.

This important film on global warming will be shown on **November 5<sup>th</sup>** in the vestry in conjunction with a potluck dinner before at 5 p.m. and a discussion following. Please let the church office, Helen Schall (245-4724) or any member of SA&J know if you plan to attend.

\* “This film eloquently weaves the science of global warming with Al Gore's personal story and lifelong commitment to stop global warming. It is a rallying cry for action.”

## A GREATER GIFT

Catalogs are available during coffee hour for the selection of items from A Greater Gift. A Greater Gift is a nonprofit program of SERRV International. Their mission is to promote the social and economical progress of people in developing regions of the world by marketing their handcrafts and food in a just and direct manner. This promotes living wages, women's rights and eco-friendly production through partnerships with small-scale artisan and farmer groups. No child exploitation is used to make their products.

*Orders will be sent in late in November or early December and will arrive in time for Christmas.* While our gift-giving can help others, the proceeds will be used to offset the cost of the sustainable electricity that we are now using in the church buildings and in the parsonages. For further information contact Helen Schall at 245-4724.



A **Coat Drive** will be held at  
**St. Luke's Catholic Church**  
108 Washington Road, Barrington.  
on **Saturday, November 18<sup>th</sup>**  
from **10 am -2 pm.**

Coats for men, women & children are needed, along with other warm weather gear such as boots, hats, gloves, mittens, and scarves. Fleece items are also

welcome. Items should be dropped off at St. Luke's.



## 2006 Global Ministries Alternative Christmas



Check out their web site at [www.globalministries.org/index.php](http://www.globalministries.org/index.php) and click on the link to find ideas of how you can participate in the UCC's Global Ministries Alternative Christmas by giving gifts that help others around the world.

## WANTED -

### Serviceable Used Men's Clothing

for

**The George Hunt Help Center**  
Matthewson Street, Providence



This is an inner city drop in center where the homeless can drop in for relief from the street and a cup of coffee. **Their need for used, casual men's clothing always exceeds their supply.** If you can help, please bring the clothes and *leave them in the collection box in the Vestry.* Our friends at St. John's Episcopal Church have asked for our continuing assistance in helping this worthwhile organization. Thank you!



The **Dine-Out Group** invites you to join them on **Friday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>** when they will eat Chinese food at

**Lees Restaurant**

376 Bullocks Point Avenue, Riverside.

Meet in the church parking lot at 6:00 p.m. to carpool or at 6:30 p.m. at Lee's.

*Reservations need to be made by October 30<sup>th</sup> to Helen MacDonald at 437-0254.*

*Everyone is welcome.*



The **Third Friday Bridge**

Group will meet on

**Friday, November 17<sup>th</sup>**

at **7 PM** in the **Vestry**.



Come enjoy an evening of cards, fellowship, refreshments and prizes. All bridge players are invited, and need not have a partner to enjoy this fun evening. For further information contact Sheila Hutton at 245-4941.

**CHURCH  
ATTENDANCE**

September 24 - 213

October 1 - 199

October 8 - 233

October 15 -196

**Adult Reading Circle**

next meets on

**Tuesday, November 21<sup>st</sup>**

at **7:30 p.m.** at **The Coffee Depot**  
**501 Main Street, Warren.**



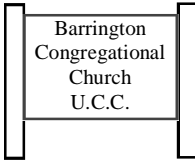
**All are welcome!**

***There have been some revisions to the reading list for the remainder of the year. The revised list is:***

November 21<sup>st</sup> - Snow Flower and the Secret Fan by Lisa See. See's engrossing novel set in remote 19th-century China details the deeply affecting story of lifelong, intimate friends (laotong, or "old sames") Lily and Snow Flower, their imprisonment by rigid codes of conduct for women and their betrayal by pride and love.

December 19<sup>th</sup> - One of Ours by Willa Cather. In her Pulitzer Prize-winning narrative of the making of a young American soldier, Cather explores the destiny of a grandchild of the pioneers, a young Nebraskan whose yearnings impel him toward a frontier bloodier and more distant than the one that vanished before his birth. In doing so, she creates a canny and extraordinarily vital portrait of an American psyche at once skeptical and romantic, restless and heroic.

Contact person: Helen Schall 245-4724



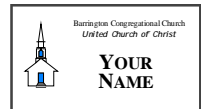
## DONATIONS STILL NEEDED FOR OUR NEW CHURCH SIGN

If you've driven past the church lately, you will have seen the beautiful new church sign on the front lawn of the church. Many thanks to everyone involved in this project. We have already received positive comments about our new sign from members of the community.

The church sign is to be paid for with money donated specifically for this purpose. However, we're still a little short of the total amount needed. Now that you've seen the new sign, are you willing to make a donation toward its cost? Please mail your donation to the church office with "church sign" clearly noted on the memo line of your check. Thanks to everyone who already made a donation, making our new sign a reality!

## PLEASE KEEP WEARING THOSE NAMETAGS!

Jeff and Kathleen are very appreciative of everyone who's been wearing a nametag each week and hope that the congregation will continue to do so. Wearing your nametag not only helps Jeff and Kathleen get to know everyone, it also helps the congregation get to know each other.



If you don't have a nametag (check the nametag board in the vestry), call the church office so one can be made for you (clip-on, pin or hanging style). Alternatively, you can use a stick-on nametag—available from the table at the back of Fellowship Hall or from the vestry table.

## UCC 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Kick-Off All-Church Web Streaming Event

The 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the United Church of Christ officially begins on

**All Saints Sunday, November 5 at 6 p.m. (ET).**

The 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee invites you to be part of a national celebration. You are encouraged to view on your computer the nationally broadcast live web event from Amistad Chapel at the national setting in Cleveland, Ohio. This online production (scheduled to be 30 to 40 minutes in length) will be accessible at [www.ucc.org](http://www.ucc.org). The program will include: greetings from UCC leaders, presentations by artists and performers, stories of gratitude and hope, information about upcoming programs and resources for the anniversary year, and an invitation to General Synod 26. What will make this program unique will be its interactive capabilities: presenting homemade congregational productions from You Tube, an on-line poll, and live visits to remote locations around the country. Broadcast time is 6 p.m. (Eastern Time).



# Blood DRIVE

on Thursday, November 9<sup>th</sup>  
from 2:30 – 7:30 p.m.

at Holy Angels Church  
341 Maple Avenue, Barrington

***New blood donors are always needed***

The Rhode Island Blood Center must collect 280 pints of blood daily to meet the growing demand of hospitals in Rhode Island.

Give the gift of life – give blood

Dishes belonging to church members are once again accumulating in the kitchen of the education building. If you brought food for an event, please check on top of the microwave by the back door to see if your dish is there waiting for you to pick up! Unclaimed dishes will eventually be given away.

## The Providence Singers

with Newport Baroque Orchestra

Bach b-minor mass

**Saturday, October 28<sup>th</sup> 8:00 p.m.**

VMA Arts and Cultural Center, Providence

Tickets available at

VMA Box Office: 272-4862

[www.Tickets.com](http://www.Tickets.com) 800 919-6272



Copies of the new church cookbook are still available for purchase at \$15 each. They make a great Christmas gift and all proceeds will go toward funding future Senior PF Mission trips.

The new church cookbook contains favorite recipes from church members and in addition to lots of wonderful new recipes, there are also a few favorites from the old church cookbook.



**Allen AME Church**  
is holding a

## Unity Day Concert

featuring several local church choirs

**Saturday, November 4<sup>th</sup> 7 p.m.**

**Classical High School  
Auditorium**

770 Westminster Street, Providence

Donation \$10.00

*Tickets are available from the  
BCCUCC church office.*

Proceeds to benefit Allen AME Church.

CHRISTMAS



OPEN HOUSE

Jeff and Kathleen Larsen invite their church family to a

**“Christmas Open House”**

at the parsonage at **7 Fireside Drive**  
on **Sunday, December 3** from **3-5 PM**.

An informal chance for our community to start off the holidays in fellowship and an opportunity for the Larsens to show off the recently restored home. Please mark your calendars.

*Mark your December calendar with these special events....*

**Christmas Concert**

**Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2006     3:00 PM** in the **Sanctuary**

Adult Vocal Choir, Sing & Celebrate Choir, Handbell Choir, Piano & Organ Music, and more!

2

**Christmas Pageant**

The Church School Christmas Pageant will take place during the 10 a.m. worship service on **Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup>**. Rehearsals will take place during church school in the weeks leading up to the pageant.

2

**Jeff Larsen’s Installation**

**Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup> at 4 p.m.** in the Sanctuary (see page 2 for details)

2

**Christmas Eve Services**

Since we will have only one minister this year for the holiday season and Christmas Eve falls on a Sunday, we need to have one less service in the evening. The deacons met with Jeff, and the decision was made to have the following services on Christmas Eve:

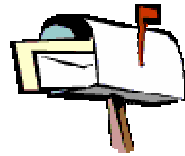
**10:00 a.m.**     Sunday morning worship service

**5:00 p.m.**     Family service

**11:00 p.m.**     Service to welcome in Christmas Day

We know this will disappoint some of the congregation, but felt it was the best we could do this year. Next year may present a whole new set of possibilities for Christmas Eve worship.

## Letters from our mailbox



What a welcome we received as we moved to 7 Fireside Drive just shy of eight weeks ago. Our house is freshly painted and we are enjoying a beautiful new kitchen and refinished hardwood floors. The house has quickly become our home and we look forward to hosting many of you here from time to time. There are so many to thank, so many of you who took the time to stop by and help or just say “welcome”.

We were gifted upon our arrival with a fresh rhubarb pie, wonderful tasty dinners and yummy home baked cookies and cakes. My request for perennials was granted over and over as so many of you were thoughtful enough to remember us when you were trimming down your own garden. I now will look forward to the spring to see what was in all those tiny little plastic bags that I planted. It was very therapeutic to be planting your roots into our yard and it reminded me that Jeffrey and I will be establishing new roots here as well. It felt good to work in Barrington dirt, to get our hands dirty and to then stand back and see our yard transformed. It’s only been a few short weeks, but the plantings are healthy. With the aid of a little miracle grow, water, sun and TLC, I expect they will survive the winter.

And like those perennials our roots will take hold here as well and soon I will be sharing pieces of my garden with you. Thank you all for the opportunity of allowing us to do that here.

Blessings,  
Kathleen (Larsen)



Dear BCC UCC Friends,

Thank you for your concern, cards, and letters during David’s illness and after his recent death. Our family certainly feels supported and cared for by your outpouring of love. We are blessed to be part of such a caring church community.

Thank you, also, for the delicious gifts of food for the reception after his service. You were generous. I was glad to share our church’s hospitality with my family and friends from afar.

With grateful hearts,  
Marilyn Packard-Luther,  
Suzanne, Jared, and Zachary

Dear members of the Congregation,

Thank you very much for donating the many toothbrushes and tubes of toothpaste which I will distribute during my upcoming trip to Africa. While it might seem like a small token, I can assure you that they will surely light up the faces of many small children. I greatly appreciate all of your help!

Many thanks,  
Alice Keeney

### Are You in Need of a Handyman?

We have a church member willing to donate his services to other church members by doing odd jobs around their house or yard. A number of church members have taken him up on his kind offer and been very grateful for his assistance.



If you are a church member that is in need, either financially or physically, and would be interested in his help, you are welcome to call the church office at 246-0111 for more information.

### Can't make it to church?

If you are homebound, or sick for an extended period and unable to come to church, we are happy to mail you a copy of our weekly bulletin. Just call the church office at 246-0111 and we'll add your name to the list.

## Pastor Parish Relations Team

This team is charged with dealing with the concerns of the minister, the staff and the congregation. If you have any such concerns, please contact any member of the PPRT listed below:

Phyllis Buckley 245-1098  
Moyné Cabbage 245-4641  
Lynne Lehman 289-0101

Helen MacDonald 437-0254  
Jim McCartney 245-3288

The PPRT next meets on Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup>. Other meetings are scheduled for January 14, April 15 and September 16, 2007.

## Family Footnotes

### Baptisms

#### Gideon Lauriano Slicker Melo

Son of Kathy and Carlos Melo  
Grandson of Clyde and Mary Lou Slicker

#### Nora Larsen Kiley

Daughter of Brian and Meghan Kiley  
Granddaughter of Jeff and Kathleen Larsen



**For in the one spirit we were  
all baptized into one body.**

1 Corinthians 12:13



**We offer our prayers, support and  
sympathy to....**

Bev Travers on the death of her  
brother, Clark Zelner;  
and to Nancy Hazard on the death of  
her brother, Richard Perry Hooker.