

May 2008

# THE WHITE CHURCH BRIDGE



Dear Friends,

By the time most of you are reading this I will be a long plane ride away, walking in what are called the “Natural Parks” of southern Spain. I leave on Monday, April 28 to finally use some of the “Continuing Education” time that has been in my contract but the busyness of life hasn’t allowed (you thought you were the only one whose life is out of control?). I am spending ten days in Andalusia on a walking retreat with a small group in an Elder-Hostel type experience.

This small corner of the world was once known as the “Ornament of the World” because for several hundred years, roughly 800-1200 C.E., Jews, Muslims, and Christians lived together in harmony and respect. The rest of Europe was deep into what became known as the Dark Ages, but in Muslim Andalusia it was an amazing time of learning centered around the finest libraries of the day; a time of marvelous creative expression in art and architecture; advances in the fields of medicine, astronomy, mathematics, philosophy; and a time of religious inclusion, not just tolerance. This little microcosm of advanced civilization all fell apart when Christian Crusaders swept down from France and established a hierarchy out of which would evolve the “Spanish Inquisition” when hundreds of thousands of Jews and Muslims were killed and evicted from the land under Ferdinand and Isabella. A book I have found very revealing, if you are interested in learning more, is The Ornament of the World, by Maria Rosa Menocal.

How did they create the “Ornament” and what lessons are there in the ruined mosques that litter the countryside and the ghosts that still haunt Andalusia for us today as we face the world crisis of Christian/Muslim relations? These are some of the things I hope to reflect on as I spend time walking the hills around the little village of Almonaster in the Sierra de Aracena and then the villages of Grazelema and Ronda in Grazelema Natural Park. Time will also be spent in Seville and daily lectures will open our minds to the history as well as fauna and flora of this spectacularly beautiful place. (There are supposedly 1200 different flowers that are to be in bloom this time of year.)

I thank you, the congregation, for finding a way to squeeze in a little extra \$ to my education account to help make this possible, but especially to Kathleen for giving the bulk of this to me as a birthday present...and giving me the gift of blessing for my time away. Thank you also to Elizabeth for being here and giving me the peace of mind to go and be somewhere else in body and spirit. I expect to have much to share with you all when I return.

Blessings to you,



## Sunday Services in May



- May 6                      *Music Celebration Sunday*  
10 a.m.    Worship Service with Communion, Bells and Sing and Celebrate Choir, Church School
- May 11                      PENTECOST  
*Mothers' Day*  
10 a.m.    Worship Service with Sing and Celebrate Choir, Church School
- May 18                      *Jubilation Sunday*  
10 a.m.    Worship Service led by Church School Children, Sing and Celebrate Choir, Nursery Care only (see page 4)  
All Church picnic after worship (see page 4)
- May 25                      10 a.m.    Family Worship Service,  
PreK, K and Nursery Care only

*Church School for Pre-School through Grade 8*

*Child Care Available*

*Handicapped Accessible*

The Rev. Jeff Larsen will be away on retreat from April 28—May 8.

The Rev. Elizabeth Barnum will be at a conference May 6—8, and on vacation May 24—26.

*Please note:*

Jeff's day off is Friday and Elizabeth's day off is Thursday.



E-mail: Prayer Chain

If you have a prayer request, you are invited to contact Kathleen Larsen at 247-1787 or [KLarsenswc@hotmail.com](mailto:KLarsenswc@hotmail.com) who will pass it on to the confidential e-prayer chain.

## From our Associate Minister .....



There's nothing like sunshine in spring to jumpstart the spirit into celebration. Alleluia! To my eyes, the grass is turning a deeper and brighter green while the yellows, magentas, and whites of the buds of flowers and trees are finding their way into the landscape. I'm noticing I just have to stop in my tracks every once in awhile because these sights are simply begging for my attention. This morning the weather report I read said it was going to be cloudy and cool all day. As I write this, the sun is shining bright with hardly a cloud in the sky. The air temperature, though crisp, carries a warmth. This, I think, is a little like faith – the way the sun comes through the clouds by afternoon and turns the morning's weather report upside-down. The life of faith is filled with unpredictable moments. And even the most predictable events can be filled with new spirit if we attune ourselves to be open to receive.

On **Sunday, May 18<sup>th</sup>**, I invite you to come open to receive and celebrate the ways that we are transformed and deepened in faith as we learn and grow as participants in the Christian story. Join us for **Jubilation Sunday** and an **All-Church Picnic** outside on the Terrace. At 10:00 a.m. we begin with a special worship service for **all ages**. We'll celebrate with the children of this church community and worship together with youthful hearts. The morning will include many of the traditional elements of a Sunday morning service – but with some very surprising twists! The surprising twists promise to turn your experience of the sacred upside-down! Children will be preparing for the service during church school on May 4<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>. Join us. Come to giggle, laugh, sing, play, and smile!

Also, during the All-Church Picnic on the 18<sup>th</sup> after worship, there will be time to talk with me, Andrea Bullard, Lynne Lehman, and others on the CEYM Team about volunteer opportunities for Summer Church School (beginning June 1<sup>st</sup>, see p. 6) and the 2008-2009 Church School Programs. We invite not only your presence but also your participation in our celebration and feast!

See you on the 18<sup>th</sup>!

Blessings,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Elizabeth".

Make a note to join us on ...

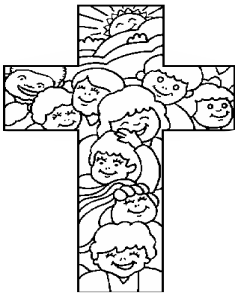
## *Music Celebration Sunday*

May 4<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m.



Please join us for this special service when we lift up and express our thanks for the role of music in the worship life of this church. All those regularly involved in music ministry will participate, and there will also be special group anthems.

*Adult Vocal Choir* - *White Church Ringers* - *Sing and Celebrate Choir*



## **Jubilation Sunday**

**Sunday, May 18<sup>th</sup> 10 a.m.**

Special worship service **for all ages** celebrating the children of this church community. Come and have your experience of the sacred turned upside down!!

May 18th is Jubilation Sunday,  
And its going to be a topsy turvy fun day!  
There will be something for everyone,  
The more mature and the young.  
So don't be a square, plan to be there!  
And don't be late, the children can't wait.

*Children in pre K through 8th grade and their teachers are asked to meet in their classrooms **no later than 9:30 a.m.** All children will sit with their class during the worship service.*

Nursery care is provided for infants and toddlers in the nursery of the education building. All other children remain in the sanctuary for the entire service.

Following the service the Christian Education and Youth Ministries Team invites everyone to the  
**ALL CHURCH PICNIC**



Mark your calendar for .....



**BACCALAUREATE  
SUNDAY  
June 15th**

At the 10 a.m. worship service, **high school graduates** (no matter what their school) have been invited to attend church wearing their gowns. During the service the graduates will be recognized and honored for their accomplishments.

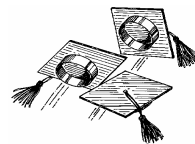
The service will end by 11 a.m. to allow time for graduates to get to the ceremonies being held later the same day.

The annual Kathleen L. Fodor Scholarships will also be awarded at the service (see article below).

**Attention All Graduates !**

Each year we publish the names of graduates - **from high school and from college** - in the June *Bridge*. In order to do this **we need their names!** If a member of your family is graduating this spring, please call the church office (246-0111) or e-mail us at [office@bccucc.org](mailto:office@bccucc.org) and let us know their name, from what high school or college they are graduating, and, if they plan to continue their education, at what institution.

In order to be included in the June *Bridge*, **information must be in the church office by May 15<sup>th</sup>.**



**Kathleen Lynne Fodor  
(KLF) MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

The Christian Education and Youth Ministries Team announces that applications for the Kathleen L. Fodor (KLF) Memorial Scholarship are available to members of the Barrington Congregational Church, UCC, who are pursuing education or training beyond high school. Two \$400 scholarships will be awarded this year. Selection will be made by random drawing, and announced on Baccalaureate Sunday, June 15<sup>th</sup>.

Graduating seniors, as well as those students presently attending a secondary or graduate school, who have completed the confirmation process, and are currently a member of Barrington Congregational Church, U.C.C., may apply. Students who applied previously are welcome to apply again. Application forms are on the vestry table, outside the church office, or on the church website on the 'Information for Church Members' page. **The deadline is June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008.** We encourage all who are eligible to apply. Questions? Call Andrea Bullard at (401) 247-9050.

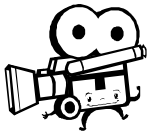
These scholarships are made possible through donations by family and friends of Kate. We thank them greatly.



## FAITH AND FUN SUMMER CHURCH SCHOOL

Starting **Sunday, June 1<sup>st</sup>** there will be child care in the nursery as usual, and the Faith & Fun Summer Church School will begin. This program, for elementary aged children, will include simple bible stories, crafts, snacks and outside play time.

We have a user-friendly curriculum and we are looking for volunteers to help in June and July. If you are interested please contact Andrea Bullard @ 474 -4722 or [andrea@bccucc.org](mailto:andrea@bccucc.org)



### JUNIOR PF MOVIE NIGHT

**Friday, May 9**

**6 p.m.**

At the home of Steve and Leslie Peck, 5 Miller Street, Barrington.

All youth in grades 6—8 are invited to this event where they will explore their own spirit as they watch *August Rush* and *Mr. Holland's Opus*. The group is looking for contributions of pizza and soda from the Jr. PF parents. Parents who'd like to join them for the event or can help with chaperoning or food should contact Leslie Peck at 245-1820 or [PeckMarketing@cox.net](mailto:PeckMarketing@cox.net)

## MISSION TRIPPERS & SENIOR PF

**Back-from-Biloxi Mini-Reunion**

**Sunday, May 18<sup>th</sup>**

6:30 – 8:00 p.m. Parsonage at 7 Fireside Drive

Come for dinner and conversation! Share your stories, photos, and reflections on life since returning home. If you're in high school you're welcome to come, even if you didn't go on the mission trip to Biloxi.



*Save the Date!*

**Sunday, June 1<sup>st</sup>**

**Senior PF Picnic at the Beach**

~ 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Stay tuned for more details.

Contact Kim Godfrey ([Kim.Godfrey@cjca.net](mailto:Kim.Godfrey@cjca.net)) or Elizabeth Barnum ([elizabeth@bccucc.org](mailto:elizabeth@bccucc.org)) if you have any questions or for more info.





## GODLY PLAY

On Saturday, April 5<sup>th</sup>, **Elizabeth Barnum, Andrea Bullard, Laurie Dubel, Amy Gorman, and Francis Seadar** attended a day-long introductory program of **Godly Play** at the Church of the Epiphany in East Providence. Godly Play is a Montessori-inspired form of religious education developed by Jerome Berryman that nurtures the questions and insights of children. It is a theologically-sound and inspiring method of education for young children. Great joy comes from watching children experience, discover, and wonder about God and the stories of the Christian tradition. And adults who teach Godly Play love it! They often speak of how their spiritual lives are made more meaningful by spending time with children in this way. To learn more, visit ([www.godlyplay.org/view.php/page/about](http://www.godlyplay.org/view.php/page/about)). Go to the bottom of the web page and click on "Watch Godly Play Video" to watch a short segment introducing the program.

Godly Play is utilized in churches across denominations and in classrooms for ages 2-12. At Barrington Congregational U.C.C., we feel our lower-elementary-aged children would thrive if able to experience Godly Play. Church School Teachers and CEYM are discerning if and how best to implement Godly Play in one or two of our church school classrooms beginning in September. Lynne Lehman, Jeff Larsen, and Elizabeth Barnum are each familiar with Godly Play and have worked in churches that have incorporated it successfully into their religious education programs. If you are interested in learning more and helping support this possible endeavor, please speak with Andrea, Laurie, Amy, Francis, Elizabeth, or Lynne to learn about their experience!

## Mission Trip to Biloxi a great success!!

There are so many people to thank for making this year's Mission Trip such a success. Let me start with the entire congregation for its patience with all the many fund-raisers and the terrific support of each one. Thank you to the adults who took time out from their busy lives to spend the week with our terrific young people. Thank you to Lynne Githens and Liberty Travel for her hard work in making all the travel/hotel/van arrangements. And thank you to the 27 high school students for your attitude, your incredibly hard work...and for letting me get the sleep I needed so I wouldn't be too grouchy! It was an amazing week!

Jeff Larsen



*Be sure to attend the worship service on April 27<sup>th</sup> when the Mission Trip group will lead worship and show pictures from their trip. Some pictures are on the bulletin board in the foyer and many more will soon be posted to the church website.*



The **2008 Annual Report** has been posted on the church website at [www.bccucc.org](http://www.bccucc.org) on the 'Information for Church Members' page. If you have computer access, you are encouraged to read the report on-line, rather than take a hard copy. We are saving resources again this year by printing out fewer paper copies. However, there are copies available on the vestry table and outside the church office for those without access to the internet.

An updated list of Church Officers and Ministry Teams for election will be made available at the Annual Meeting on Sunday, April 27<sup>th</sup> to be held after worship.

### OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHURCH SERVICE!!!

Despite the Nominating Ministry team's best efforts, there are still a number of vacancies on ministry teams which call out to you all !

They are:

- 3 Delegates to the RI UCC Conference
- 4 team members for the Missions Ministry team
- 1 team member for the Social Action and Justice Ministry Team
- 3 team members for the Stewardship Ministry Team



If you have an interest in helping the church in one of these positions, please contact the church office at 246-0111 or [office@bccucc.org](mailto:office@bccucc.org)

### Consider reading *The Bridge* on line

Help us reduce the cost of publishing our monthly newsletter by reading *The Bridge* on-line. Doing so will also save valuable natural resources used to make the paper and ink. We will e-mail you each month to let you know when the latest edition of *The Bridge* has been posted to our website [www.bccucc.org](http://www.bccucc.org). Contact us at 246-0111 or [office@bccucc.org](mailto:office@bccucc.org)

### Can't unlock the kitchen door?

The door into the kitchen from the parking lot has been fitted with a panic bar and a new lock. We have found that some of the keys that church members have will no longer work in that door. The lock will soon be adjusted so that everyone's keys should work— but in the meantime, you may need to gain access via the door by the library.



The Women's Faith Group will meet on **Thursdays, May 1<sup>st</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>**  
from **10:00 a.m.—11:30 a.m.** in **Room 6**



They continue to read **The Faith Club** by Ranya Idliby, Suzanne Oliver and Priscilla Warner. The group welcomes women from our church as well as from other churches and faith traditions to join them as they continue their study of this book. For more information contact Carol Louttit at 245-2299 or [chl2299@aol.com](mailto:chl2299@aol.com).



### CHURCH LIBRARY

The CEYM Team is cleaning out the Library of old hymnals, Bibles, and books that are out-of-date and no longer of use to current programming. There will be boxes of books near the windows that will be donated elsewhere unless we receive notice from groups or individuals wishing to keep specific selections. ***Please collect by June 1<sup>st</sup>***. If you have any questions or suggestions, talk with Lynne Lehman, Andrea Bullard, or Elizabeth Barnum. Thank you.

On a table at the back of Fellowship Hall are a couple of boxes containing an old church booklet entitled

#### **“The Sounding Board”**

The booklet is a series of articles written for *The Bridge* in 1987 by Margaret Rodewig about our church's history.

You are welcome to help yourself to as many copies as you'd like — and help us clean out some closets.

### WORTH REPEATING!

**It really is possible to be allergic to church!** The Jan 6 *ProJo* ran an article about how there are a number of people who have a very difficult time coming to church, or staying in church, due to allergies to perfumes, colognes, flowers, etc. You are asked to be as considerate as you can be when preparing to make yourself beautiful and handsome for our time together. Thank you.



**Did you take pictures** of recent church events such as Confirmation, Rev. Charles McCullough's visit, etc? If so and you'd be willing to share your pictures with others, please either e-mail them to us at the church office [office@bccucc.org](mailto:office@bccucc.org) or stop by with the photos and we can scan them into the computer. The best will get posted to the website. Thanks.

## DEACONS FOR MAY

Bill DeWitt (star deacon), Chris Brady,  
Marshall Hoyler, Susan Seader,  
and Achina Stein

*If in a pastoral emergency you cannot reach either Jeff (247-1787) or Elizabeth (245-3567) please call on one of the deacons.*



The **Dine-Out Group** invites you to join them for dinner

at **6:30 p.m.** on **Friday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>**

when they will eat at

**S.S. Dion**, 520 Thames Street, Bristol.

Reservations need to be made by  
Monday, April 28<sup>th</sup> to Helen Schall at 245-4724.

*We hear they have excellent fried clams!!*

## The **Third Friday Bridge**

Group will meet on  
**Friday, May 16<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

March 20 – 45  
Tenebrae service

March 23 – 408  
Easter

March 30 – 181

April 6 – 198

April 13 – 136

April 20 – 204



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

Thursday, May 15<sup>th</sup>.

## Adult Reading Circle

next meets on

**Tuesday, May 20<sup>th</sup>**

at **7:30 p.m.**

at **The Coffee Depot**  
**501 Main Street, Warren.**

**All are welcome!**



They will discuss the book

**A Woman in Jerusalem**  
by **A. B. Yehoshua**

Israel's master novelist tells a spellbinding tale about a spellbinding woman whose luminous smile, swan's neck and Tatar eyes are so beguiling that even in death she can lead a man to fall in love with her.

**PUTTING  
OUR FAITH**



**INTO  
AUCTION**

As your thoughts turn to summer and some of you travel away from Barrington please keep in mind our Auction/Silent Auction which will be held Saturday, September 13<sup>th</sup> at Stanley's Boat Yard.

Leaving Barrington gives you the opportunity to bring back a little something to donate to this special event. Perhaps it might be a bottle or two of wine made at a vineyard you are visiting. Or a poster or paintings from one of the Islands like the Vineyard or Nantucket. Or a promise of Maine lobster (Jeff!) How about Red Sox or Patriots memorabilia or better yet tickets to a game! Theatre tickets are always a hit. A weekend reservation at one of your favorite B&B's would also be most welcome. Specialty cookbooks from your favorite church supper or fair. These are just a few ideas as you are walking the streets of Provincetown or Camden. *Please remember us this summer and bring us back a little something that we could auction off.*

And while you are at it **SAVE THE DATE of Saturday September 13.** This is sure to be a sell out event. Buy a table, invite your friends. Bid high, Bid often. Come and join us for music and dinner followed by a silent and a live auction.

We are counting on you to support this event.  
The Auction Committee

*If you have an item for donation, please contact  
Bernie Hawes (Donations Chair) at 437-1860 or [bhawes1@cox.net](mailto:bhawes1@cox.net)*

## Baskets Needed

I need your baskets (and it's not for making bonnets, I promise). If anyone has empty baskets they would like to donate to the Auction Committee, please drop them at the church with my name on them. They can be any size, but the bigger the better (like the sort that fruit baskets arrive in, or gift baskets). Some of us have these saved in our basements and have wondered what we are saving them for? Here is your chance to give them all away and to a good cause.

Thank you,  
Kathleen Larsen



The calendar for May 2008  
as it appeared on page 12 and 13 of the newsletter  
can be found in a separate document  
on the calendar page of the website.

In addition, the **church's on-line calendar** can also be  
accessed either through the home page of the website or from  
the calendar page.

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the calendar page.

### **New e-mail addresses**

As you've been reading this newsletter you may have noticed that we have some new e-mail addresses. They are

[office@bccucc.org](mailto:office@bccucc.org)

[jeff@bccucc.org](mailto:jeff@bccucc.org)

[elizabeth@bccucc.org](mailto:elizabeth@bccucc.org)

[christine@bccucc.org](mailto:christine@bccucc.org)

[pat@bccucc.org](mailto:pat@bccucc.org)

[andrea@bccucc.org](mailto:andrea@bccucc.org)

You can now e-mail us either at the addresses above or at our Full Channel e-mail addresses.

### **A message from the *Pastor Parish Relations Team***

The team is charged with dealing with the concerns of the ministers, the staff and the congregation. They meet on a regular basis with Jeff and Elizabeth. As a member of the congregation, this is a place where you can share any concerns you may have.

The PPRT next meets on Tuesday, May 20 at 7:00 p.m.

Feel free to contact any member of the Ministry Team at anytime.

Phyllis Buckley 245-1098

Lynne Lehman 289-0101

Jim McCartney 245-3288 chair

Sharon Sylvester 247-4532

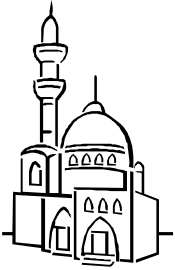
## **THANK YOU FOR WEARING YOUR NAMETAG !**



Many are getting into the habit of wearing their nametag for church each Sunday and continuing to wear it though coffee hour. **THANK YOU!, THANK YOU!, THANK YOU!!** It is much appreciated by the ministers, the congregation and our visitors.

New nametags were made for everyone whose name appears in our new church directory. If you haven't yet picked up your new nametag, the box of the printed inserts is on the table in the vestry—you just need to find yours in the box then choose which holder you want—string, clip or pin—and help yourself. If a nametag hasn't been made for you, or yours is lost or damaged, please fill out the sheet on the table or call the church office at 246-0111 to request a new one be made.

To further assist everyone, the nametags also indicate if the person is a church officer or is serving on a ministry team. New inserts will be made for those who need them following the annual meeting on April 27<sup>th</sup>.



# The Islamic Mystique: Fact and Fiction

**Temple Habonim**

165 New Meadow Road, Barrington

**Tuesday, May 6 7 p.m.**



FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

**Ms. Linda Funsch**, lecturer and Middle East historian, will explore Islam, a religious ethos embraced by one-fifth of the world's population, from a historical perspective, including its scientific and intellectual legacy, the role of women, the rise of *Islamism* in the modern age, and its relations with other faiths and cultures. She will examine protracted periods of coexistence, tolerance, and cooperation between Jews, Christians, and Muslims throughout the Islamic domain, as a way of offering hope for peace between the three great Abrahamic faiths in the future.

Lecture and book signing by award-winning author, educator and long-time advocate for underserved children

**JONATHAN KOZOL**

**Saturday, June 7, 2008**

**3:00 p.m.**

**St. Andrew's School, Federal Road, Barrington**

Free and open to the public. **\*Reservations are required.**

\*Call St. John's Episcopal Church at 245-4065 or St. Andrew's School at 246-1230.

A question and answer forum and a book signing will follow Kozol's presentation.

Jonathan Kozol's passion and advocacy for children are expressed in the books he has written over the last four decades. In 1968 he was the recipient of the National Book Award in Science, Philosophy and Religion for *Death at an Early Age*. Additional books include *Rachel and Her Children* (Robert F. Kennedy Award winner), *Savage Inequalities* (winner of the Conscience in Media Award of the American Society of Journalists and Authors, New England Book Award, and a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award), *Amazing Grace* (winner of the Anisfield-Wolf Award), *Ordinary Resurrections*, *The Shame of the Nation* (2005) and *Letters to a Young Teacher* (2007).

*"Inner-city children are more isolated racially than they have been at any time since 1954, when the federal courts handed down their landmark decision in Brown v. Board of Education"*

writes Jonathan Kozol in his latest book *The Shame of the Nation*.

## From your Social Action and Justice Ministry Team....

There are several issues of concern coming before the Rhode Island General Assembly in the next few weeks. Your Social Action and Justice Ministry Team would like to keep you aware of some of them.

The SA&JMT encourages you to write to your RI state senator and representative and ask them to support S2629 / H7884, the Rhode Island Global Warming Solutions Act, because it will ...

- Empower us as a people to practice mindful stewardship of creation
- Make special provisions to protect the poor from the worst effects of global warming
- Reduce increases in the rates of asthma and a variety of insect-borne illnesses
- Cut greenhouse pollution in Rhode Island 20% by 2020 and 80% by 2050

For more information visit [www.riipl.org](http://www.riipl.org) (Rhode Island Interfaith Power and Light).

◦

As the state budget works its way through the General Assembly, a good source for helping to analyze the discussion is The Poverty Institute of Rhode Island at their website [www.povertyinstitute.org](http://www.povertyinstitute.org). The Poverty Institute is a respected authority on the issues impacting the economic vitality of both our residents and our state. The Institute is the only organization in Rhode Island that analyzes tax and budget policies on behalf of low-income populations. The Poverty Institute works closely with several statewide coalitions, committees, and community groups, like One Rhode Island, to make lasting change. These partnerships have helped improve economic security and opportunities for low-income people in the state.

◦

Legislation on marriage equality is making it's way through the General Assembly. To keep abreast of their progress go the Marriage Equality Rhode Island site: [www.marriageequalityri.org](http://www.marriageequalityri.org). MERI is a grassroots movement that seeks legal recognition of same-sex couples through civil marriage in Rhode Island. It is through MERI that our Conference Open and Affirming Task Force works to bring about marriage equality in Rhode Island.



Beyond Our Walls (BOW) sends volunteers from a number of different Barrington churches to volunteer at Habitat for Humanity on the **4th Saturday of every month**. So whether you're 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.

Work parties for the remainder of 2008 have been scheduled for the following dates:

May 24, June 28, July 26, August 23, September 27, October 25,  
November 22 and December 27, 2008. *Mark these dates on your calendar.*



A typical work party starts on site at 8:30 a.m. and usually finishes up mid-afternoon. If you are interested in participating or have questions, please contact Rich Simpson of BCCUCC (247-1005 or [rts.ri@cox.net](mailto:rts.ri@cox.net)) or David Renner of BOW at [daverenner@cox.net](mailto:daverenner@cox.net). There are limits to how many people Habitat can accommodate, so if you are interested, please be sure to sign up as soon as possible. If you want more information about Habitat Providence, visit their web site at <http://www.habitatprov.org>

## The Community Soup Kitchen has moved....

....to Park Place Congregational UCC, 71 Park Place, Pawtucket. Park Place is in a great location, right in the center of Pawtucket, and is on a bus route. It has a nice big kitchen with an adjoining dining area, almost twice as large as at the previous location. Park Place has volunteers there to open and close up each week.



BCCUCC is scheduled to provide meals at the soup kitchen on May 24, July 12, August 30, October 18 and December 6, 2008. *Is there a date when you can help?* To volunteer, contact **BCCUCC's new Soup Kitchen Coordinator, Caroline Halliwell** at (774) 565-0508 or (401) 787-4223 (cell) or [cchalliwell@mac.com](mailto:cchalliwell@mac.com)

### HELP NEEDED FOR SOUP KITCHEN ON MAY 24<sup>TH</sup>

There are a variety of ways in which you can help:

- Provide a main dish (either make one—you will be given a simple recipe to use—or purchase something such as a large lasagna from Sam's Club).
- Provide a dessert (brownies, cookies or other finger dessert).
- Donate fruit.
- Serve at the soup kitchen. Volunteers carpool from BCCUCC around 3 p.m. and return by 6 p.m.
- Cooks that aren't going to the soup kitchen should drop off their items at the church by 3 p.m. All main dishes should be delivered to the church hot.

Congregation members willing to do any of the above **on May 24<sup>th</sup>** should contact Caroline Halliwell (see contact information above)

Barrington Congregational Church,  
UCC will be hosting a .....

# Blood DRIVE

on Thursday, May 29<sup>th</sup>  
from 2:30 – 7:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall

We will need some servers and many bakers to provide refreshments for the blood donors. To volunteer to help, call Dave Gregory at 246-1294.



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

General guidelines for blood donors:

- at least 17 years old and at least 110 pounds
- no upper age limit
- diabetes and high blood pressure may not prevent you from being a blood donor
- piercings or tattoos do not prevent you from donating
- most medications are acceptable
- eat well and stay hydrated before donating
- one pint of blood can help to save three lives

To make an appointment online, go to [www.ribc.org](http://www.ribc.org), click on the eDonor link and set up an appointment using Sponsor Code 1562. However, an appointment isn't necessary—you can just stop by.

Give the gift of life – give blood

## ONGOING COLLECTIONS FOR THOSE IN NEED



**Men's Clothing** for  
*The George Hunt Help Center*, in Providence.

Men's shirts, jeans, trousers, jackets, hats, sweaters, shoes, sneakers, and belts are always popular—but all clean men's clothing in good condition is accepted. **Toiletries** are also always needed. *Collection box in the Vestry Hallway.*

**Canned food items**  
for *Tap In* located here in Barrington.

*Collection bins in the Narthex* (where the greeters stand).



Dishes belonging to church members have once again accumulated in the kitchen of the education building. They have been placed on top of the microwave by the back door. Please claim any belonging to you and take them home. Those remaining will be given away. Thank you.



# ★ Thank You! ★ THANK YOU! ★

...to Chris Brady, Lois McCartney, Art Edgette, Susan Short, Pat Humphrey, Moyne Cubbage, Cheryl Muth, Susan Rotblat-Walker, Gabi Sclafani, Meghan Kiley, and Bill DeWitt for leading worship on Laity Sunday, March 30<sup>th</sup>

...to Susan and Francis Seader, Lori and Charles McCoy, Phyllis Buckley, Steve and Marion Fodor, Keith Strickland and Jeff Larsen who were the adult chaperones for the Mission Trip to Biloxi with the 27 youth. Many of these adults used their vacation time in order to go on the mission trip and we thank them for their commitment to our youth.

...to the April teachers of Church School and FaithWorks: Leslie Peck, Francis Seader, Mary and Bill DeWitt, Holly Ogden, Ben White, Zach Luther, Mary Louise Gamache, Sandy Miniati, Camilla and Andrew Hemingway, Van Edwards, Greg Voigt, and Lisa Browning

...to Jeanne Fulford and Dorothy Muth for all the work they did in preparation for the Rev. Charles McCullough's visit to BCCUCC on April 20<sup>th</sup>

...to Sharon Sylvester, Ann Wood and Lily Sylvester (of the Social Action and Justice Ministry Team) for decorating the sanctuary so beautifully on April 20<sup>th</sup> for Earth Day

...to the family of Harold Gallant for donating a birthday cake for coffee hour on March 30<sup>th</sup> in celebration of Harold's 80<sup>th</sup> birthday

...to Louise House who has been returning all the nametags to the racks in the vestry each week

...to Boy Scout Troop 6 for all of the clean-up work they did around the church on Saturday, April 12<sup>th</sup>, including the preparation of the south side of the church so that new landscaping can be done

...to everyone who contributed to the Holy Joe's Café project. With your donations, we were able to send \$258.00 worth of Fair Trade coffee (that's enough for 4,500 cups of coffee!) to our chaplains in Iraq and Afghanistan to help them provide coffee and a safe place for our troops

...to everyone who has donated or loaned items to Elizabeth for the Nathaniel Road parsonage. She's very grateful and is no longer requesting any items.

*Now there are a variety of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. 1 Corinthians 12:4-6*



## May We Help You?

Our Sanctuary is handicapped accessible by using the elevette to get upstairs. An elevette operator is on duty every Sunday to assist.

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.

Large print copies of the bulletin and hymns are available every Sunday morning from the ushers. Hearing assists are also available for those who need them at every worship service. Be sure to ask an usher if you need either.



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



## NEWS FROM THE CONFERENCE

Check out the new RI Conference website at [www.ricucc.org](http://www.ricucc.org)

### THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE RHODE ISLAND CONFERENCE

**Saturday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>** Hope Congregational UCC, 120 Wampanoag Trail, East Providence

Keynote Speaker: The Rev. Nick Carter, President of Andover Newton Theological School.

Installation of the Rev. Kelly Thibeault as Associate Conference Minister will take place during the afternoon worship.

Visitors are welcome to attend in addition to the delegates. Registration deadline was April 21<sup>st</sup>—contact the Conference office at 724-7700 to see if it's too late to register.

## SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION

The RI Conference of the UCC is offering the following summer camps at Irons Homestead this summer:

- a Grandparents Weekend for Grandparents and their Grandchildren
- a Family weekend
- a weeklong Adventure Camp for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade youth



The dates and details about the camps as well as the registration forms are available at the RICUCC website at [www.ricucc.org](http://www.ricucc.org). Click on the Outdoor Ministries page.

If you are looking for different camp opportunities, there are now links on the Outdoor Ministry page of the RICUCC website for other New England Conference Camping programs.

**ATTENTION CHURCH MEMBERS AND FRIENDS**  
**What do you think about an On-Line Church Directory?**

We last had photographs taken for a professional church photo directory three years ago in the Spring of 2005. Since then, we've had a number of changes in church staff (including both ministers) as well as new faces in the pews, so we're looking into various options for a **new photo directory**.

In addition to a new printed photo directory, the photography companies also provide an **on-line photo directory** which would be accessible through our church website. Security of directory information has always been a concern, and one company we are considering provides each family with their own unique user name and password to access the directory—providing a higher level of security. In addition, every family can edit what information does or does not get included in the on-line directory (including the photo and children's names).

We have often been asked in the church office why we don't have the church directory on our website as many church members would find it very useful. Our reply is that until it could be put up in a secured way, Church Council would not approve such a thing. It appears that the security issue has been addressed by at least one photography company (LifeTouch) making it safe to consider including such an on-line directory on our church website. You can find out more and see an example of the on-line directory as well as the printed photo directory that we are considering at [www.lifetouch.com](http://www.lifetouch.com)—click on 'Church Directories'

We are trying to ascertain if there are church families who would not want to be included in a secure on-line directory, and if so, how many? Please take a couple of minutes to complete the slip below and return to the church office so we have some idea. If we don't hear from you, we'll assume you like the idea and have no objections to being included in an on-line directory.

Please note that even if you choose not to get your photo taken for any reason, your information could still be included in an on-line directory.

■ ■

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.. I would... .. I would not... ..like the church to have an on-line directory

I would NOT want the following information to be included for me/my family

- .. Entire profile      .. Photo                      .. Children's names
- .. Address                      .. Phone number      .. E-mail address

Name .....

Please return completed slip to the church office. Results are for survey purposes only.



Our church member "handyman" has helped out a number of church members and is still willing to donate his services by doing odd jobs around the house or yard. Church members that are in need, either financially or physically, are welcome to call the church office at 246-0111 for more information.

Please inform us 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 Jeff or Elizabeth directly or leave a confidential message on their voice mail at 246-0111 ext. 103 (Jeff) or 246-0111 ext 104 (Elizabeth).



You can also e-mail them directly at [jeff@bccucc.org](mailto:jeff@bccucc.org) or [elizabeth@bccucc.org](mailto:elizabeth@bccucc.org).

## Letters from our mailbox

Dear Friends,

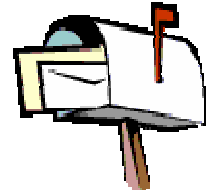
Jeff and I both thank you all for your kind words, lovely plants and beautiful cards after the sudden death of my Godchild Morgan during Holy Week. I so missed being here on Easter Sunday but knew that we were in each others hearts as we were supporting family in Baltimore.

Thank you,  
Kathleen Larsen

Dear Barrington Congregational Church,

I want to thank you very much for allowing me and my boy scout troop to use the church social hall for my Eagle Scout project. Allowing us to use the hall made my project a success.

Yours truly,  
Ethan Selinger  
Troop 6, Barrington



Thank you to those church members/friends who gave of their time to share life experiences from WWII with 7th grade Barrington Middle School students. Through their emotional stories during that time in our nation's history, the children were given a wonderful opportunity to bring learning to life.

A special thanks to:

Roland and Marjorie Stumpff  
Jeanne Fulford  
John and Margaret Wheeler  
Barbara Ward  
Janet Colby

Thanks,  
Lynn Blanchard-Caesar

# Family Footnotes

## Baptisms

*Laura Jo Cook*



Baptized down by the river prior  
to her confirmation on April 6



Congratulations to the  
following youth who  
were confirmed on  
April 6, 2008

*Ben Caesar Mackenzie Cater*  
*Scott Clemens Laura Jo Cook*  
*Emma Edwards Kelly Gamache*  
*Kelsey Hoyt Faith Jean*  
*Bridgett McCoy Cate Todd*  
*Molly Voigt Erik Weber*

## NEW MEMBERS

Joined April 30, 2008

*Elizabeth Barnum*  
*Lisa and Chuck Bohner*  
*Carolyn Gammell*  
*Douglas and Jane Tonn*



## BIRTHS

*Lainey Grace Cormack*

born March 26, 2008

to Carrie and Marc Cormack in Charleston, SC  
Granddaughter to Jeff and Kathleen Larsen

*Nora Indigo Schall*

born March 30, 2008

to Abe Schall and Camilla Clark  
Granddaughter to Helen and Joe Schall

*Luke David Short*

born April 5, 2008

to Susan Short and John Karl



May Smith; Zoe Woodruff; Mary Hanchar;  
Liz White's aunt, Barbara Barnard;  
Kate Colby's cousin Megan;  
and Sue Terhune's mother-in-law.



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

Lisa Holby on the death of her father;  
Pat Rude on the death of her brother-in-law;  
and to the family of Thomas J. Birch.

Barrington Congregational Church  
United Church of Christ.  
461 County Road  
Barrington, RI 02806  
Telephone: (401) 246-0111  
Fax: (401) 246-7825  
e-mail address: [office@bccucc.org](mailto:office@bccucc.org)  
website: [www.bccucc.org](http://www.bccucc.org)



Senior Minister:	The Rev. Dr. Jeffrey W. Larsen
Associate Minister:	The Rev. Elizabeth D. Barnum
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

### *Our Mission Statement*

*The Barrington Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, is a Christian community that worships God, embraces all people, ministers to one another, works for justice and peace, and renders loving service to God's world.*