


March 2010

THE WHITE CHURCH



BRIDGE

Dear Friends,

Worship on one of the Sundays in Lent is going to be an offering of a different kind of experience than you are used to. On March 14 our choir will be singing John Rutter's *Requiem* during the service, which will consume over half of our hour long time. It is a wonderful work that is very appropriate for this season and we are very excited to share it with you.

Those who grew up in the Catholic tradition will be more familiar with this music and this style of worship than we Protestants are. Rutter wrote this in 1985 and it has many dissonant chords which set a sensory tone for the time of Lent, and which are very popular in modern choral music. Parts of it were first sung at a Presbyterian Church in Sacramento, California and the whole work was first done at a Methodist Church in Dallas, Texas. Most of it will be sung in Latin but the English translation will be in your bulletin.

John Rutter is considered one of the outstanding composers and arrangers of our day. He lives in Cambridge, England. By his own admission Rutter is "not a particularly religious person but "deeply spiritual and inspired by the spirituality of sacred verses and prayers." (from a *60 Minutes* interview in 2003) the death of his college-age son, Christopher, inspired one of his most popular pieces, *Mass of the Children*.

Marina and I, and the entire choir, hope you will enjoy this different form of worship and let it deepen your own Lenten reflective time.

God's peace to you all,



Sunday Services in March



March 7	10 a.m.	Worship Service with Communion Church School
March 14	10 a.m.	Worship Service with Rutter's <i>Requiem</i> , Church School
March 21	10 a.m.	Worship Service with Bells, Church School
March 28		<i>Palm Sunday and New Member Sunday</i>
	10 a.m.	Worship Service with the Sing and Celebrate Choir and Reception of New Members, Church School

Church School for Pre-School through Grade 8

Child Care Available

Handicapped Accessible



Remember to
turn your clocks
ahead one hour
when you go to
bed on

Saturday, March 13th

- otherwise you'll be late for
church the next day!



Sunday, March 14

**REQUIEM
by John Rutter
at the 10 a.m.
worship service.**

DEACONS FOR MARCH

Abby Randazzo (star deacon),
Chris Brady, Marshall Hoyler,
Francis Seader and Susan Seader

*In the event of a pastoral emergency
after hours, if you cannot reach
Jeff (247-1787 home) or
Elizabeth (245-3467 home)
please call on one of the deacons.*

NEW MEMBER SUNDAY

**On Palm Sunday, March 28th at the
10:00 a.m. service we look forward to
receiving new members into this
church.**

**Please join us and welcome those
who become members.**

**Interested in joining our
church? See page 8.**



From our Associate Minister



“*Meet us in the shadows*”
~ from Before the Amen

As people of faith, this is our prayer for Lent. *Meet us in the shadows*. A call to God to be present as we dare to acknowledge the shadow side of our lives. Of course, the irony of such requests and pleas is that God is always present with us, even when we don't think we can feel it.

For centuries, theologians, authors, playwrights, psychologists, and self-help gurus have tried to explain the shadow side. Name it what you will – the dark side, evil, sin, negative, fault, hubris, transgression, cloud, iniquity. The shadow side is part of our human condition no matter how deeply we witness God's love at work in the world.

Lent is the time of the Christian liturgical year when we explore the stories of our tradition that exhibit humanity's experience of and capacity for both shadow and light. Not a cheery topic, especially for those of us who prefer the warm-fuzzy stuff over the cold-prickly stuff! But we have amazing resources in our faith that buoy us up so that we don't drown in the turbulent waters and that keep the fires in our lives flickering, if not burning bright.

We often posit shadow with its opposite, light, and say that light is good and shadow is bad. More and more, I try to resist a strict either/or understanding of good/bad and right/wrong. In my view, life is so much more fascinating and people are so much more interesting when we are curious about the interplay between light and shadow, the presence of both in each and every one of us, and the dance between the light and the dark. Just watch children chasing one another's shadows on a playground or a puppy frightened or excited by its own shadow or the amazing hues and shades of the landscape when day turns to dusk then to night and back again to morning. We meet one another in all these moments.

And perhaps this is the more difficult challenge - to *meet one another in the shadows* and experience God there with us, believing and knowing that we are whole and loved despite it all, in the midst of it all.

In the light & shadow,

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



PALM SUNDAY– MARCH 28TH



Holy Week begins with the **Palm Sunday Service** at **10:00 a.m.** and the green eco-palms will be distributed.

This is also **New Member Sunday** so the service will include the reception of new members. If you are interested in joining our church, see page 8.

2

HOLY WEEK REFLECTIONS

MORNINGS

7:00—7:15 a.m. Mon.-Fri., March 29-April 2 in the Library.

During this time of reflection **Rev. Jeff Larsen** will give a word for the day, provide coffee, and will finish in time for you to head off to work or school. All are welcome to come for this 'quiet time' at the start of their day.

EVENINGS

7:00 – 8:00 p.m. Mon., Tues. & Wed., March 29, 30 & 31 in the Library

Facilitated by **Rev. Elizabeth Barnum**, these sessions will include a time to gather, discussion, and closing time for prayer.

Reading: **'The Last Week'** by Marcus Borg and John Dominic Crossan
Copies are available for purchase (\$11.20 each) from the church office so participants may read at their leisure prior to the reflection evenings.

Monday, March 29th Discussion of chapters 1, 2 & 3

Tuesday, March 30th Discussion of chapters 4 & 5

Wednesday, March 31st Discussion of chapters 6, 7, & 8

Thursday, April 1st at 7:00 p.m. Join us for the Tenebrae Service in the Sanctuary

2

MAUNDY THURSDAY—APRIL 1ST



A **Tenebrae Service** will be held in the Sanctuary at **7:00 p.m.** The deacons and clergy will lead this worship service in which the story of Jesus' passion and suffering will be read, with candles extinguished one by one. The service also includes communion and music. All are invited to deepen their experience of the resurrection by living through the passion and death of Christ in this contemplative service.

2

GOOD FRIDAY—APRIL 2ND

Noon: Ecumenical Good Friday Service at **St. John's Episcopal Church**, 191 County Road, Barrington (located opposite the Barrington Shopping Center). All are welcome to attend this annual service sponsored by the Barrington Clergy Association. The Rev. Jeff Larsen will be participating.



2

EASTER SUNDAY SERVICES—APRIL 4TH



Easter Sunday begins with a **6:15 a.m. Sunrise Ecumenical Communion Service** at **Osamequin Point*** off the Wampanoag Trail, sponsored by several of the Barrington churches. All are invited.

*located 1.1 miles north of the church on the Wampanoag Trail (Route 114).

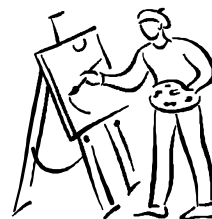
At **9:15 a.m.** and **11:00 a.m.** there will be **Worship Services for all Ages** in the sanctuary of BCCUCC, featuring preaching by the Rev. Jeffrey Larsen, a children's message, and music from the organ, brass and the church's adult choir at both services. Nursery care will also be provided at both services

Following the 9:15 a.m. service only, there will be an **Easter Egg hunt** for children in PreK—2nd Grade. Children are asked to bring a basket to collect the eggs that they find.



SPECIAL LENTEN ART PROGRAMS

We have been given permission by the artist to use for our Lenten theme this year the “Seven Deadly Sins” series painted by Jamie Wyeth. This very powerful set of images is being used on our weekly bulletin covers and is also on display in Fellowship Hall. A series of events has been created around this season and all are invited. Perhaps you have friends who would be interested?



Lenten Series: “The Seven Deadly Sins”

Sunday, February 28 – theme: “Gluttony”

From 11:00 – 12:00 following worship there will be an art show of parishioner’s works in Fellowship Hall (both adult and children’s work)

Sunday, March 7 – theme: “Anger”

Sunday, March 14 – theme: “Sloth”

Choir will sing John Rutter’s *Requiem* during worship.

Showing of a 30 minute film interviewing artist Jamie Wyeth after worship.

Sunday, March 21 – theme: “Inferno”

After worship Easter bonnets will be made as a Mission Trip fundraiser.

Sunday, March 28 – Palm Sunday, theme: “Greed”

Lenten Lollapalooza for all ages after worship (see below)

Sunday, April 4 – Easter, theme: “Pride” at 9:15 AM & 11:00 AM services



Lenten Lollapalooza for all ages!

CEYM is hosting a Lenten Lollapalooza on

Palm Sunday, March 28th

after church in Fellowship Hall.

Adults and children of all ages are invited to join them in making palm crosses, pretzels and various other seasonal crafts.

Adult Education — *Living the Questions*

The *Living the Questions* DVD & discussion series continues and all are invited to participate in as many or as few of the sessions as they like. Gather in the **Library** between 11:15 and 11:30 a.m. Sessions begin by 11:30 a.m. and conclude at approx. 12:30 p.m. The schedule is:

Feb. 28 th	Prayer: Intimacy with God <i>Facilitator: Elizabeth Barnum</i>
March 7 th & 14 th	No Sessions
March 21 st	Compassion: The Heart of Jesus' Ministry <i>Facilitator: Dick McWhirter</i>
March 28 th	No Session
April 4 th	EASTER
April 11 th	Creative Transformation & Embracing Mystery <i>Facilitator: TBA</i>



The Women's Faith Group



They will meet **March 4th and 18th** from **10—11:30 a.m.** in **Room 6** to continue their study of *Take This Bread* by Sara Miles.

The group welcomes all women from BCCUCC as well as from other churches and faith traditions. For more information contact Carol Louttit at 245-2299 or chl2299@aol.com, or Nancy Martin at 273-1078 or nancy.martin3@verizon.net

UCC Women Leaders of New England CELEBRATION VIII.

“Together Building Bridges”

The event will be held **March 12 – 14, 2010**, headquartered at the Sheraton Hotel and Conference Center, Burlington, VT. If you haven't yet registered and you want to attend, go on line to <http://www.uccwomenscelebration.org> or contact the registrar, Eileen Lovett at (401) 434 5217 or by e-mail to eslovett@msn.com.

Don't forget to also make reservations at The Sheraton, The Holiday Inn, or The Best Western. Ask for the New England Women's Celebration VIII special rate.

Got questions? Call Coordinator, Susan Waldron 860-923-2887 swaldron01@snet.net or speak to Susan Rotblat-Walker in our congregation 253-8969 or Susan.Walker@ride.ri.gov





**Become
Part of
Our
Church
Family**

Interested in learning more about our church, or maybe even thinking about becoming a member?

Then please join Jeff, Elizabeth and the Deacons at

“CONVERSATIONS ABOUT OUR CHURCH”

Sunday, March 7th

11:20 a.m.—12:15 p.m. Room 6

This informational session is open to all who are new to our church family (as well as to anyone who may have been coming for some time but would like to learn more) – to help you understand a little more about our history, why we do things the way we do, and what we believe. It is a wonderful chance to meet other new faces. Please come!

The session will also serve as preparation for anyone who wants to officially become a member of this church on New Member Sunday, March 28th at our 10 a.m. service. While we’d love it if you decide to join our church we know that for some it is not the right time. So please note that attendance at the “Conversations” in no way commits you to becoming a member.

Please let the church office know if you plan to attend by calling or e-mailing us at 246-0111 or office@bccucc.org. Child care will be provided if you let us know ahead of time that it is needed. The session will be very informal so older children are welcome to sit in if they wish.

So whether you’re just interested in learning more about us or you know that you’d like to become a member of our church, we invite you to attend this session.

SERVICE OF HEALING AND HOPE

Wednesday, March 24, 7:00 p.m.

Riverside Congregational Church, UCC,

15 Oak Street, Riverside, RI

Rev. Gene Dyszlewski



Offering a Taizé service in the Reformed tradition from the ecumenical monastic Taizé community. The Taizé retreat center located in the Burgundy region of France, is known for its songs and prayers and is a favorite destination for pilgrims, even from Rhode Island.

CHURCH ATTENDANCE

January 24 – 203

January 31 – 178

February 7 – 215

February 14 – 127

February 21 – 211

Help support our 15 high school youth and 7 adults going on the Mission Trip in April to work with the Appalachia Service Project. Purchase tickets for the..



Pasta Dinner

Sunday, March 7th

5 — 7 p.m. Fellowship Hall

All proceeds benefit the Mission Trip to West Virginia in April, 2010

Tickets on sale at Coffee Hour
or from the church office during the week

Adult \$8

Child (under 12) \$5

Family Maximum \$25

Advance ticket purchase is appreciated

Tickets also available at the door



The next Battle of the Bands has been tentatively scheduled for Friday, March 19th in Fellowship Hall. Stay tuned for confirmation of the date and more details via word-of-mouth, email, the Sunday bulletin, and announcements!

This will be another fundraiser for the April 2010 Mission Trip to Brenton, West Virginia.



2010 Mission Trip Meetings



Sunday, February 28 from 4-8 p.m.

The group will meet in Fellowship Hall from 4-6 p.m. to make birdhouses for sale as a fundraiser (see article below). There will be pizza and bluegrass music and expert instruction from Francis Seader. From 6-8 p.m. the group will meet in the church library.

Sunday, March 28 from 6-8 p.m. in the church library.

Can you help our Mission Trip?

The senior high youth made a very intentional effort to have fewer fundraisers this year than normal for a "big-trip" year. In addition, some of the fundraisers we have had were intentionally directed at people outside our church community so as not to be "hounding" the same people all the time. BUT...the result has been a decrease in funding to lower the cost per person going. We appeal to you to consider if there is something you might like to "buy" for the young people to help them out? Examples include:

\$500 would rent a van - and we need 3 of them;

\$26 each for admission to Six-Flags on the ride home as a
thank you to the group for their hard work;

\$100 toward the cost of gas;

\$50 to buy journals for our group;

\$75 to buy paint for one of the houses we will work on.



Any consideration would be appreciated. Thank you for supporting this important event.



Spring Birdhouse Sale

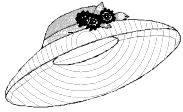
a fundraiser for the 2010 Mission Trip to West Virginia

Saturday, March 27 from **Noon to 5 pm**

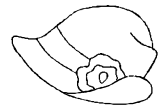
at **Center Ace Hardware Store**, 156 County Road, Barrington.

The Mission Trip participants will be getting together to build birdhouses on Sunday, February 28. If there are any left over from the Saturday sale, they will be sold in Fellowship Hall on Sunday March 28 after church.

The supplies for the birdhouses were generously donated by Arnold Lumber Co. of Bristol.



Easter Bonnets for Sale



Back by popular demand - handmade and custom designed Easter Bonnets.

Do wear an Easter Bonnet to Church on Easter Sunday.

Do not buy it at Kohl's, Target or Nordstrom's.

Do let a Mission Tripper custom design a bonnet just for you at coffee hour on Sunday March 21st. (We are doing it earlier this year so that you can buy your dress to match your bonnet.)

Support the youth of our church on their Mission Trip to Appalachia in West Virginia and purchase a hand made Easter Bonnet. Be the first in our town to have one of these delightful creations. You will not see these sold anywhere else. These bonnets will be available for sale at coffee hour on Sunday March 21st.

Buy one pre-made or design your own. Come join us for a little fun as we continue to raise monies for this very important trip.

Cost of each bonnet will be a \$20.00 donation.

Check out some of the bonnets made in 2008 and see how much fun everyone had both making and wearing them! Go to the 'View Recent Photos' page of the church website www.bccucc.org and scroll down until you find 'Easter Bonnets 2008' and click on it to view the photos.

Keep those supplies coming!

Thank you to everyone who has already brought in supplies to make the Easter Bonnets but more are still needed. Please continue to bring in...

.....all of your comic pages from the Sunday papers from now until March 21....

.....as well as any extra ribbons, bows, silk or plastic flowers etc. to decorate the brims.

Funny pages and decorations can be put in the specially labeled boxes at the back of Fellowship Hall or dropped off at the church office and marked Mission Trip.



Pew pencils are for use on Doodle Cards, Children's Bulletins or other paper - not on the pew backs! Please remind and encourage your children to help keep our historic property clean and in good condition. Thank you.

Godly Play Story Schedule for March 2010

March 7 th	Faces of Easter 1 & 2:	Jesus' Birth & Growth, Jesus is Lost & Found
March 14 th	Faces of Easter 3 & 4:	Jesus' Baptism & Blessing by God, Jesus' Desert & Discovery Experience
March 21 st	Faces of Easter 5 & 6:	Jesus as Healer & Parable-Maker, Jesus Offers the Bread & Cup
March 28 th	Faces of Easter 7:	The One Who Was Easter & Still Is



CHURCH SCHOOL IN MARCH

March 7	PreK—Gd 8 leave after communion for Church School
March 14	PreK—Gd 8 have Church School from 10 a.m. until 11:10 a.m.
March 21 & 28	PreK—Gd 8 leave after children's message for Church School

Children are reminded that if they wish to make an **offering** they should bring it to church and take it forward with them for the Children's Time. Two gold boxes will be in the altar area for them to place their offering—either as loose money or in a special children's offering envelope available from the Narthex table as they come into church.

Upcoming Confirmation Classes

Sunday, March 14 th	11:30 - 12:30 Confirmation Class, Room 6
Sunday, March 28 th	4:00 p.m. Confirmands attend the Regina Berenback Memorial Lecture (see page 17)



Watch your e-mail for more details. And please make sure that your calendars are marked for Confirmation Sunday, May 2nd.



United Church of Christ New England Regional Youth Event

Inside Out – Outside In: Finding Our Way in God's World

For high school aged UCC youth who will be entering 9th grade in Fall 2010 through those who graduated in June 2010 to be held on the campus of Boston University, **June 24-27, 2010**. The cost will be \$350.00 per person.

A group of youth from the Rhode Island Conference U.C.C. are planning to go. This is your last chance to let Elizabeth Barnum know you might like to participate! Please email or call her ASAP.

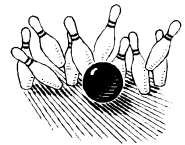


JUNIOR PILGRIM FELLOWSHIP (JPF)
All youth in grades 6-8 are welcome to participate

Friday, March 5: **Baking** for the Pasta Dinner Fundraiser for the Mission Trip (which will be held on Sunday, March 7). As in the past, the Mission Trip group has asked the JPF to help supply **desserts** for their fundraiser. They will meet at the home of Leslie Peck, **5 Miller Street, Barrington**, from **7 p.m.-10.p.m.** to do some baking and watch a movie. A movie has yet to be selected, but you can be sure it will be appropriate for JPF.



Saturday, March 20: **Rock 'n Bowl** at Dudek's Bowling Alley in Warren. Meet at BCC at **7:45 p.m.** Bowling is from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. Please plan on bringing \$12 to cover the cost of shoe rentals and bowling for two hours, plus additional money for snacks. We will be returning to the BCC parking lot at **10:15 p.m.** for pick up. Please RSVP for this event by March 15, so we can get a count on how many lanes we'll need.



Youth interested in participating in any JrPF event should contact Leslie Peck at 245-1820 or PeckMarketing@cox.net.

Coming up in April:

Good Friday (no school), April 2: Plastic Easter Egg candy stuffing for Easter Egg hunt on Easter Sunday. Meet in Fellowship Hall at the church. Please arrive at 4 p.m., when we're done, we'll have pizza. Pick up should be around 6 p.m.

EASTER EGG HIDING AND HUNT



There will be an Easter egg hiding session Easter morning at 8:30 a.m. Please see Andrea Bullard if you would like to help with this fun activity. A special treat will be offered when we are finished hiding the eggs!

There will be an Easter egg hunt for PreK through second graders following the 9:15 service. Please bring a basket!



Need a nametag?

Sign up for one on the sheet under the nametag rack in the vestry hallway, or at the membership table in Fellowship Hall. Please remember to wear your nametag for both worship and coffee hour. Drop it in one of the baskets when you leave and find it back on the nametag rack the following week.

*The March 2010 calendar as found on pages 14-15,
can be found on the Calendar page of the church website
www.bccucc.org*

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can be found on the Calendar page of the church website
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CAN WE TALK?

FREE PROGRAM for PARENTS



Talking to your children as they get older, especially about tough stuff, can sometimes seem impossible.

"Can We Talk?" is a free workshop offered to **parents and guardians of youth ages 8 to 14.**

It will be held at the **Barrington Public Library**, 281 County Road in Barrington
on **Wednesdays, March 24 and 31** from **7-8:30 p.m.**

Attendance at both sessions is required and at the end of the second session, all parent/guardians who attend will receive a \$25 gift card to Stop & Shop.

The workshop is designed to help parents/guardians start discussions with their children about the 6 subjects covered in the course:

- bullying, harassment & violence
- self-esteem & emotional health
- internet safety & mixed messages
- alcohol, tobacco & drugs
- puberty, sexuality & health
- pressures, stress & success

More information on the program can be found at www.canwetalkri.org.

To reserve a seat at the workshops, please call Stephanie Marro at 401-455-3890, or 401 455-3880 ext 252.

Can We Talk? RI is a project of Capital City Community Centers and is funded by the RI Department of Health, Office of HIV/AIDS & Viral Hepatitis.

If you expect your child will _____, it is more likely he/she will _____.

You fill in the blanks. Parental expectations have a great impact on children's behavior. Use your power to effect positive behaviors by saying:

- * "I expect you will do your best in all that you do."
- * "I expect that you will always buckle your seatbelt."
- * "I expect you will find healthy ways to be yourself without using alcohol or other drugs."

Expecting that your children will not use illegal substances is the first step to ensuring that they won't.

Parenting for Prevention Tip #18 — kindly offered by the BAY Team
Barrington's community coalition to prevent substance abuse www.thebayteam.org

From Your Justice and Witness Ministry Team.....

4th Annual

Regina F. Berenback Memorial Lecture for Social Action and Justice

DATE: Sunday, March 28, 2010

Time: 4:00 pm

WHERE: Fellowship Hall, Barrington Congregational Church, UCC

SPONSOR: Justice and Witness Ministry Team of BCCUCC

TOPIC: "Enacting the Lively Experiment: How Diversity Has Driven the Rhode Island Economy Past, Present and Future"

GUEST SPEAKER: Keith W. Stokes, Executive Director, Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation.

Keith W. Stokes was appointed by Governor Carcieri to his present position in January 2010. He is also Chairman of the Board of the Quonset Development Corporation, as well as the Slater Technology Fund. Mr. Stokes was the Executive Director of the Newport County Chamber of Commerce for over 15 years and worked as Senior Policy Advisor to Rhode Island Governor Bruce Sundlun. Mr. Stokes is also a frequent national, state and local lecturer in community and regional planning, historic preservation and interpretation with an expertise in early African and Jewish American history.

Mr. Stokes is a native of Newport, Rhode Island. He was educated at Cornell University and the University of Chicago. Mr. Stokes has a diverse professional background including business, community planning, historic preservation, and government. He has served his community in many capacities – including as a three-term Newport City Councilman. Mr. Stokes and his wife Theresa have four children.

ADMISSION: This event is **FREE** and open to the community.
All are welcome. Refreshments will be served.
Please support this church event with your attendance.



Collection for Holy Joe's Café during Lent

Once again this Lenten season we are going to be collecting monetary donations for the Holy Joe's Café run by UCC military chaplains. The chaplains invite soldiers in Iraq into a safe and informal place where they can receive spiritual care and good coffee. Last year we collected \$282 for the program and sent 50 pounds of Equal Exchange Coffee to the military chaplains in Baghdad in support of their **Coffee House Ministry**. (In 2008 we had sent 45 pounds of coffee).

Baskets for this donation will be found on the coffee tables during coffee hour in Fellowship Hall during the Lenten season (February 28—March 28). Please be generous in your support of this ministry. Our chaplains are a first line defense against the emotional and psychological issues faced by our troops. Thank you.



"Do you love me?" Feed my Sheep *sharing resources changing lives*

Our congregation will join with other churches and denominations throughout the United States in receiving the One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) offering in March. Thanks to the combined efforts of the UCC Church World Service and eight other denominations, literally millions of dollars are raised and disbursed to needy people throughout the world. This fund touches the lives of refugees, disaster victims, politically suppressed societies, those suffering from human rights injustices, as well as many who suffer from chronic hunger and poverty.

The 2010 theme is "Do you love me? Feed my sheep" inspired by John 21:15-17. OGHS leaflets about this year's campaign and OGHS envelopes will be included in the Sunday worship bulletins on March 14 and 21. However, you don't need an OGHS envelope to make a donation and checks can also be sent directly to the church office. Checks should be made payable to Barrington Congregational Church, UCC, and please mark the memo line "OGHS". Thank you.

Many thanks to everyone at BCCUCC who made a donation for **Haiti relief** following the devastating earthquake there. A total of \$13,203 was collected which included \$1,400 from previously unused funds of Justice & Witness. The money has been sent to the RI Conference Office with the request that half be sent to One Great Hour of Sharing to be used for relief in Haiti, and half go to the RI Conference UCC Haitian Task Force.



Habitat for Humanity Beyond Our Walls (BOW) sends volunteers to Habitat for Humanity on the **4th Saturday of every month.**

So whether you're a novice 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. If you are interested in participating please contact Rich Simpson of BCCUCC (247-1005 or rts.ri@cox.net) or David Renner of BOW at daverenner@cox.net. For more information about Habitat Providence, visit their web site at <http://www.habitatprov.org>

We continue to collect Men's Clothing for *The George Hunt Help Center*, in Providence. Men's shirts, jeans, trousers, jackets, hats, sweaters, winter boots, shoes, sneakers, and belts are always popular—but all clean men's clothing in good condition is accepted. Men's toiletries are also always needed. *Collection box in the Vestry.*

We also collect Canned food items for *Tap In* located here in Barrington. *Collection bins in the Narthex* (where the greeters stand).

If you have a **prayer request**, you are invited to call Kathleen Larsen at 247-1787 or e-mail her at KLarsenswc@hotmail.com who will pass it on to the confidential e-prayer chain.



PPRT

If you have a concern, you are invited to contact a member of the **Pastor Parish Relations Team**. They meet regularly and deal with the concerns of the ministers, the staff and the congregation — so feel free to contact any of the members:

- Jim McCartney (245-3288)
- Phyllis Buckley (245-1098)
- Sharon Sylvester (247-4532)
- Marshall Hoyler (245-1118)
- Laurie Lennon (694-0715)

They next meet on Tuesday, March 23rd.



presents

MOZART REQUIEM

plus music by
Britten, Pärt, Locklair and Tallis
Rhode Island Children's Chorus

Saturday, March 6

8 p.m.

VMA Arts & Cultural Center
Providence

Tickets \$22—\$62

\$12 children and students

Groups of 6+ save \$6 per ticket

Call (401) 421-ARTS or visit
www.ProvidenceSingers.org
for online sales and order forms

or contact *Christine* in the church
office by March 2 to order tickets.

Can You Help? The Stewardship Team is looking for:

1. A creative visionary person that could maintain the bulletin board outside Fellowship hall, updating with pictures of our capital improvements throughout the year, and keep track of pledge statistics that show what pledge totals are and how much has come in throughout the year. The person could even be a high school student for the remainder of the current academic year.



2. A volunteer coordinator that would actively recruit members THIS Spring, to help deliver pledge information to members (to those that do not pick it up at church in October), and would be willing to make follow up phone calls next Fall.

If interested in either of these volunteer opportunities, please contact Lisa Bohner at lcbohner@cox.net or (401) 289-0045

Super Bowl Challenge



Results

Many thanks to everyone who participated in the Super Bowl Challenge on Sunday, February 7th and donated food for our local food pantry, Tap-In. We had challenged Newman and Central Congregational Churches to also collect food on the same day and the results were.....

Central - 298 items (they didn't record the weight)

Newman - 588 lbs

Barrington - 1080 lbs of food!

So Barrington clearly won the competition..... but the real winners are the clients of the various food pantries who will be given the food that they need and that you so generously donated.

Help Us Be Green and Save Money

Thank you to everyone who reads *The Bridge* electronically each month. It can either be read as a pdf that is e-mailed directly to you or at the church's website www.bccucc.org. Let the office know if you're willing to read it on line—and we'll add you to our newsletter e-mail list.



www.bccucc.org

Want to read *Jeff's Weekly* and receive *Ennouncements* on your computer each week?

Then be sure that the church office has your current e-mail address. Simply send an e-mail to office@bccucc.org and put "e-mail address" in the subject line and include your name in the body of the e-mail so we know who you are! Thanks.

GO LOCAL ... a Farmers' & Artisans' Market

We are happy to announce that our church is going to open a Farmers' and Artisans' Market this Spring called GO LOCAL. Here's the scoop:

WHO: We will employ a Market Manager who will be responsible for running the market. I plan to chair a committee which will be made up of church volunteers who will support the operation and provide volunteers to assist the Market Manager.



WHAT: GO LOCAL ... a farmers' and artisans' market is a market for local farmers, artists, and craftspeople to sell their wares. The market will feature local fruits and vegetables, plants and florals, baked goods, cheeses, fine art, quality crafts, hand-made soaps and much more. The major requirement for vendor participation is that the goods sold must be the result of their own effort. No resale items are permitted. All potential vendors must undergo a pre-screening process prior to being invited to participate.

The market will connect local producers with local buyers. When customers shop at GO LOCAL, they will be getting farm-fresh products as well as contributing to the economic vitality of neighboring farms. In addition, they will be supporting local artists and craftspeople. The market will not only have a positive effect on interconnecting local economic relationships but also contribute to healthier eating and promoting positive social engagement in Barrington.

WHEN: We plan to open the market this Spring. Saturday, 9 AM – noon.

WHERE: The market will be on the church grounds.

WHY: There are so many good reasons to start a market. The primary reason is to raise money for our church. All profits (from renting space to vendors) post expenses will be given to the church.

We do need to form a ministry team to support market operations. Specifically we need a finance person, volunteer coordinator, a building and grounds person and publicity person. I will chair the committee.

Also, we need a bank of volunteers to help on Saturdays at the market; oversee parking, assist with vendor arrival/set-up and make rounds during market hours...

Please email or call me if you are interested in helping. Be sure to let me know if you have a preference for a position.

Thank you, it will be great fun!

Lisa Browning

LBROWNING1@COX.NET or (401) 247-0395



DINE OUT

Join us at **RIRA**, an Irish Pub/Restaurant in downtown Providence for our March **DINE OUT** on **Friday March 5th**, at **6:30 pm**.

RIRA is located on Exchange Terrace which forms the north side of City Hall Park (the one with the fountains and the skating rink).

Limited parking is available on Exchange Terrace (the restaurant is down the steps on the right side). Additional parking (discounted at restaurant) is available under the Marriot Courtyard Hotel or in the lot behind the Cookson Building/Capital Grille. For either of these, drive down Exchange Terrace bearing to the right 'til you see the RI Convention Center, turn right at the corner, then turn right again onto Memorial Blvd. (Both entrances are from Memorial Blvd. heading east.)

For reservations &/or possible carpooling from the Church, call Dianne Wilkin at 246-0911 by *Monday, March 1st*. All are welcome!

KNITTING FOR OTHERS



The group will meet at the home of Flo Fairfield, 36 Walnut Road, Barrington on **Thursday, March 4** from **7 –9 p.m.**

The group welcomes new knitters (and those who like to crochet) who would like to make something to give away. Several members are knitting prayer shawls, but hats for newborns and helmet liners are examples of other things being made. If interested, please call Kathleen Larsen 401 247-1787 or e-mail klarsenswc@hotmail.com who can also give you instructions and needle size for prayer shawls. We look forward to seeing you there.



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

Friday, March 19th.

Book Group

next meets on

Monday, March 8th

at 7:30 p.m.

at The Coffee Depot

501 Main Street, Warren.

All are welcome!



They will discuss the book

Stitches

a memoir by David Small

A graphic novel that chronicles the life of American author and illustrator David Small, detailing his sickly childhood and teenage years, relationship with his parents, his cancer, and more.

From the ONA Study Team:

The Open and Affirming (ONA) Study team and other interested members of our church family have been meeting to thoughtfully review the process of becoming an official ONA church in the UCC. To that end, we have drafted a preliminary Affirmation of Welcome (see below) to pronounce to the world that BCC-UCC welcomes all who worship God and follow the teachings of Jesus. We have planned several gatherings after worship to view films about inclusivity to spark discussion, as well as scheduled a time for discussing a finalized version of the Affirmation of Welcome before the Annual Meeting in June. It is our hope to present the Affirmation to the congregation for a consensus adoption at that time.

Our schedule of gatherings is:

April 18 after worship - view and discuss "For the Bible Tells Me So". Light lunch will be provided. This award-winning film is a compassionate and insightful documentary about the contemporary face of an old conflict between Christian fundamentalists and gay and lesbian people.

May 16 after worship - view and discuss "Praying with Lior". Light lunch will be provided. An engrossing, wrenching and tender documentary film, "Praying with Lior" introduces Lior Liebling, also called "the little rebbe." Lior has Down syndrome, and has spent his entire life praying with utter abandon. Is he a "spiritual genius" as many around him say? Or simply the vessel that contains everyone's unfulfilled wishes and expectations?

May 23 after worship - Open discussion regarding the Affirmation of Welcome and any other issues surrounding this topic that members of the congregation might have.

Draft version of a potential Affirmation of Welcome

We, the members of Barrington Congregational Church, United Church of Christ welcome you. We believe that all people are blessed and loved equally by God. Following the teachings of Jesus, we welcome all people into God's covenantal community.

We welcome people to come as they are. We welcome people of all races, ethnicities and beliefs. We welcome all, no matter their class, age, marital status, physical or mental ability, variety of thought and expression. People of all sexual and gender orientations, gender identity and gender expression are welcome here. All are welcome in the full life and ministry of our church.

Acknowledging God's acceptance of us and Jesus' commandment to love our neighbors as ourselves, we affirm our belief that we are one body in Christ.

The ONA Study team welcomes comments and suggestions on the draft statement. You can contact any of us or Jeff or Elizabeth. There will also be copies of the statement with a space for writing comments available in the vestry, church office and at coffee hour. They can be dropped in the office (anonymously, if you wish.)

Study Team members are: Leslie Strolla (Leslie_Strolla@brown.edu); Jim McCartney (jrmcc@fullchannel.net); Lois McCartney (lfmcc@fullchannel.net), Bev Travers (bevtra@aol.com)

★ Thank You! ★ THANK YOU!

...to the members of the Confirmation class who helped with the January soup kitchen

...to Leslie Peck and Nancy Ryan for chaperoning the JrPF ice skating trip to the Newport Yachting Center. Because of the frigid temperatures they didn't skate for too long before going to Papa Ginos for pizza and to warm up!

...to Jane Knight, Francis Seader, Amy Gorman, Kristen Westmoreland, Lauren Browning, Greg Voigt, Laurie Smith, Susan Roblat-Walker, Michelle Koles, Betsy Restituyo and Elizabeth Barnum for volunteering in Church School.

...to Eileen and Paul Dennis for making another set of story materials for the "Mystery of Easter" story for the 3rd-5th grade Godly Play room

...to Sheila Hutton who is returning the nametags to the rack in the vestry hallway each week

...to Mary Lou Slicker for organizing the Valentine making at the Tailgating Party and to Stephanie Randazzo who helped her. About 25 valentines were sent to the homebound, the sick, and those recently bereaved

...to everyone who brought in food and drink for the tailgating party, and to Jeff Larsen for once again organizing such a fun event. Also many thanks to everyone who donated food items for TAP IN (see page ??? for the results of the challenge)

...to all who donated underwear and other items of clothing (for the homeless) to Project Hope

...to John Kelly for fixing tiles in the kitchen and Fellowship Hall

...to Duncan Maio and the Buildings and Grounds Team for the new gas stove in the kitchen

...and to the anonymous donor who is making the renovations in the vestry hallway possible.

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

Plastic Bottle Cap Recycling Ends March 15th

Thanks to all who brought in their hard plastic bottle caps to be recycled in a special program via local salons. Unfortunately these local salons are no longer accepting the caps. We will collect them until March 15th and take them to Providence, but will stop our participation at that time. Questions? Contact Ann Wood (247-2325 or anniebwd@aol.com).



Help Beautify Our Sanctuary for Easter



We invite you to make a donation to the

Chancel Fund

Money donated to this fund will be used to help beautify the Sanctuary – including the purchase of spring flowers to decorate the church this Easter.

You are invited to make a donation in any amount, large or small.

Donations to the Chancel Fund may be made in memory of a loved one, or in thanksgiving for, or celebration of, someone or something (a person, birthday, anniversary, etc). All dedications will be listed in a special insert to be included in the Easter bulletins.

All of the Easter plants from the sanctuary will be taken down following the 11 a.m. service and delivered to the homebound, sick, or recently bereaved from our congregation. Please note that plants will not be available to be taken home.

Please complete the donation form on the next page and return to the church office with your donation by **Monday, March 22nd**. Alternatively, the completed form and donation can be put in the offering plate on Sundays or left with a member of the Chancel Ministry Team who will be at the piano in Fellowship Hall during coffee hour following Sunday services.

Thank you for your donation.

see next page for Donation Form

Chancel Fund Donation Form

Easter 2010

***Please read carefully all of the information on the previous page
before filling in the donation form below.***

I would like to donate \$ to the Chancel Fund.

Donations are welcome in any amount.

Please make checks payable to 'Barrington Congregational Church'
and mark the memo line "Chancel Fund".

Please put the following dedication in the Easter bulletin insert:

Given by
(please print clearly)

In memory of

.....

In thanksgiving for

.....

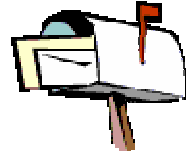
In celebration of

.....

Please complete & return with your donation by Monday, March 22nd

Thank you for your donation.

Letters from our mailbox



A call from Jeff, a visit from Elizabeth, mail, phone calls and a valentine from the church can't help but make one feel better.

Thank you all.
Bette Reid

Dear Congregation,

How very thoughtful you were to offer your Sanctuary flowers to us for an Anniversary remembrance. Silent they are not –they speak to us every time we look at them; and they tell us what a lovely congregation you all are.

We wish you all peace and blessings.

With thanks,
Arthur and Pat Edgette

Dear White Church Friends,

I have been busy getting settled in my new home in N.H. and neglected to thank Jeff for the memorable tradition of presenting the memory candle to me at the last service I attended in December. It's a lovely tradition. This is a friendly, comfortable place and I'm enjoying it. My 64 years with the White Church will not be forgotten.

I miss you all.
Joyce Mabey



Family Footnotes



Dick Almquist, Nelson Hawkins, Eleanor Chisholm,
Louis McCartney, Karen Crisman, Betsy Staples,
May Smith, Amanda Robidoux, Paul Welch,

Dick Haas (Kate Colby's father), Barbara Harrington (MaryLouise Gamache's mother),
and Norman Gamache (Richard Gamache's father).



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

Steve Thurston on the death of his father, Edward Thurston.

Barrington Congregational Church, United Church of Christ.

461 County Road, Barrington, RI 02806

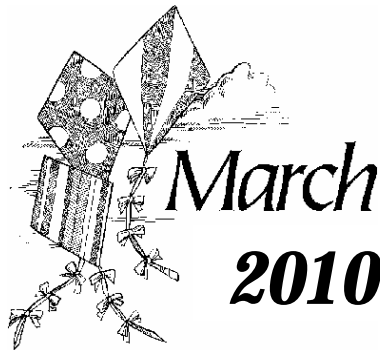
Telephone: (401) 246-0111

Fax: (401) 246-7825

E-mail: office@bccucc.org

Website: www.bccucc.org

Senior Minister:	The Rev. Dr. Jeffrey W. Larsen	jeff@bccucc.org
Associate Minister:	The Rev. Elizabeth D. Barnum	elizabeth@bccucc.org
Organist/Choir Director:	Marina Zabinski	
Office Administrator:	Christine Wallis	office@bccucc.org
Office Assistant:	Patricia Stoddard	pat@bccucc.org
Financial Secretary:	Patricia Stoddard	pat@bccucc.org
Christian Education Assistant:	Andrea Bullard	andrea@bccucc.org
Custodians:	Jack Salvaggio, Ken York, Jim Salvaggio	



*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.*