

March 2011

# THE WHITE CHURCH



Dear Friends,

March will bring us more and more sunlight...and Lent. This year I urge you to think of those things in tandem, not as opposites. Too often we make Lent a dark time of introspection and denial. But this year make it one of light and growth. You will see an outline of worship and study themes in these pages – Elizabeth and I are trying hard to offer challenges and opportunities to makes these 40 + days meaningful for you all. Lent begins with our Ash Wednesday service March 9<sup>th</sup> (7:00 PM) and goes through Easter Sunday, April 24<sup>th</sup>.

But it rests within you to make these weeks different from your usual routine or not – we can only encourage and provide resources. Both of us stand ready to offer other ideas if anyone would like to chat. In this Bridge are invitations about “Lenten Carbon Fasting” and other adult education opportunities.

I am going to be gone for the first 2 Sundays of Lent, traveling to Israel and Jordan. Rabbi Klein of Temple Habonim and I are leading a group of 23 people from our church and the Temple on an inter-faith experience in the “Holy Land.” The group has been meeting for several months to get better acquainted and to study together. We have made a commitment to all experience each other’s sacred places, worship together, and engage in some honest conversation and sharing...of what we have in common and what we do not. We are on a mission to deepen our respect for each other. I ask for your prayers for our group (March 10-22) and look forward to sharing with you when we return.

We will be adding minutes each day to the length of daylight. I invite you to take a few minutes each day in Lent to deepen your faith. More light, more growth...so that Easter will be an even more glorious event!

Peace to you all,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Jeff', written in a cursive style.

## Sunday Services in March



March 6	10 a.m.	Worship Service with Communion Church School
March 13	10 a.m.	Worship Service with Sing and Celebrate Choir, Church School
March 20	10 a.m.	Worship Service with Bells, Church School
March 27	10 a.m.	Worship Service, Church School

*Church School for Pre-School through Grade 8*  
*Child Care Available* *Handicapped Accessible*



### A SERVICE OF ASHES AND HEALING

**Wednesday, March 9<sup>th</sup>**  
**at 7 p.m.**

All are invited to this special half hour service for healing during which ashes will be imposed and the choir will sing.

### Clergy Away

The Rev. Jeffrey Larsen will be away from the office from March 10—22 as he will be co-leading the trip to Israel.



**Saturday, March 12<sup>th</sup>**

### DEACONS FOR MARCH

Liz White (star deacon), Van Edwards, Cheryl Muth, Helen Schall, Sam Sylvester, and Greg Voigt

*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.*

## From our Associate Minister .....



I've written often about how much I love ALL of the four seasons and how much they bring rhythm, connection, and metaphor to our spiritual lives. But after the long, cold, snowy winter we've had, I know a lot of us are ready for spring, asking one another "Is winter over yet???" This is one of the reasons why I'm grateful that Lent arrives soon. Lent provides us with yet another set of symbols and metaphors with which to work in our spiritual lives. While there will also be storms, mud, and obstacles in the stories of Lent – past & present – so too there is light, love, and healing in this poignant season of the church year.

I hope you'll remember that there is a community here at BCCUCC that takes this journey with you. There are many people in the pews each Sunday eager to connect, share, and learn beyond the worship hour. The after worship discussion group will begin reading and discussing Karen Armstrong's new book "Twelve Steps to a Compassionate Life." In addition, I will offer a 3-part Sunday evening reflection series based on the book "Honoring the Body: Meditations on a Christian Practice" by Stephanie Paulsell. Honoring the body in health and in suffering, in pleasure and in pain, is very much a part of our faith lives.

Lent can also be an especially meaningful time for the young ones among us so know that we've kept them in mind too! The church school children will be exploring the "Faces of Easter" in the Godly Play rooms. The Nooma youth will continue to discuss lively & challenging themes. The Confirmation class will be going on a retreat and the Mission Trip youth will be preparing for their service-learning experience.

These, and many other opportunities you'll see in these pages, are meant to provide a time and place for reflection, presence, connection, and service. Join us! As always, all are welcome.

Peace & prayers,

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

P.S. It's not too late to sign-up for our Godly Play workshop on Saturday, March 5<sup>th</sup>. Speak with me or Andrea Bullard A.S.A.P.! (See page 11 for details).



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LENTEN CALENDAR

**Coming to our Senses: Meditations on Jesus' Ministry in the Flesh**

Ash Wednesday—A Service of Ashes and Healing

**March 9<sup>th</sup>** 7 p.m. Theme: This flesh of ours

Focus Scripture: Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

First Sunday of Lent **March 13<sup>th</sup>** 10 a.m. Theme: Hearing

Focus Scripture: Matthew 4:1-11 *The Temptation of Jesus*

Second Sunday of Lent **March 20<sup>th</sup>** 10 a.m. Theme: Touch

Focus Scripture: Matthew 17:1-9 *The Transfiguration*

Third Sunday of Lent **March 27<sup>th</sup>** 10 a.m. Theme: Sight

Focus Scripture: John 9:1-41 *A Man Born Blind*

Fourth Sunday of Lent **April 3<sup>th</sup>** 10 a.m. Theme: Taste

Focus Scripture: John 4:5-42 *The Woman at the Well*

Fifth Sunday of Lent **April 10<sup>th</sup>** 10 a.m. Theme: Smell

Focus Scripture: John 11:1-45 *Raising Lazarus to Life*

Palm Sunday **April 17<sup>th</sup>** 10 a.m. Theme: No sense!

Focus Scripture: Matthew 21: 1-11 *Entry into Jerusalem*

Maundy Thursday—A Service of Communion and Tenebrae

**April 21<sup>st</sup>** 7 p.m. Theme: Suffering Body

Easter Sunday **April 24<sup>th</sup>** 9:15 & 11 a.m. Theme: Restored Body

Focus Scripture: Matthew 28: 1-10

*(Continued on page 5)*

(Continued from page 4)

### **Evening Lenten Reflection Series with Elizabeth:**

**5—6:30 p.m.** in the church library. A light supper will be served.

Based on the book *Honoring the Body: Meditations on a Christian Practice*  
by Stephanie Paulsell

While you are encouraged to read the book, reading is not required to participate in these three sessions. Join us for some or part of the series. All are welcome. *Please sign up with Elizabeth* if you plan to attend (246-0111 or [Elizabeth@bccucc.org](mailto:Elizabeth@bccucc.org))

**Sunday, March 13<sup>th</sup>** “Pondering the Mystery of the Body”

**Sunday, March 27<sup>th</sup>** “Nourishing the Body” & “Blessing our Table Life”

**Sunday, April 10<sup>th</sup>** “Honoring the Suffering Body”

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### **Lenten Study with Jeff:**

*Today's Holy Land – Today's Scripture*

Jeff will give a reflection on his recent trip to Israel as related to the Lenten theme and readings. He will offer the same program on two different occasions for your convenience. All are welcome.

Monday night, **April 11<sup>th</sup>, 7-8:30 p.m.** in the church library

**OR** Thursday afternoon, **April 14<sup>th</sup>, 1:30-3 p.m.** in the church library.

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### **Please Join Us in a Lenten Fast . . . From Carbon**

The New England Regional Environmental Ministries group of the U.C.C. is planning a special Lenten Fast from Carbon. Beginning Ash Wednesday and throughout Lent, participants will receive a daily e-mail with the day's suggested carbon-reducing activity. Go to <http://www.nhcucc.org/documents/WeeklyNewsDocuments/LentenCarbonFast2011.pdf> to read more or to sign up to participate.

The six New England Conference Ministers of the United Church of Christ have all endorsed this initiative and encourage local churches to participate.

# Passover Model Seder for the Interfaith Community

Tuesday, March 29, 2011

at **Temple Habonim**,  
165 New Meadow Road



Please arrive by **6:45 p.m.** so we can begin promptly at 7:00

Temple Habonim and the Barrington Clergy Association are co-sponsoring an **Interfaith Seder** for our membership and the community-at-large on Tuesday, March 29<sup>th</sup>. Please join us as people from many faith traditions come together to be part of the Jewish people's Passover Seder.

*"For 3,000 years, the story of the Exodus has brought a message of hope and deliverance to oppressed people all over the world. That's the way it is with stories. Once they are told, no one can own them. They belong to the listener, to everyone. So even though Passover pointedly speaks of the national liberation of the Jews, others hear its message of freedom and take heart. The slaves of America sang of the Exodus. Liberation theology speaks of the Exodus. Whether someone is a political prisoner, a prisoner of addiction or a prisoner of his or her own fears, the story of the Exodus tells every listener, "Do not give up; there is yet hope. At the darkest of hours, in the dead of the night, with faith and fortitude, freedom can come."*

*The Tapestry of Jewish Time, by Rabbi Nina Beth Cardin, p.145*

We hope that you will decide to join us. Please know that there are a limited number of spaces available, so you will need to reserve your spot as soon as possible. (Please also cancel your reservation if you find yourself unable to come – even if it's at the last minute.)

**RSVP by Monday, March 21<sup>st</sup>** to the BCCUCC church office at 246-0111 or [office@bccucc.org](mailto:office@bccucc.org). Space is limited, so sign up early!

Also, please let Elizabeth Barnum know **if you would like to help our team** that will be contributing to the Seder (246-0111 or [elizabeth@bccucc.org](mailto:elizabeth@bccucc.org)).

Your admission to the Seder is a donation of food for TAP-IN.



**Interested in learning more about our church? Considering joining?**

**We are blessed to have a number of people new to our church community. We would like to help you learn more about us and invite you to**

**“Conversations About Our Church”**

**that will be held following worship on**

**Sunday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>**

**11:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. in Room 6.**

**We are glad to provide child care if there is interest – please contact the church office (246- 0111 or [office@bccucc.org](mailto:office@bccucc.org)) and let us know ahead of time so we can make those arrangements.**

**For those who would like to become official members – this will happen on New Member Sunday, April 17<sup>th</sup> during worship.**

**Are you new to our church and feeling a little lost or have some questions?**



Then look for a member of our Membership Ministry Team who can be identified by their new fluorescent green nametags. They'll be happy to help you in whatever way they can.

**Mark your calendar!**

**“Loving Committed Relationships”**

**Sunday, May 1 5—8 PM BCCUCC**



An evening of soup and fellowship... looking at what goes in to living in a positive, growing, loving committed relationship, led by Kathleen and Jeffrey Larsen.

The challenges of our times on relationships – children, careers, aging, surviving divorce, empty-nest – are persistent, never-ending. And yet many are working thru these issues creatively and successfully. Come and hear some of our parishioners talk about their experiences and open discussions. Open to all.

Suggested reading before the event: *Committed* by Elizabeth Gilbert.



Charter for Compassion

**TWELVE STEPS  
TO A  
COMPASSIONATE  
LIFE**  
Reading Groups

## After Worship Adult Education

Sundays after Worship in the Church Library  
from approx. **11:20 am—12:20 pm**

(Stop by Fellowship Hall on the way & grab a hot beverage & snack)

The group will read & discuss

***Twelve Steps to a Compassionate Life***  
by Karen Armstrong

All are welcome to any or all of the series. Join us! Facilitators rotate.  
Contact Elizabeth Barnum for more information (246-0111 or [Elizabeth@bccucc.org](mailto:Elizabeth@bccucc.org))

March 6	Meet with Elizabeth & the Confirmation Class
March 13	First Step: Learn About Compassion
March 20	Second Step: Look at Your Own World
March 27	Third Step: Compassion for Yourself
April 3	Fourth Step: Empathy
April 10	Fifth Step: Mindfulness
April 17	Sixth Step: Action
April 24	Easter Sunday – No meeting
May 1	Seventh Step: How Little We Know
May 8	Eighth Step: How Should We Speak to One Another?
May 15	Ninth Step: Concern for Everybody
tbd	Tenth Step: Knowledge
tbd	Eleventh Step: Recognition
tbd	Twelfth Step: Love Your Enemies

The New England Conferences of the United Church of Christ are sponsoring a special event for the General Public:

**AN EVENING WITH GREG MORTENSON**  
Co-author of the best-seller *Three Cups of Tea*

**Tuesday, May 3, 2011**

6:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. Mechanics Hall, Worcester, MA

Tickets are \$51.50 each. Greg Mortenson's speaking fee covers the cost of building a school in Afghanistan or Pakistan.



Please contact Elizabeth Barnum if you're interested in going/purchasing tickets as a group.  
Visit [www.macucc.org](http://www.macucc.org) and look under Events for more information or to register.

## A Special Church School Collection during Lent...



### PENNIES ONLY!

Between March 13<sup>th</sup> and April 24<sup>th</sup>, the CEYM Team has designated all donations collected from church school children to Pennies for Peace™. Church School children may place their pennies in the clear glass jars that will be located in their church school classrooms, sanctuary, and Coffee Hour tables during Lent.

Pennies for Peace™, a program of the 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, Central Asia Institute, was founded by Greg Mortenson. Greg is the co-founder and executive director of Central Asia Institute, and co-author of the #1 NY Times Best-seller, *Three Cups of Tea: One Man's Mission to Promote Peace...One School At A Time*.

Your donation is a restricted donation, where 100% of funds raised will be used for overseas program support.

## Nursery Help Needed

Volunteers are needed to assist in the Nursery during worship on Sunday mornings. Anyone aged 16 or older who might be interested, should speak with Andrea Bullard or contact her at 246-0111 or [andrea@bccucc.org](mailto:andrea@bccucc.org).



## Godly Play Schedule for March

- |          |  |                                 |
|----------|--|---------------------------------|
| March 6  | PK – 3 <sup>rd</sup> Grades                                | The Parable of the Mustard Seed |
|          | 4 <sup>th</sup> , 5 <sup>th</sup> & 6 <sup>th</sup> Grades | The Story of Ruth               |
| March 13 | All Godly Players will hear the Faces of Easter 1 & 2      |                                 |
| March 20 | All Godly Players will hear the Faces of Easter 3 & 4      |                                 |
| March 27 | All Godly Players will hear the Faces of Easter 5 & 6      |                                 |



## E-mail Prayer Chain



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

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

Friday night, March 11<sup>th</sup>                      Snow Tubing at Yawgoo Valley

We will meet in the church parking lot at 5 pm, go tubing for our one hour time slot at 6 pm and then stop for pizza on the way home. Expected return to the church by 9 p.m. The cost will be \$12 for tubing plus another \$10 for pizza.

[http://www.yawgoo.com/snow\\_tubing\\_park.htm](http://www.yawgoo.com/snow_tubing_park.htm)

Please let Leslie Peck know if you are interested in going so she can secure enough chaperones to help drive - (401) 245-1820 or [PeckMarketing@cox.net](mailto:PeckMarketing@cox.net)



*Chaperones will be needed for this event—contact Leslie Peck if you can help.*

Should the weather, for some reason, warm up and the conditions are not good for tubing, we will go to Seekonk and play Monster Mini Golf instead. We will have to make that call as we get closer to March 11 and you will be kept posted.

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Saturday, April 16<sup>th</sup>                      Please keep this date open on your calendar, as JPF will be helping at the soup kitchen in Pawtucket that afternoon. More details to follow.

**CONFIRMATION CLASS - MARCH 2011**



**Sunday, March 6<sup>th</sup>** 11:30-12:30 Confirmation Class meets in Library with Elizabeth, selected Deacons, Ministry Team leaders, and Adult Education participants

**Sunday, March 20<sup>th</sup>** 11:30-12:30 Confirmation Class meets with Elizabeth in Room 6

**Friday, March 25<sup>th</sup>** depart 5:00 p.m. **to Saturday, March 26<sup>th</sup>** return 5:00 p.m. Confirmation Retreat at Irons Homestead with Elizabeth Barnum, Susan Seader, and Francis Seader.

*Parent volunteer drivers are needed.*

Permission form, what to bring list & fee form to be handed out at March 6<sup>th</sup> meeting. Please return by March 20<sup>th</sup> meeting.



## Going Deeper with Godly Play®

a workshop/retreat day for adults — teachers, parents, volunteers and anyone else who is interested.

All are welcome!

Led by Jennifer Sanborn,  
Accredited Godly Play Teacher Trainer

Saturday, March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2011

8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Barrington Congregational Church, UCC

Experience a complete Godly Play session, reflect together on the experience, explore the 'deeper' shelves & the spirituality of children.

All are welcome.

Space is limited, please register early.

Lunch is included.

Cost: \$15 for Barrington Congregational Church members & volunteers  
\$30 for all others.

For more information, contact Elizabeth Barnum [elizabeth@bccucc.org](mailto:elizabeth@bccucc.org)  
or Andrea Bullard [andrea@bccucc.org](mailto:andrea@bccucc.org) 401-246-0111

### CHURCH ATTENDANCE

January 30 – 192

February 6 – 176

February 13 – 182

February 20 – 107



**Please remember to wear your nametag** for both the worship service and coffee hour—it makes it so much easier for everyone to get to know each other and is helpful to both old timers and those new to the church. You can leave your nametag in the basket in Fellowship Hall and it will be returned to the rack for use the following week.

**Need a nametag?** Sign up for one on the sheet under the nametag rack in the vestry hallway. Once made, you will find it on the nametag rack for you to pick up and wear.

## *A Note from Elizabeth:*

In last month's newsletter, I shared the exciting news that BCCUCC has been chosen to be part of a national study of a progressive sexuality education program. We continue in the process of recruiting volunteers, educating lay leaders, and preparing to learn how to implement the program for Gr. 7-9 & Gr. 10-12 either this fall or in the later implementation phase, depending on the timeline given to us by the research team. In the meantime, here is some more information about this program.

**Our Whole Lives** is a series of comprehensive sexuality education resources written by human sexuality educators for use in churches, schools, and community settings. A separate resource, *Sexuality and Our Faith*, provides materials for incorporating faith-based teaching into each session.



Our Whole Lives VALUES:

SELF WORTH  
SEXUAL HEALTH  
RESPONSIBILITY  
JUSTICE AND INCLUSIVITY

THEMES COMMON TO EACH AGE LEVEL:

- PARENT orientation sessions (for children and youth resources) that affirm parents as the primary sexuality educators of their children
- EFFECTIVE group building to create a safe and supportive peer group
- UP-TO-DATE information and honest, age appropriate answers to all participants' questions
- A VARIETY of highly engaging activities that include values clarification and decision-making skills
- A COMPREHENSIVE approach to understanding sexuality throughout society and throughout life
- ACCEPTANCE of diversity
- EDUCATION to identify and avoid sexual abuse, exploitation, and harassment
- ENCOURAGEMENT to act for justice
- A WELL DESIGNED, teacher-friendly leader's guide
- RELIGIOUS foundations provided by *Sexuality and Our Faith*. Each session includes biblically based and worship-centered resources.



## Mission Trip 2011 Update

*An Urban Plunge & Service-Learning  
Experience during Holy Week*



Nine youth & three adult chaperones will spend Holy Week in Pittsburgh, PA doing volunteer work with a nonprofit community development organization called the Pittsburgh Project. We especially thank the entire congregation and community for all their support in our ongoing fundraising efforts!



We depart on **Sunday, April 17<sup>th</sup>** and return  
on **Friday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>**.....

.....but **FIRST** we'll participate in serving at the  
**Community Soup Kitchen** in Pawtucket with CEYM & JPF  
on **Saturday, April 16<sup>th</sup>** for a pre-trip 'warm-up'.



Here is what the Pittsburgh Project has to say about how we'll be spending our time:

"REPAIR HOMES FOR VULNERABLE RESIDENTS. You'll spend your days in service to the city's elderly, poor, shut-in, widowed, and disabled, addressing home repair needs. Projects usually include painting, dry walling, carpentry, and yardwork. They often include minor plumbing or masonry tasks, building wheelchair ramps, fortifying retaining walls, or replacing doors, floors, and windows. You'll see the difference you've made by the end of your week. You'll know that God worked through the relationships you've built and the work you've labored to finish. **And you'll hit the road with a map for how to make a difference in a neighborhood near you.**"

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### **MISSION TRIP MEETINGS FOR PARTICIPANTS:**

Sundays March 13, March 27, April 10 from 7-8 p.m. in the church library

**\*\*All forms & final payment due by March 13<sup>th</sup> meeting.\*\***

Contact Elizabeth with questions.

The March 2011 calendar as found on pages 14-15 of the printed version can be found on the Calendar page of the church website

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



**Do you still need to receive a copy of  
*The Bridge*  
delivered to your door?**

If you are reading this on your computer, and you still receive a hard copy by snail mail, please consider 'canceling' your mailed copy. It will not only save resources (the cost of the paper, ink, postage etc) but will also save the time and labor it takes to run it off and put it together.

To 'cancel' your hard copy, just e-mail [office@bccucc.org](mailto:office@bccucc.org) and we'll use your e-mail address to send you *The Bridge* electronically.

As an added bonus of reading it on-line, you'll receive *The Bridge* much more quickly - often before it has even had time to be sorted at the post office!

Thank you to everyone who already reads *The Bridge* on-line.



**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](http://www.turnto10.com). It will also be posted on our Facebook Page [www.facebook.com/bccucc](http://www.facebook.com/bccucc).

The church office answering machine will also include any cancellation announcements. (Note: all this is dependent upon there being power to use the technology!)

## BCCUCC's Affirmation of Welcome




We believe that all people are blessed and loved equally by God. Following the teachings of Jesus we heartily welcome everyone into God's covenantal community. Whatever your race, ethnicity, age, socioeconomic or marital status, variety of thoughts and beliefs, physical or mental ability, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression--whoever you are and wherever you come from you are welcome into the full life and ministry of our church.



### May We Help You?

Our Sanctuary is handicapped accessible by using the elevette to get upstairs. An elevette operator is on duty every Sunday morning 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 at every worship service for those who need them. 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.



presents

## CARMINA BURANA

and choral music by Nancy Galbraith

Robert Page, conductor

**Saturday, April 9**

**7 p.m.**

**VMA Arts & Cultural Center**  
Providence

Tickets \$22—\$62

\$12 children and students

Special rates for group of 6+

Call (401) 421-ARTS or visit

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

for online sales, directions and maps to free parking.

Free Paw Sox tickets to the first 20 registrants!

### Spring Training: Covering all the Bases Raising K-12 children amid a field of influences

Sunday, April 10<sup>th</sup> 2:00 p.m. Barrington Middle School

SHARON MAXWELL, PHD

Award winning author of THE TALK: A Breakthrough Guide to Raising Healthy Kids in an Over-Sexualized, On-Line, In-Your-Face World

Learn concrete strategies to:

- Create a plan for responsible internet/cell phone use
- Teach your children the value of self-effort and self-control
- Lay the foundation for healthy sexuality from elementary through college
- Teach children the value of words

*Activities for children will be provided*



✓ Visit [www.thebayteam.org](http://www.thebayteam.org) to register ✓

### Pastor Parish Relations Team (PPRT)

If you have a concern, you are invited to contact a member of PPRT. They meet regularly and deal with the concerns of the ministers, the staff and the congregation — so feel free to contact any of their members.

Phyllis Buckley (245-1098)

Sharon Sylvester (247-4532)

Marshall Hoyler (245-1118)

Laurie Lennon (694-0715)

John Muth (433-2878)

Their next meeting is scheduled for April 5<sup>th</sup>.



Our church is on Facebook

Check it out at

[www.facebook.com/bccucc](http://www.facebook.com/bccucc)

and then 'Like' us so that you get our news feeds.

And be sure to suggest our FB page to your friends!



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



## AUCTION DONATIONS NEEDED

Our 2011 auction event planning is well underway and we need your help. Our donation form is now available and can be found in several different places: a copy can be found in the center of this *Bridge*, on our church website, from the church office, and at coffee hour each Sunday.

It is not too early to donate. Our donation team is currently accepting donations and would be happy to talk to you about any ideas you might have.

Consider donating a gift certificate to a dinner out, a Spa, Starbucks, Five Guys, LLBean, Barrington Books, Pandora, or give movie tickets from AAA, or offer a night of babysitting, Fall or Spring yard clean-up, a home-cooked meal for a party of six or eight, and the list goes on. You could think about a themed basket and fill one with just about anything, my favorite was the Ice Cream Sundae, and our dogs favorite was the Doggie themed basket chocked full of everything a dog loves! We will also gladly accept items such as jewelry and antiques or pieces of furniture that the auction team deems suitable for bidding on.

Feel free to call or e-mail with an idea and fill out the form later. Our donation team stands ready to hear from you:

Judy Harff: [judy@harff.com](mailto:judy@harff.com) 289-0438

Lorraine Keeney: [lkeeney@uri.edu](mailto:lkeeney@uri.edu) 486-3042

Laurie Lennon: [lemlaur@hotmail.com](mailto:lemlaur@hotmail.com) 694-0715

Pat Rude: [ru4880@cox.net](mailto:ru4880@cox.net) 245-7712

Jane & Doug Tonn: [jtonn2@cox.net](mailto:jtonn2@cox.net) 289-2349



Be sure to have Saturday, September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2011 marked on your calendar—the date for the *Gather at the River—Catch the Spirit* Auction at Stanley's Boatyard. More details and ticket information to follow.



Keep track of the auction's progress by going to the church's Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/bccucc](http://www.facebook.com/bccucc) and find it under Events.

Or simply click on the Facebook logo to the left.

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

**5<sup>th</sup> Annual Regina F. Berenback Memorial Lecture  
for Social Action and Justice**

DATE: Sunday, April 3, 2011

TIME: 2:00 pm

WHERE: Fellowship Hall, Barrington Congregational Church, UCC

SPONSOR: Justice and Witness Ministry Team of BCCUCC

TOPIC: Social Justice and Immigration

GUEST SPEAKER: Professor Jorge Elorza, J.D.  
Associate Professor of Law, Roger Williams University School  
of Law, and Founder and Co-Chairman of the Latino Policy  
Institute, RWU

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, Afghanistan and Kuwait into a safe and informal place where they can receive spiritual care and good coffee. Thanks to the support from many different UCC churches, more than 125 chaplains are now able to participate in this **Coffee House Ministry**. In August, 2010, four years after the launch of the coffee house ministry, Holy Joe's Cafe had shipped 117 tons of coffee to military chaplains for use in the coffee house counseling programs—enough to provide 23 million cups of coffee to U.S. troops!



Baskets for this donation will be found on the coffee tables during coffee hour in Fellowship Hall during the Lenten season (March 13—April 17). Please be generous and support this ministry. Our chaplains are a first line defense against the emotional and psychological issues faced by our troops.

# Help Fight Hunger during Lent

*Join Tap-In and the Allen Shawn Feinstein Foundation  
in the fight to eliminate hunger.*

During the months of **March and April** all food donations to the Tap -In food pantry will be counted and used to stock their shelves. Tap-In will receive a portion of one million dollars being donated by the Feinstein foundation and the more food collected the more funding Tap In will receive. The more money they receive the more food they can buy!

Although many people make donations to Tap In during the holiday season, **now** is when it becomes most difficult for families to meet their basic needs. Food donations drop and heating and energy costs rise draining families of income needed for food. More and more families find themselves in need of assistance from community food pantries. Every month approximately 500 families, over 1400 individuals are receiving food from Tap In. The food Tap In buys flies off the shelves.

BCCUCC will be doing their part to help TapIn by holding a...

## FOOD DRIVE



**Beginning Sunday, March 13<sup>th</sup> and ending on Easter Sunday, April 24<sup>th</sup>** we will be collecting non-perishable food items each week during Lent. The following are needed:

Cereal  
Canned tuna, chicken, or ham  
Peanut Butter  
Jelly  
Canned pasta and sauce  
Canned fruit

Juices  
Chicken noodle or vegetable soup  
Chili  
Instant potatoes and rice  
Cookies and crackers

You are invited to bring your food donation to church and place it in the bins in the narthex. Each week some of the items will be brought up and put on the altar during the offering time.

Alternatively, you can drop off your donation directly at Tap In (open 9-Noon, Monday through Friday).

Thank you for your help in contributing to Tap-In's food pantry.



## Sharing Brings Joy

*To Us. To Others. To God.*

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 2011 theme is *Sharing Brings Joy. To Us. To Others. To God.* inspired by 2 Corinthians 9:8. Leaflets about this year's campaign and OGHS envelopes will be included in the Sunday worship bulletins on March 20 and 27. 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.



This past Christmas, Kathleen Larsen organized a very successful toy drive for *Children's Friend* which is Rhode Island's oldest child welfare agency. Here is another opportunity to support the work that they do.....

The **9th Annual Children's Friend Walk and Fun Run** sponsored by Panera Bread will take place on **Saturday, May 7, 2011** at the Carousel Village at Roger Williams Park.

All are invited for a fun-filled day of activities and events and there will be new children's activities which kids will be sure to enjoy! Or sign up to participate in the Walk and Fun Run.

For more details go to  
[www.childrensfriendwalk.org](http://www.childrensfriendwalk.org)

**FREE**

### Children's Folding Chairs

A number of years ago all of the old folding metal and wood children's chairs in the CE building were replaced with modern plastic ones. It turns out that we still have some of these old small chairs stored under the stage and we need to get rid of them.

If anyone is interested, they will be in Fellowship Hall *from Monday, February 28<sup>th</sup> thru Sunday, March 6<sup>th</sup>*. Please help yourself to as many as you would like.

Any remaining will be taken for recycling on March 7<sup>th</sup>. Thank you.



## Knitting (and Crocheting) for Others

Our knitting group and others were busy this past month making more than 60 tiny baby caps that were mailed off to "Save the Children" for their "Caps for Good" program. The caps will be shipped to Africa, Asia and Latin America and distributed to new moms and their babies.



Thanks to all of our knitters who gather at our circle and those who knit or crochet from home.

These caps are colorful and darling and were sent to those in need with our blessings and love. The photo above shows just some of the caps that our group made.



The group will next meet on **Thursday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>** from 7-9 p.m. in the **church library**. All are welcome.

Join us as we knit prayer shawls, baby hats, helmet liners and other items to be given away.

For more information or questions, please contact Kathleen Larsen at 245-1787 or [klarsenswc@hotmail.com](mailto:klarsenswc@hotmail.com).

WANTED — LAND OR HOUSE TO BE USED FOR A GREAT CAUSE!

**From the Barrington Clergy Association to all residents of Barrington:**

The Barrington Housing Board is asking for a donation in the form of land or an existing home to be made to Habitat for Humanity. If you or someone you know is interested in learning more about this please contact Matthew Amaral of the Barrington Housing Board.

More information can be found in a recent article on Barrington Patch: <http://barrington.patch.com/articles/habitat-for-humanity-donor-in-barrington-where-are-you>





## HUGS Collection



**Project Hope 2011** is a community service project sponsored by Beyond Our Walls (BOW) designed to bring focus on the issue of the challenges of homelessness. On March 4<sup>th</sup> participating high school students from our community will be spending the night at a local church and then going to Providence the next morning, March 5<sup>th</sup>, where they will set up a bread/soup line to serve the hungry at Beneficent Church.

The teens will distribute **HUGS (hats, underwear, gloves, and socks)** that they are collecting over the next few weeks. Please drop off gently used hats and gloves and **NEW** underwear and socks at the **Barrington Public Library**.

All donations will be given to the homeless in Providence.

**HURRY! The deadline for the collection is Friday, March 4.**



## Collect Pull Tabs for Charity

One of our youth, A.J. Dolce, is collecting beverage can pull tabs (also known as pop-tops) to benefit the Shriners Hospitals for Children. All medical treatment is provided without cost to the patient, their family, or any third party. They recycle the tabs (the only part of the can that is pure aluminum) and use the proceeds to purchase needed equipment and items for their patients. There is more information and a special collection can in Fellowship Hall.

We continue to collect **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. **Men's Toiletries** are also always needed. *A Collection hamper is in the Vestry.* Thank you to everyone who has donated items—they are very appreciative.



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](mailto:rts.ri@cox.net)) or David Renner of BOW at [daverenner@cox.net](mailto:daverenner@cox.net). For more information about Habitat Providence, visit their web site at <http://www.habitatprov.org>



There are no plans for Dine-Out at this time. If you are interested in arranging for the group to eat out in March, please contact Helen Schall (245-4724) for information, or the church office with details.



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

Tuesday, March 15<sup>th</sup>.

### The Women's Faith Group

The group will meet on

**Thursdays, March 3<sup>rd</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>**  
from **1:30—3 p.m.**

in the **church library** to finish their discussion of the book

*Stones for Schools* by Greg Mortenson.



They will then begin a study of

*The Help* by Kathryn Stockett

*The Help* is not available in paperback until mid April, so it is suggested that you borrow a copy from the library, or purchase one for yourself.

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](mailto:chl2299@aol.com), or Nancy Martin at 273-1078 or [nancy.martin3@verizon.net](mailto:nancy.martin3@verizon.net)

### Book Group

next meets on

**Thursday, March 10<sup>th</sup>**  
(note this is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday)

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

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

**All are welcome!**



They will discuss the book  
**Parrot & Olivier in America**  
by Peter Carey

In his latest imaginative and commanding tale, Carey presents a brilliant and sly variation on the French aristocrat Alexis de Tocqueville, author of the indelible *Democracy in America*.

The **Lay Visitation Team** welcomes new members to assist with this very important ministry, where calls and visits are made to those church members with physical problems, the homebound or bereaved.



If you are interested in this ministry, please contact Nancy Martin (273-1078 or [nancy.martin3@verizon.net](mailto:nancy.martin3@verizon.net)).

The Women of the Rhode Island Conference are pleased to announce the first

### Lay Person of the Year Breakfast

This year we will honor our **Lay Women of the Conference**  
at **Central Congregational Church, U.C.C.**, 296 Angell Street, Providence  
on **Saturday, March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2011** at **8:45 a.m.**

Cost is \$15 per person.

Each church has been asked to honor a woman who has found creative and enduring ways to lift her faith as a faithful servant of God through the United Church of Christ in any of its settings. (Next year, they will honor Lay Men from the churches of the Conference).

**BCCUCC has chosen Leslie Strolla as its honoree** for many reasons but in particular for her thoughtful work on the Open and Affirming process. Unfortunately, Leslie is unable to attend, but we would love for other members of BCCUCC to be at the breakfast to represent our church.

To sign up for the breakfast please call Central Congregational Church, UCC,  
at (401) 331-1960 *by March 22<sup>nd</sup>*.

Please make checks payable to RICUCC.

For more information, contact Helen Schall at 245-4724 or [helenschall@hotmail.com](mailto:helenschall@hotmail.com)

### WORTH REPEATING!

**It really is possible to be allergic to church!**  
**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.**

### 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.



### Help keep the clergy informed

If you or a church member you know is ill, in the hospital, or in need of a pastoral visit of any kind, please let us know. You can call the church office at 246-0111 or contact Jeff or Elizabeth directly at 246-0111 (ext 103-Jeff or ext 104-Elizabeth) to leave a confidential voice message, or e-mail them at [jeff@bccucc.org](mailto:jeff@bccucc.org) or [elizabeth@bccucc.org](mailto:elizabeth@bccucc.org).

**Want to read *Jeff's Weekly* and receive the *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](mailto:office@bccucc.org) and let us know—being sure to include your name in the body of the e-mail so we know who you are!



Please note the following:

- *Jeff's Weekly* only goes out to those who specifically request it, whereas the *Ennouncements* go to all on our e-mail list.
- If you 'unsubscribe' from any e-mail that we send you using Constant Contact, you will no longer receive any e-mails that are sent from the church using Constant Contact.

**BRIDGE PROJECT BRIEFING**

**Monday, March 14<sup>th</sup> 6:00—8:00 p.m. Barrington Public Library**

The R.I. Department of Transportation will give a presentation on the reconstruction of the Massasoit Avenue Bridge project (also known as the "White Church" bridge) and work is expected to begin next year.

Specific representatives from our church will attend, but anyone with an interest in the project is urged to attend. If you have any concerns or questions, please contact any member of the Buildings & Grounds Ministry Team.

*At the recent Souper Supper Fundraiser, Stephanie Edwards brought a dessert she had made. In response to the many people who asked, here is her recipe:*



**Heath Bar Layered Toffee Cake (12-14 servings)**

2 cups Whipping Cream

½ cup Caramel or Butterscotch Ice Cream Topping (I use Mrs. Richardson's)

½ tsp. Vanilla Extract

1 large Prepared Angel Food Cake (I like the Sam's Club cakes, which are 30 oz.)

1 8 oz. package Heath Milk Chocolate Toffee Bits (found in the baking aisle next to the chocolate chips)

In a mixing bowl, beat cream until it begins to thicken. Gradually add the ice cream topping and vanilla and beat until soft peaks form. Cut the cake horizontally into three layers. Place the bottom layer on a serving plate. Spread it with 1 cup cream mixture and 1/2 cup Heath bar bits. Repeat for the next layer. Then frost the top and sides with the remaining mixture and sprinkle the rest of the Heath Bar bits on the top and sides of the cake. Store in the refrigerator (best made 1-6 hrs. ahead)

# ★ Thank You! ★ ★ THANK YOU! ★

..... to the awesome team of adult volunteers from both the church and the wider Barrington Community who helped make the recent Battle of the Bands/Band Jam possible! Thanks go to Jodi Boland, Kate Bonneau, Chris and Ellen Brady, Kathy and Steve Buckley, Andrea Bullard, Steve and Sue Clemens, Don and Lynda Cook, Bill Dewitt, Janet Durfee-Hidalgo, Van Edwards, Alison Fodor, Jenn Geary, Chuck Kellner, Charlie and Lory McCoy, Dave Murray, Leslie and Steve Peck, Patty Schwartz, James Steele, Achina Stein, Kathy Sullivan, Andrew and Diane Todd, Laura Ward, and Kristen Westmoreland. An adult & intergenerational presence is so important in making these events successful, fun, and good-spirited! Special thanks go to youth volunteer & organizer, Scott Clemens. The event was a big success and the Mission Trippers raised over \$1400!

.....to Amy Gorman, Francis Seader, Greg Knight, Maria Crosby, Betsy Restituyo, Paul Crosby, Jane Knight, Susan Rotblat-Walker, Laurie Dubel, Sharon Sylvester, Kristen Westmoreland, Ginger Stabach, Michael Collins, Elizabeth Barnum and Leslie Strolla for volunteering in Church School.

.....to everyone who helped with the assembly of Hygiene kits for Church World Service and especially to the Brieger family who helped with the set up before church.

.....to Scott Orchard, Steve Peck, Leslie Peck, Ray Zarlengo and Jen Stern for helping with the youth Laser Tag.

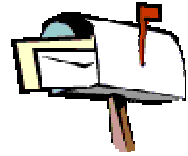
.....to all who made the Souper Supper Fundraiser so successful including all those who purchased tickets. Thanks go to the Mission Trippers, and to Stephanie Edwards, Lory and Charlie McCoy, Van Edwards, Laurie Lennon, and Marylouise Gamache. Special thanks to Blounts for donating the soup, and to Shaws for donating the bread.

*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*

**Church member Laura Cook held a fundraiser for her high school senior project which included the collection of baby items here at church. The donated items were used to help the women and children at SSTARBIRTH of Rhode Island. Laura would like to thank everyone for their generous donations and let you know that they were greatly appreciated — and that her senior project was a success !**



## Letters from our mailbox



Dear Jeff, Elizabeth, and Friends at BCC,

Thank you for your visit, calls, prayers and concerns during my operation and recovery. The flowers from the altar that were delivered on Superbowl Sunday have helped brighten my room and spirits.

I am recovering a lot quicker than expected and I credit the healing power of prayer. THANK YOU!!

Sincerely,  
Dave Murray

*The following was received in response to a Valentine card that was sent from the church...*

Thank You! Thank you to all! I like x's and o's. I'll be back one of these days!

Marjorie Puschin

Dear Friends,

When I broke my wrist in December, so many of you sent me cards, prepared food and offered prayers for my recovery. I want to thank you all for your kindness. As many of us know, it is a blessing to be a part of such a caring and loving community.

Thank you.  
Helen Schall



## Family Footnotes



Lucy Strolla; David Murray; Claudia Pierce;  
Cheryl Muth's mother, Marjorie Tingle;  
Chris Brady's mother;  
and Marilyn Packard Luther's father-in-law, Al Luther.

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

Richard Gamache and family on the death of his father, Norman,  
and to the family of James Ray.



Barrington Congregational Church, United Church of Christ.  
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Senior Minister:	The Rev. Dr. Jeffrey W. Larsen	<a href="mailto:jeff@bccucc.org">jeff@bccucc.org</a>
Associate Minister:	The Rev. Elizabeth D. Barnum	<a href="mailto:elizabeth@bccucc.org">elizabeth@bccucc.org</a>
Organist/Choir Director:	Marina Zabinski	
Office Administrator:	Christine Wallis	<a href="mailto:office@bccucc.org">office@bccucc.org</a>
Office Assistant:	Patricia Stoddard	<a href="mailto:pat@bccucc.org">pat@bccucc.org</a>
Financial Secretary:	Patricia Stoddard	<a href="mailto:pat@bccucc.org">pat@bccucc.org</a>
Christian Education Assistant:	Andrea Bullard	<a href="mailto:andrea@bccucc.org">andrea@bccucc.org</a>
Custodians:	Jack Salvaggio, Ken York, Jim Salvaggio, Paul Dziedzic	



*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.*