

February 2007

THE WHITE CHURCH



BRIDGE

Dear Friends,

A request from the new guy in town: please come to one of the cottage meetings. I really need lots of you – young and old, newcomers and veterans, very active or those on the fringe of things – to be part of this so together we can come to a better understanding of who we are as a church family in 2007.

Lots of things have changed – for you and for me. We need to get to know each other better and hear what the dreams are for our future together.

I am especially concerned that those with young children and those who have not been too involved in the church will stay away – you are especially needed! I will pay your babysitter. I will come and get you. I will make sure your favorite cookie is there waiting for you.

These meetings will be a listening time for me and Kathleen. A facilitator will lead us through a series of questions that will generate conversation. Each of the dozen or so meetings will address the same questions so that we will have the opportunity to collate all the responses when done and find patterns in suggestions and hopes.

All the feedback will be sorted, condensed, and presented to the Church Council at the April meeting in the hopes of establishing a search committee shortly afterwards for a second ministerial staff position. The focus of that position's job description will be determined by what is said at the cottage meetings.

You can sign up at coffee hours or you can call the church office (246-0111). Please do – your voice is needed.

May God's peace fill you this week.



Sunday Services in February



- February 4 10 a.m. Worship Service with Communion, Church School
- February 11 10 a.m. Worship Service with Sing and Celebrate Choir,
Church School
- February 18 10 a.m. Worship Service with Bells and Guest Preacher (see below),
Church School
- February 25 10 a.m. Worship Service, Church School

Church School for Pre-School through Grade 8

Child Care Available

Handicapped Accessible

DEACONS FOR FEBRUARY

Van Edwards (star deacon),
Lorraine Keeney, Jim McCartney,
Lois McCartney, Doug Roach
and Mary Lou Slicker.

If, in a pastoral emergency, you cannot reach
Jeff (247-1787) please contact a deacon.

Jeff Away

The Rev. Jeffrey Larsen will take
his winter weekend off from
February 16-19. During that
time, the Rev. David Proctor will
cover for any pastoral
emergencies—contact information
for him, if needed, can be obtained
by calling the church office.



The Rev. David Proctor
will preach and lead
worship on
Sunday, February 18th

Office Administrator Away

Christine Wallis will be taking vacation from February 12-20. During her absence, the church office will be open shorter hours, so if you plan to stop in, call first to make sure the office is open.

What are those small blue folders that have appeared at the ends of the pews? See page 6 for the answer.

Welcome to our new Christian Education Assistant

Andrea Terni Bullard took on the part-time position of Christian Education Assistant in early January, 2007. Andrea has been married for almost 14 years to her husband, Rob, and they have three children: Wyatt, 12, Alexa, 10, and Reed, 3. They moved to Warren over five years ago and have been members of BCCUCC since 2002. Andrea is excited about this new opportunity for her as she sees herself not as trying to fill old shoes, but as trying on new ones! She is looking forward to getting to know more of the congregation in her new position.

To help you put a face to the name, Andrea's picture is posted on the notice board outside the church office and also on the website at www.bccucc.org

Due to the busyness of our church calendar and reduction in pastoral leadership, the following activities **will not happen** this year, but hopefully will take place again in the future:

- The Valentine Pot Luck
- A Lenten Study series.
Congregation members are encouraged to instead use the time to attend a cottage meeting (see Jeff's letter on page 1 and the full list of meetings on page 4)
- An Ash Wednesday service

Is this a Ministry for You?

Additional volunteers are needed to help keep the pew racks tidy. The time commitment is just a couple of hours once every few weeks, during which you would restock and tidy the contents of the pew racks in the church. To volunteer, please contact the church office at 246-0111.

Donors
Needed



The Chancel Ministry Team is again looking to increase participation in support of the floral decorations of the sanctuary. Whether it be for celebrations, memorials, or the simple pleasure of fresh flowers in front of us on Sunday morning, please let someone on the Chancel ministry team know if you are interested in becoming a donor.

In order to be able to provide more variety in our choices, the price of each floral arrangement will be increased to \$25 beginning the first of February.

The Chancel Ministry team is:

Carolyn Faulhaber, Cheryl Muth,
Barbara Smith and Sue Terhune

Have you signed up for a Cottage Meeting?

Cottage Meetings began last week and are being held at the homes of various church members over the next several months. Jeff and Kathleen Larsen attend each meeting and they are important listening times to hear the hopes and concerns of the whole church family. There is also a “facilitator” and “scribe” for each meeting. Each home hosts between 8 – 12 people and the meetings last about an hour and a half. These “cottage meetings” give members of our church family an opportunity to better get to know Jeff and Kathleen and also to discuss their hopes for the future of our church. Once these meetings are complete the information will be gathered and processed.

It is hoped that as many people as possible will sign up for the meetings as everyone’s input is important in deciding the future of our church.

Sign up at coffee hour or call the church office at 246-0111

If all the slots get filled at the various meetings listed below, additional meetings may be added.

SCHEDULE OF COTTAGE MEETINGS REMAINING

| Date | Time | At the home of..... |
|------------------------|----------------|--|
| Tuesday, January 30 | 7:30 – 9 p.m. | Susan and Francis Seader, 8 Central Avenue, Barrington |
| Monday, February 5 | 7:30 – 9 p.m. | Zoe and Woody Woodruff, 445 Paddock Lane, North Farm, Bristol |
| Tuesday, February 13 | 7:30 – 9 p.m. | Sue and Rich Simpson, 5 Deep Meadow Road, Barrington |
| Wednesday, February 28 | 7:30 – 9 p.m. | Helen and Joe Schall, 9 Driscoll Lane, Barrington |
| Sunday, March 4 | 11:30 – 1 p.m. | Church Library |
| Sunday, March 4 | 3:30 – 5 p.m. | Tom and Leslie Strolla, 3 Vineland Drive, Barrington |
| Tuesday, March 13 | 7:30 – 9 p.m. | Steve Berenback, 107 Ferry Lane, Barrington |
| Thursday, March 15* | 7:30 – 9 p.m. | Paul and Eileen Dennis, 23 Christine Drive, Barrington |
| Sunday, March 25 | 6 – 7:30 p.m. | Bill and Mary DeWitt, 4 Old Forge Road, Barrington |

** Youth of high school and college age are encouraged to sign up for this meeting.*

New Church Calendar on the web



We have a new church calendar available through our church website www.bccucc.org. This is an exciting new tool because, like our website, it can be constantly updated and changed as needed, and is accessible from any computer with internet access. Just go to the church website, click on the calendar link and then click on the link to the new church calendar that's listed on the calendar page. The calendar not only shows you an up-to date listing of what's happening by the month, but also by the week or by the day. And for each event additional information can be added that people may need to know. You can even have the calendar send you an e-mail reminder of an upcoming church event so you won't forget it!

The calendar is only as useful as the information it contains so please keep Christine in the church office as up-to-date as possible on your plans. Even if you don't have all the details, Christine can enter the event in the calendar and update it at a later date. Currently the calendar is only up to date through February, but soon all of the events on our master calendar through June 2007 will be entered.

So check out the calendar next time you're online and be sure to contact Christine with any changes that need to be made or with information to be added. Call her at 246-0111 or e-mail bccucc@fullchannel.net



www.bccucc.org

Our website has a new page of photographs from recent church events. Current pictures include some from the Christmas pageant and the 5 p.m. Christmas Eve service. In order to keep the photographs current, we need you to take pictures at church activities and then submit them by e-mail to the church office at bccucc@fullchannel.net, or stop by the office so that they can be scanned into the computer. The best pictures will get posted to the website for all to enjoy.

If you have ideas about what you'd like to see on the website, please contact Christine at bccucc@fullchannel.net. She welcomes your feedback and ideas as she works on developing the church website.

Please note that the church's old juno e-mail address of bccucc@juno.com will shortly be taken out of service. The new e-mail address for the church office is bccucc@fullchannel.net

Ministry Team leaders are reminded to please contact the church office with information about when their team next plans to meet so it can go on the calendar.

FAQ Sheet on Pew Pads

A Public Service Message from your local Membership Team

- Q: The pew pads are those blue things we sit on at the ends of the pews, right?**
A: Actually, the pew pads are forms for filling in that can be found at the end of the pew.
- Q: If I don't put my name in the pew pad, will God know I was in church?**
A: We sincerely believe that God is not using the pew pad for anything other than that which we designed it for: getting to know each other, communicating with the minister and helping us meet new visitors to our church. We believe that God has a more direct way of accounting for your location on Sunday mornings!
- Q: Is it true that after the ushers pick up the pew pad after worship, they make paper airplanes out of it?**
A: No, at least not for a couple of days. The first thing that happens is that the top sheets are put on Jeff's desk after worship. Jeff then looks at them first thing Monday morning when he gets to the office. Names of visitors are kept on a special list and he sends a letter to each of them. Other requests/needs are handled as appropriate.
- Q: I heard that the Membership Team was raising money for the church by selling the names and telephone numbers of the pew pads to telemarketers!**
A: No such luck! The only list you will get on is the *Bridge* (our church newsletter) mailing list.
- Q: Is it true that the more I sign the pew pad the more likely it is that I will go to heaven? Can I sign up my friends and family?**
A: Hmmmmm. We don't believe it works quite that way but it is likely that God will smile upon all our efforts to get to know each other and to work in fellowship together as the Body of Christ.
- Q: Is the pew pad really all it would take for us to get closer as a church family?**
A: Hardly! That brings us to the subject of name tags! They really help – please use them. *And don't forget to wear your name tag to Coffee Hour.* On your way out of Fellowship Hall, leave your name tag in the baskets located by the foyer doors or by the kitchen door, and it will be returned to the name tag rack in the Vestry so you can use it again the next Sunday. If you need a new one just make a note on the pew pad!
- Q: Okay, Okay! If I put my name on this pew pad, and wear my nametag....is that all I have to do?**
A: Sorry, no. You also actually have to say "Hello" to people you don't know. If you could make a commitment to introduce yourself to one person each Sunday this whole thing would really be powerful. (It might even be fun!)

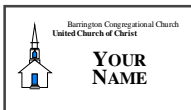
Thanks for your great questions. If you have others, they may be directed to a member of the Membership Ministry Team: Phyllis Buckley, Pat Cordeiro, Jeanne Fulford, Lisa Holby, Lynn Hoy, Paula Movsesian, Marilyn Packard-Luther and Steve Terhune.



The White Church Ringers Need Your Help!

The White Church Ringers currently have a vacancy in the group. Last Sunday, one of our ringers did their best to cover two parts when the bell choir rang during the service. If you read music already, we would welcome you to join the group for a month or two to help us through this transitional time. One on one training and help is available.

Please call Barbara Ward, 245-7183, or Pat Stoddard, 245-7449, if you would like to apply your musical skills in a new and fun way. This would be a short term commitment only.



Nametags at Coffee Hour — please !!

Please remember to wear your nametag on Sunday—not only to worship but also to coffee hour. Many in our congregation, both old timers and newcomers, are appreciative.

To encourage you to wear your nametag over to coffee hour, there are baskets near the exits from Fellowship Hall for you to drop your nametag in when you leave coffee hour – it will then magically reappear on the rack in the vestry the next Sunday!

If you need a nametag, please contact the church office and we'll be happy to make one for you.

“Women in the Bible”

continues to meet on alternate
Thursdays

from **10:30 a.m.—Noon**

in **Room 6**

and will meet on

**February 1 and 15,
& March 1 and 15**

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. Please bring a bible.



*For more information contact
Carol Louttit at 245-2299.*

Which cottage meeting are you going to?

If you would like to attend but none of them work for you for whatever reason, call the church office and let us know. We'll try to make alternative arrangements.

There will be a

Teacher Training

session for all those adults
working during Lent (Feb. 21-Apr. 7)
with the younger grades and the *Seasons of
the Spirit* curriculum.

The training will take place following
worship on

Sunday, February 11th,
from 11:20 a.m.—12:00 p.m.
in the Library.

The session will be led by Jeff Larsen and
will be both informal and informative
about the work they will be doing..

FAITHWorks

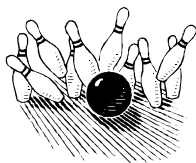


February's theme is

Discipleship:
Who Can Be a Christian

February's disciples are:

Achina Stein, Liz White,
Greg Voigt, and Katrina Swihart.



Jr Pilgrim Fellowship **Superbowl Bowling**

Sunday, February 4th
at Dudek's in Warren.

Leave church at 1 p.m. and return at
approx. 3:30 p.m.

Youth (in grades 6-8) wanting to go must
e-mail Camilla Hemingway at
cahem@fctvplus.net by Wednesday,
January 31st. Signed permission slips will
be required.

Its' never too late to join PF. If you
are in grades 6-8 you are warmly invited
to participate. Questions? Contact
Camilla Hemingway (see above).



The **Senior PF** will hold a

Pasta Dinner

on **Friday, March 2**
from **5 - 7 p.m.**

to support their Mission Trip to NYC
this April.

A bake sale will also take
place at the dinner.



This event will be the only fund raiser
for the trip and the group is hoping
that everyone will join them for dinner
on March 2.....and bring their whole
family, friends and neighbors!

*Be sure to save the date and watch the
weekly announcements for more details.*

Senior PF Mission Trip



The Senior PF Mission Trip this year will be a weekend trip - Friday-Sunday, April 20-22 - to New York City to attend "Nightwatch" which is a program run by St. John the Divine. This is an experience for youth (and there will be several other groups meeting with us) to experience the church in the city, be challenged to share and learn about their faith, and to interact with youth and adults from a variety of other places.

The Sr. PF Mission Trip is open to all youth whose family are members of our church and/or who are active in the life of our Sr. PF programs, church members or not. For more information and a registration form contact the church office, Kim Godfrey, Allie Jean or Jeff Larsen. ***Permission forms should be completed and returned by February 11th.*** After that date, if there are still spaces available, the trip will be opened up to friends of participants. Due to a limited number of spots all reservations will be on a first-come-first-serve basis.

The congregation is asked to help the Senior PF raise funds for their trip by supporting the Spaghetti Dinner on March 2nd (see previous page for details).

CONFIRMATION CLASS UPDATE

On **Sunday, February 4th, 11:30 a.m.—2:30 p.m.** the class will go on a field trip to church related historical sites in Providence as part of their unit on "Our church's history."



Please sign up by calling the church office at 246-0111 or bccucc@fullchannel.net.
Parents — some of you are needed as drivers so please sign up too if you can help!
The trip is weather dependent.

OPEN MIKE NIGHT



- Who:** Anyone of any age who wants to perform (music, drama, poetry, etc.) Family acts are particularly wanted!
- When:** First and third Fridays in February (Feb 2 and 16) from 6 - 9PM
- Where:** Field Hall at St John's Church, 191 County Road, Barrington
- Why:** Fun during the drab days of February. Also, to give kids and families something to do together (an alternative to drinking).
- How:** Anyone who's interested or who wants to learn more can either email Larson Gunness at lgunness@cox.net or call him at 270-5876.

Event sponsored by The Bay Team (formerly known as the Substance Abuse Task Force)

BAKE SALE FOR HUNGER

Get involved in the fight against hunger!



Beyond Our Walls, the non-profit interfaith group based in Barrington, will be sponsoring a bake sale during weekends in February 2007. Congregations from across town will be selling baked goods, made by their members.

BCCUCC's Bake Sale for Hunger will take place on

Sunday, February 11th at coffee hour.

Proceeds from the sale will be distributed equally to several organizations:

- locally to TAP-In
- statewide to the Rhode Island Community Food Bank, which assists over 50,000 Rhode Islanders every month who do not have enough to eat
- internationally to Ox-Fam, the worldwide confederation of 13 organizations working together in more than 100 countries to fight global poverty.



Our **Junior PF group** is organizing the bake sale here at BCCUCC and ***donations of baked goods are needed from the entire congregation.*** If you can help, please drop off your baked item before worship in the kitchen.

Contact person is Camilla Hemingway at 245-0300 or cahem@fctvplus.net for questions or to volunteer.

Everyone is asked to come prepared to purchased baked goodies to take home with them on Sunday, February 11th.

BCCUCC has a long history of being active in the fight against hunger—from food drives for TapIn (see next page) to participating in *Bread for the World* projects. This is another great way to help in that fight, and by doing it in conjunction with the other congregations in Barrington, it's hoped that a significant amount of money can be raised to be used locally, regionally and internationally.

GIVE THE GIFT OF READING

Become a Tutor with LVA (Literacy Volunteers of America)



Did you know that one in five Rhode Island adults needs help with reading? If you are interested in sharing the joy of reading, LVA-East Bay is holding a **tutor training workshop:**

February 5, 8, 12 and 28 from 6-9 PM at 17 Croade Street, Warren, RI

For information or to sign up call 247-2177. To learn more, speak with Fred MacDonald or Joan Miller of our church who are both LVA tutors.

CANNED GOODS for TAP IN

Over the next few weeks the Social Action and Justice Ministry Team will be sponsoring a collection of canned goods for TAPIN. Some items to consider are:

canned soups, stews,
canned tomato sauce,
canned vegetables and fruit,
canned tuna fish



Please bring your canned goods to church where you will find a grocery cart set up to collect them. Our thanks to Shaw's Supermarket for generously donating the cart.

If you forget one week, we hope you will remember the following week. If every family brings two or three canned items the TAPIN closet will benefit greatly.

We are grateful that TAPIN exists in this community and we hope that our church members will continue to support it as they have in the past. Open your heart to those who have less and you will be blessed.

**PLEASE DO NOT BRING CEREALS, RICE OR OTHER BOXED GOODS
AS WE CANNOT STORE THEM PROPERLY.**

Swing a hammer for Habitat for Humanity!

If you are a novice wanting to learn handyman (or handywoman) basics or an expert willing to share your skills, Habitat gives you the chance to help others out of sub-standard housing and the chance to swing a hammer or wield a paintbrush. We will be sending work parties to the Providence Habitat affiliate on the following dates in 2007:



January 27, February 24, April 28, June 23, August 25,
October 27, and December 22. Mark these dates on your calendar.

If you are interested in participating or have questions, please contact Rich Simpson (247-1005 or rts.ri@cox.net). A typical work party starts on site at 8:30 and usually finishes up mid-afternoon. If you want more information about Habitat Providence, their web site is: <http://www.habitatprov.org>



Want to learn more ABOUT OUR CHURCH ?

If you are new to our church family and want to learn more about us, or if you are considering becoming a member of our church, you are cordially invited to

“Conversations about our church”

to be held following worship on **Sunday, April 29.**

Child care can be provided if needed. New members will be received during worship on Sunday, May 6. Save these dates if you're interested.

Delle McCormick returns to talk about her new ministry.....

On Saturday, February 10th

at 7 p.m. in Fellowship Hall

the Reverend Delle McCormick

will present a program entitled

IMMIGRATION: THE HUMAN FACE OF GLOBAL ECONOMICS

Delle will talk about immigration on the Arizona/Mexico border and explore the root causes that drive people to risk their lives to find work in this country. She is a dynamic and interactive presenter and incorporates movement and other healing practices in a holistic approach to responding to immigration and border issues.

The Reverend Delle McCormick, who is familiar to many of us from her time at BCCUCC, now works as the Executive Director of BorderLinks – an organization that builds healthy relationships and understanding between North and Latin America, encourages a shared analysis of the root causes of immigration, promotes activism and advocacy around border issues, trains and empowers leadership on both sides of the border, and supports projects for community well-being and sustainable development.

The program will begin at 7:00 p.m. and will be preceded by a **potluck dinner at 5:30 p.m.** for those who would like to spend more time with Delle. *Please let Helen Schall or the church office know if you plan to attend the potluck.* (Helen at 245-4724 or helenschall@hotmail.com - the church office at 246-0111 or bccucc@fullchannel.net).



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Rev. McCormick will also be presenting the Emig Lecture series at Kingston Congregational UCC Church on Sunday, February 11th. For more information on the Kingston event please contact Tina Letcher at 783-2356 or tina.l@cox.net.

The Social Action and Justice Ministry Team, in partnership with the Rhode Island Peace Mission, will host the program

Eco-Municipalities: The Systems Approach to a Sustainable Society using The Natural Step™ Framework

on **Thursday, February 15, 2007**, in Fellowship Hall at **7:30 p.m.**

a presentation by **Sarah James**

co-author of the American Planning Association's Policy Guide on Planning for Sustainability and co-author with Torbjörn Lahti of *The Natural Step for Communities: How Cities and Towns Can Change to Sustainable Practices*.

The program will focus on the remarkable efforts in Sweden to create communities and a nation that are 100% free of fossil fuel dependency by 2020 and how the eco-municipality method, combined with science-based principles, can help the US move quickly toward a sustainable society.

A reception and refreshments will follow the presentation.

There is a suggested minimum donation of \$10 to benefit the Rhode Island Peace Mission's work on sustainability.

For tickets or more information, call Helen Schall at 245-4724, or the Conference office at 724-7700, Ext. 6 (RI Peace Mission).

WHAT IS AN ECO-MUNICIPALITY?

An eco-municipality aspires to develop an ecologically, economically and socially healthy community for the long-term.

THE NATURAL STEP SUSTAINABILITY OBJECTIVES:

1. Reduce wasteful dependence upon fossil fuels, underground metals and minerals.
2. Reduce wasteful dependence upon unnatural substances.
3. Reduce encroachment upon nature.
4. Meet needs fairly and efficiently.

Consider signing up for *GreenStart*. Postcards from People's Power and Light are available outside the office door. For each customer citing BCCUCC as the referral, the church will receive a \$10.00 rebate from PP&L for three years— to help cover the church's costs of using *GreenStart* energy.

New England GreenStart allows you to support cleaner, healthier electricity through your regular utility bill and it is available to all National Grid residential and small commercial customers. National Grid remains responsible for actually delivering your electricity to your home or business. The *New England GreenStart* product is a blend of 100% renewable energy resources all located right here in New England. **You can choose to purchase *New England GreenStart* to match either 100% or 50% of your electricity usage.** To learn more about *GreenStart* go to www.greenstart.net



Calendar Page 1

Please go to the calendar page of the website to view

either

the February 2007 calendar from the *Bridge*

or

click on the link to the new calendar
to access the church calendar on the web

Calendar Page 2

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All are invited to attend.....

Barrington Clergy Association's
ANNUAL INTERFAITH ADULT EDUCATION SERIES

Thursday Evenings in February **7:30 – 9:00 p.m.**

GROWING OLDER: IT HAPPENS TO ALL OF US

February 1 I'll Never Grow Old!

Facilitator: Rabbi James Rosenberg
Location: Temple Habonim, 165 New Meadow Rd., Barrington

February 8 Celebrating Growing Older

Panel Discussion: Older member of our congregations
Location: St. John's Episcopal Church, 191 County Road, Barrington

February 15 When Your Parents Grow Old

Presenter: Rabbi James Rosenberg
Location: St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, Chapel Road, Barrington

February 22 Allowing Our Faith to Grow Old with Us

Panel Discussion: Members of the Barrington Clergy
Location: Barrington Congregational Church, UCC, 461 County Road, Barrington

Lights...Windows...Doors...and HEAT!

Please check that all the lights are out and all the doors locked when you leave the building. *Don't assume that someone else will take care of locking up!* In addition, please make sure that the heat is turned down when you leave.

To turn the heat up or down, use the buttons on the thermostat with the arrows located to the right of the display window, and please do not set the temperature above 68 degrees. NEVER PUT THE HEAT ON HOLD.

Help Avoid Frozen Pipes - When it gets very cold outside, the pipes in the bathrooms of both buildings are in danger of freezing. Under those conditions the bathroom doors must be left open (to allow heat in from the hallway) and the faucets may be left dripping very slightly. Signs will be posted at such times.

May we help you?

If you are wheelchair bound or have difficulty walking and would like assistance getting to coffee hour, please notify an usher. He or she will then make arrangements for you to be transported to Fellowship Hall.



Those who need it are invited to use the elevette to get upstairs to the sanctuary. An elevette operator is on duty every Sunday to assist.



Large print copies of the bulletin and hymns are also available every Sunday morning from the ushers. Be sure to ask for one if you need it.

Hearing assists are also available for those who need them at every worship service. Just ask an usher.



Please let us know of any other way in which we may be of assistance to you.

2007 PLEDGE ENVELOPES

Pledge envelopes are on the narthex table waiting to be picked up by the following people:

Mr. and Mrs. Glen Britland
Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hearn
Andrew and Camilla Heingway
Mrs. Mary Jacobs
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Kee
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Merwin
Duncan Maio & Kristen
Westmoreland
Mr. and Mrs. John S. Morrison
Mrs. Grafton Willey
Mrs. Cyril Wyche

If envelopes have been assigned to you in error, please let us know, otherwise we ask that you please pick them up.

If you would like a set of envelopes but did not request any on your pledge form, please call the church office (246-0111) and we will be happy to assign some to you.



Church Cancellation Plans in Bad Weather



When the church service has to be cancelled due to bad weather, the information will appear on Channels 6 & 10 cancellation lists that scroll across the television screen. Cancellation information can also be accessed via www.turnto10.com. The church office answering machine will also include any cancellation announcements. Note: all this is dependent upon there being power to use the technology!

Have You Pledged for 2007?

It's not too late to make a pledge for this year and it can be for any amount, large or small. The church uses the income from pledges to pay its bills, fund programs, give money to missions, and pay the staff. Pledge forms are available on the vestry table, or contact the financial secretary, Pat Stoddard at 246-0111 for more details. Thank you.

The Dine-Out Group invites you to join them on



Friday, February 2nd

when they will eat at

S.S. Dion

520 Thames Street, Bristol

at 6:30 p.m.

Contact Marilyn Darling at 245-4414 by Wednesday, January 31st to reserve your spot or to make carpooling arrangements

All are welcome — singles & couples



The deadline for submission of articles to be included in the March *Bridge* will be

Tuesday, February 20th

- a little later than normal due to Christine's vacation.

Adult Reading Circle

next meets on

Tuesday, February 20th

at 7:30 p.m.

at The Coffee Depot

501 Main Street, Warren.

All are welcome!



They will discuss the book

Pale Horse, Pale Rider

by Katherine Anne Porter.

Pale Horse, Pale Rider comprises three of the Pulitzer Prize-winning author's short novels or long stories, as Porter - who didn't hold with the term "novella" - called her pieces. In the masterly "Noon Wine," set on a Texas farm circa 1900, she offers an unforgettable study of evil.

The **Third Friday** **Bridge** Group will meet **Friday, February 16th** 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

November 26 – 200

December 3 – 195

December 10 – 181

December 17 – 249

December 24 – 166

Christmas Eve – 475

December 31 – 105

January 7 – 193

January 14 – 190

January 15 – 62

Barrington MLK Service

January 21 – 207

Various dishes belonging to church members have once again accumulated in the kitchen. Please collect any dishes that are yours from the top of the microwave where they've been placed. Those not collected will be disposed of shortly.

Invitation reminder for our Computer Savvy Readers.....

Read your *Bridge* at www.bccucc.org

In response to the notice in last month's *Bridge* a number of people have asked that the newsletter not be mailed to them as they will instead read it on line at the church website www.bccucc.org. Thanks to all who have done this.

By reading the newsletter on line, you will be saving the church some money — the cost of the mailing, as well as the paper and ink. Plus we're helping the environment by saving trees!

So if you're a computer savvy household, please consider removing your household's name from the mailing list for the *Bridge*, and instead read it on line.

To stop receiving the *Bridge* in the mail, please contact Christine at the church office at bccucc@fullchannel.net or 246-0111 with your request. An e-mail notice will be sent to you when the *Bridge* gets posted to the website and you'll have the advantage of reading it sooner since you won't have to wait for the mailman to deliver it!

Should you find at a later date that you prefer to read a hard copy, we'll happily start mailing it out to you again. Thank you.

Help us update our active list of members and friends

An "interim" church directory of active members and friends was mailed to the congregation in December. Some of the information it contains may be out of date and we need your help to update it.

Please let us know

- if you no longer consider yourself to be active and therefore do not wish to be in the directory
- if your information is in any way inaccurate or if you would like any of it listed differently (e.g. Pat rather than Patricia)
- if there are people who attend church who haven't made it into the directory
- if there are people listed who you know to have moved away or haven't attended in a long time
- if there are adult children listed who no longer live at home (excluding those attending college)

Our goal is to have a final directory that truly reflects the active membership of the church – those who regularly attend and/or support the work of the church. In working on the final directory, membership status will be reviewed and some people currently listed in the interim directory may be moved to "inactive" status as a result.

Please don't hesitate to contact us with the names of those people you haven't seen in church in a long time as no person/household will be moved to inactive before first being contacted by the Membership Ministry Team.

If you know of an addition/deletion/correction that needs to be made to the information in the directory, please contact either the church office at 246-0111 or bccucc@fullchannel.net or you may contact Phyllis Buckley on the Membership Ministry Team at pbuckley6@cox.net. Thank you.

The 3rd in a series on our church's history

Our Ever-changing House of Worship

by Van Edwards

In a few weeks I will be sharing with you all that I know about the construction of our now 200-year-old house of worship. But the story of our church building does not end in 1806. Our church, like many others, has constantly changed in response to new needs and aspirations of our congregation.

A mere 45 years after its construction, our church experienced a most radical transformation. In 1851 a floor was erected where galleries had been in the original building, thereby raising the sanctuary to its present position on the second floor. A steeple was added to the original tower, and a bell, paid for by the efforts of the Women's Missionary Society, was installed. The front end of the church was extended forward and it appears that the ornate trim of our church's exterior was added at this time.

But the interior of our sanctuary still remained quite small, ending where you can today see the ceiling angling across the front of the congregation. In 1888 an addition was built on the river side, allowing for an organ and two rooms behind the sanctuary, as well as more space on the first floor.

During the next 70 years there were undoubtedly many minor changes – color schemes, decorations, new organs that influenced the appearance of our church's interior. Most important was the installation in 1905 of the stained glass window which still adorns the front of our church. But in 1951 the Colonial Chancel project substantially transformed the interior of our house of worship. The two rooms behind the sanctuary were much reduced in size, the area around the altar was opened up and much of the interior was adorned with white-painted colonial style woodwork.

But there have been changes even since 1951. How many of you remember when the organ was moved to the rear of the sanctuary and pews were added? What other changes to our church's interior can you remember?

Do You Remember?

We're looking for moments of history from all of our church family. Do you remember something about our sanctuary or church that you would like to share? Please jot down what you'd like to tell us and either place it in the basket on the vestry table or e-mail it to Marion Fodor at smfodor@cox.net. We could have some fun reminiscing together! All ages are welcome to contribute.

**Mark Your
Calendar**

200th Anniversary Celebration Luncheon

Sunday, April 1st



Come join us on April 1st as we celebrate the 200th anniversary of our Church building. Following worship we will have a brief historical presentation in Fellowship Hall followed by lunch. Children will participate in a special activity in the vestry and then join their family for lunch. Babysitting will be provided for children under age three. Plan to join us for fun, fellowship, food and some "facts" that you might not know about our history. It promises to be a wonderful day.



The Cat's Meow wooden replicas of the church proved to be very popular—all 100 ordered were quickly sold. In preparation for the 200th anniversary celebration in April, an additional 60 copies have been ordered and are expected to arrive sometime in February (great for a Valentine's gift). Cost \$20 each.

Jeff's Installation Reception Thanks!

Many thanks to all who helped make Jeff's installation Reception such a success ! As Jeff said, his family and friends all were appreciative of the good food and pleasant warm room and the friendliness of our church. I had more than a few visitors comment the same thing to me.

Firstly, thanks to Amy Gorman and the young people and pageant participants for quickly putting away chairs after the service. Of course our ushers and others just pitched in to help put away and clear things for the afternoon.

Thanks to Carol Louttit who helped in all sorts of ways, providing table cloths as well as helpful suggestions. Dave Gregory, Van Edwards, Doug Roach, Phyllis Buckley, Joy Hearn, Jim McCartney and Francis Seader did a wonderful job of setting up tables, organizing food as well as making the tables look attractive and festive. And thanks to Eileen Dennis for doing a last minute laundering of a tablecloth!

Jan Cornish, Carol Louttit, Chris Brady, the Slickers and Lisa Browning all helped with serving as well as providing food. It was a busy job. Thanks also to the very efficient clean up crew of Helen MacDonald, Eileen Dennis, Ellen and Chris Brady, Susan and Francis Seader, and the Slickers.

The excellent appetizers, sandwiches and sweets were provided by Flo Fairfield, Beth Zarlengo, Dot Muth, Helen Schall, Lorraine Keeney, Liz Rosenholm, Pat Gregory, Bev Travers, Carol Louttit, Van Edwards, Doug Roach, Phyllis Buckley, Joy Hearn, Jan Cornish, Ellen Brady, Lisa Browning, Jim and Lois McCartney, and Clyde and Mary Lou Slicker (the punch was Mary Lou's specialty).

I do apologize if I have left your name out. It is not that your food or help was not appreciated—it is just my sluggish brain. I really enjoyed working with everyone. It was a wonderful gift of community, spirit and ministry.

Lois McCartney



Please make note of the following changes in your church directory:

Caroline Halliwell
881 Greenwich Avenue, Unit # 8
Warwick RI 02886
921-4443

The phone number for Ian and Kate Burgess should be (401) 247-7027

Jon Crowell's address should be
49 Church Street, **Bristol** RI 02809

Change of



Carol Louttit chl2299@aol.com

Sue Terhune sierramadre@cox.net

Please notify the church office of any changes in your contact information. Thank you.

A New Address for former Interim Associate Minister

Dan and Lynne McQuown,
Haley and Sophia,
829 Hall Street
Albion MI 49224
(517) 629-6963
holyguacamole@provide.net

THANK YOU FOR YOUR MINISTRY....

...to Jeff and Kathleen Larsen for opening up their home to the congregation for their Christmas Open House, and to the members of the former Search Committee who assisted with the hosting

...to Amy Gorman and her team for the wonderful work they did with the children for the Christmas Pageant, and to Duncan Maio for providing the flats for the scenery and helping the kids to paint them

...to all who participated in Jeff's Installation service, making it so special

...to Lois McCartney for organizing the reception following Jeff's Installation and to everyone who helped (see previous page)

...to the many people who served at the Christmas Eve services as acolytes, readers, candle lighters, ushers, deacons, greeters, elevelte operators etc.

...to everyone who purchased a poinsettia at Christmas and to the Chancel Ministry Team for decorating the sanctuary so beautifully with them

...to the Deacons for delivering poinsettias to the homebound, sick and bereaved

...to Dick and Flo Fairfield, Jan and Stew Morrison, and Ada Mahler for putting together a recent mailing

...to Marilyn Packard-Luther, Zachary Luther and Lynn Hoy for providing refreshments following the Community Martin Luther King Service at our church

...and to January's FAITHWorks disciples: Susan Rotblat-Walker, Fred MacDonald, and Susan Roach.



SAVE THE DATE !

The Social Action and Justice Ministry Team announces the Inaugural **Regina F. Berenback Memorial Lecture for Social Action and Justice** on **Sunday, April 29, 2007 at 4:00 pm.**

The lecture will be held at our church, in Fellowship Hall.

We are thrilled to have newly-elected **Rhode Island Lieutenant Governor Elizabeth Roberts** as the guest speaker. Her topic will be health care, a subject in which she is well-versed. Future announcements will contain the specific lecture topic.

We hope you will turn out to support this event. The Lieutenant Governor is a major public figure to have at our church, and she is an excellent public speaker. Also, we expect this lecture to become an annual event in the life of the church.

Most church members will remember that Regina passed away in April 2006 at the age of 53 from cancer. The event is supported through contributions made to the church in Regina's memory. These contributions have been pooled into a fund set up for the use of the Social Action and Justice Ministry Team to sponsor this annual lecture. Regina headed the Ministry Team in the last years of her life and its work was quite meaningful to her. Contributions to the fund are always welcome and are made out to the church, with the memo line marked "Regina Berenback Fund". Of course all contributions are tax-deductible.

The Power of Prayer

If you have a prayer request, you are invited to contact Kathleen Larsen at KLarsenswc@hotmail.com or 247-1787 who will pass on the request to the BCCUCC E-Prayer chain. This is a confidential prayer list and Kathleen will only share that which she has been given permission to do so from the person asking for prayers.

If you are interested in joining the BCCUCC E-Prayer chain please leave your e-mail address in the church office or give it to Jeff or e-mail it to Kathleen.



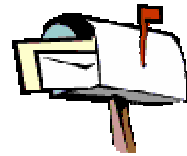
Can't make it to church?

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.

Are you willing to occasionally help out in the church office? Anyone willing to learn how to run the duplicator would be especially welcome, but volunteers to help with mailings only are also welcome to call Christine at 246-0111. Thank you.



Letters from our mailbox



Dear Members of Barrington Congregational Church,

On behalf of the Women's Resource Center and the families that participated in the Adopt-A-Family program, I would like to thank you for your kindness and support this past Holiday Season. Thanks to the incredible generosity of yourselves and others, over 35 families were able to experience a joyous holiday due to the overwhelming amount of toys, gift cards and food baskets provided.

Many of our single parent families have extreme difficulty meeting their basic needs throughout the year. As you can imagine, the stress of the holidays exacerbates their already heavy loads. As donors, you helped alleviate the helplessness parents often feel when trying to afford Christmas gifts for their children. Perhaps the most important gift you provided was the precious gift of hope!

Sincerely,

Lauren Sebastianelli, Adopt-A-Family Intern

Enclosed with the above letter was the following thank you message from the family that received the gifts donated from this church:

Thank you so much for your generosity, I don't think you understand what a difference you make in the lives of children. You are a blessing to my family. I hope your holiday is as blessed and memorable as you have made mine. Happy Holidays.

Since publication of the last Bridge, we have received two letters of thanks from TAP-IN...

On behalf of TAP-IN, please accept our sincere thanks for your generous November 2006 donation of over 40 bags of food items. With community support we were able to provide almost 350 families and individuals with holiday food for Thanksgiving. We are grateful for your continued support of those less fortunate.

and

Thank you for your December 2006 holiday gift of food, winter hats, gloves and mittens. This year TAP-IN was once again able to help brighten the holidays for hundreds of area individuals and families with children. During this special season of giving, your generous donation provided support to our clients through Christmas gifts of toys, food, winter clothing and gift cards. Most importantly, our neighbors in need were lifted by a caring community; and given the opportunity to better enjoy the holiday. During this most busy time of the year we truly appreciate your effort to Touch A Person In Need. The volunteers of TAP-IN thank you for your kindness and support and wish you the very best in the New Year.

Best wishes,

Debbie Aobate for TAP-IN

Dear Friends,

I feel like I've been away from the Barrington Congregational Church for a long time. But I do appreciate the visits and phone calls. Thanks so much for the lovely poinsettia, and especially thanks to Doug Roach for taking the time to bring it to me and visit.

I miss my friends at church and also the bell choir—after 20 years it had become part of my life (and after 50 years as an active church member— that too, became part of my life!!)

But I am enjoying it here at Sakonnet Bay Manor. I enjoy the people here although the majority are years older than I am!! It's amazing how so many people tackle "old age" with such grace.

Please stop by anytime. There are some really nice restaurants around here. Hope to see some of you—some day! And thanks again.

Cordially,

Barbara Spicer

Dear Friends,

How grateful I am for the love and support from our church family. The many acts of kindness surely helped speed along better health.

Thank you,

Marjorie Stumpff

Dear Church members and friends,

Many thanks for the beautiful poinsettia Doug Roach delivered in memory of my brother Dick Hooker.

Most sincerely,

Nancy Hazard



Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for the poinsettia plant. It is so lush and full of life. I had a delightful visit with Doug Roach, too.

My best wishes to you all for a very Happy New Year.

Marcia Haggart

Dear White Church family,

Thanks so much for all the thoughts and prayers for Ron and our family through Ron's recent surgery and recovery. All the cards and flowers were wonderful and cheered Ron up a lot.

It's nice to know so many folks care – thank you all. It was all very much appreciated.

The House's

Ron, Louise and Bryan

Dear Church members and friends,

Many thanks to everyone who donated to the Staff Christmas Bonus fund. We were touched by the generosity shown by so many of you, and are truly grateful for this wonderful gift, which was delivered to us by Jeff just in time for Christmas! We are blessed to work with such a kind and giving congregation.

Sincerely,

Christine, Pat, Marina, Jack, Frank,

Ken and Jim

We received the following e-mail in December and posted it on the website together with the pictures that are referred to in the letter. We include the letter here for those without access to the website.

Dear Friends:

We are moving out of the campus of Madras Christian College, into a home nearby while we build a house in Melrosapuram. Daya first came to MCC as a student in 1960. Anne visited a few times before settling here in 1984 after Selvi's birth. We are very thankful for our years 'inside the jungle.' What a great place for Kavin and Selvi to grow up! Daily waking to the birds, surrounded by perpetual green summer full of butterflies, watching the deer stroll by, we enjoy a constant reminder of the goodness of the Earth and all that is in it. Here we share pictures of two recent visitors to our home: Indian moon moth (*Actias selene*) and India's national bird, the peacock (*pavo cristatus*).

Please use our postbox address:

P.O. Box 37 East Tambaram

Chennai 600 059 India

Phone also the same: 91-44-2239-7050

Our email ids are the same:

Daya: annedaya@vsnl.com

Anne: anne.day@gmail.com

We will keep a bed available for all who travel to this corner of the world—you are most welcome!

Happy New Year from all four of us; Selvi in Oakland CA, Kavin returning from Brazil to University of Pittsburgh.

With much love,

Anne and Daya Dayanandan



The Providence Singers ~ NEA American Masterpieces Choral Festival

America Sings! Sunday, February 4 3:00 p.m. Columbus Theatre, Providence.

FREE Admission, reservations suggested! ProvidenceSingers.org (401) 751-5700

Lift your voice at this free all-community sing with legendary choral leader Alice Parker

All ages and voices are welcome at this community sing. One of the world's best known choral leaders, Alice Parker's "rare and creative" approach brings joy, clarity and fresh insights to musicians at every level. With a roof-raising appearance by Rhode Island's own **Mixed Magic Exult Choir**

American Treasures Saturday, March 3 8 p.m. VMA, Providence

Concert by The Providence Singers and Festival Orchestra

American Masterpieces Sunday, March 4 4 p.m. VMA, Providence

Concert by The Providence Singers, The Junior Providence Singers and Treble Chorus, CONCORA, and The Harvard-Radcliffe Collegium Musicum

For details of these concerts and ticket information, pick up a flier from the vestry table; go to www.ProvidenceSingers.org; call (401) 751-5700; or speak to Christine in the church office.

Family Footnotes



Congratulations to . .

**Heather Hourihan and Jonathan Welch
married December 23, 2006, in Amherst, MA**

**Heather is the daughter of Leo and Sheila Hourihan
and Jonathan is the son of Paul and Peg Welch.**



**Mike D'Orlando
(who is recovering from a car
accident in Florida).**

Baptisms

Camden Robert Siwik

**Son of Ernest Siwik and Katherine Mason
Grandson of Bob and Debbie Mason
Greatgrandson of May Smith**



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

1 Corinthians 12:13

Our new Senior Minister, Jeff Larsen, has many talents but one thing he's not is psychic. He needs you to let him know if either you or a church member you know is in the hospital or is in need of a pastoral visit. You can call the church office and speak with him directly or leave a confidential message on his voice mail at 246-0111 ext. 103. You can also e-mail him directly at jeffbuccucc@fullchannel.net

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

the family of Julie Greene;

the family of Phyllis Janario;

Joyce Mabey on the death of her husband, and Nancy Brex on the death of her father,
Gordon Mabey;

John Brex on the death of his father, Charles Brex;

and the family of Kenneth Aldrich.



Barrington Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
461 County Road
Barrington, RI 02806
Telephone: (401) 246-0111
Fax: (401) 246-7825
e-mail address: bccucc@fullchannel.net
website: www.bccucc.org



2007

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| Senior Minister: | The Rev. Dr. Jeffrey W. Larsen |
| Organist/Choir Director: | Marina Zabinski |
| Office Administrator: | Christine Wallis |
| Office Assistant: | Patricia Stoddard |
| Financial Secretary: | Patricia Stoddard |
| Christian Education Assistant: | Andrea Bullard |
| Custodians: | Jack Salvaggio, Frank Wyrostek, Ken York, Jim Salvaggio |