

The church calendar for February can be found on p.13 at the end of this newsletter. Or access the current version at <http://bccucc.view-events.com>



Dear Friends,

I am very appreciative of all who have taken the time to share their thoughts on my recent decision to retire. It is nice to hear from you and have you share your feelings, ideas, and concerns. You will find on page 4 of this issue a letter from our Moderator, Steve Peck, describing the steps that will be taken to secure new leadership. For those who are not familiar with the United Church of Christ procedures I think you will find his letter comforting and informative.



From the  
**SENIOR MINISTER**

For Kathleen and I this decision came after much thought and prayer. We feel it is the right time while we are healthy to move to the next phase of life. Ministry for 42 years has been an incredible joy and privilege – and to have this be our final stop along that journey has been extra special.

During my last months I will try to see as many of you as possible to give my thanks. I will also be working with the ministry teams to make sure things are in place for continuing all our programs during an Interim period. This is actually the time of year when activities are reviewed and plans begin to form for next fall. We have some special music planned on several Sundays in the next months. I am also excited to have one more Lenten season and Easter to celebrate with you! Maybe after 41 Easter sermons I will get it right on this one!

As the old saying goes, some people coast to the finish just glad to make it there, while others dance and celebrate, making use of every second, sliding into home plate with great gusto. The latter will be my style. Won't you join me?

Blessings to you all,

*An additional note from Jeff.....*

A "Pastoral Letter on Racism: a New Awakening" has been released by the UCC that I think you will all find helpful in continuing discourse on events happening nationwide. It might even be useful in conversations around the dinner table. The letter can be read at the following link: [http://www.ucc.org/pastoral-letter-new-awakening-01162015?utm\\_source=January+21%2C+2015&utm\\_campaign=e-newsletter&utm\\_medium=email](http://www.ucc.org/pastoral-letter-new-awakening-01162015?utm_source=January+21%2C+2015&utm_campaign=e-newsletter&utm_medium=email)

A printed copy of the letter can be obtained by stopping by the church office and requesting one.

**DEACONS FOR FEBRUARY**

Liz White (star deacon), Cheryl Muth,  
Chris Brady, and Greg Voigt

*In the event of a pastoral emergency after hours, if you cannot reach Jeff (247-1787 home) or Brendan (318-2447 cell) please call on one of the deacons.*

NewsLetter  
**DEADLINE**

The deadline for submission of articles to be included in the March *Bridge* will be Sunday, February 15<sup>th</sup>.



The Rev. Brendan Curran will be away February 14-16

\* \* \* \* \*

The church office will be CLOSED on **Mon, February 16<sup>th</sup>**

## Sunday Services in February 2014

February 1	10 a.m.	Super Bowl Sunday Worship Service with Communion (see below), Church School
	10 a.m. — Noon	OWL Session, Library
February 8	10 a.m.	Worship Service, Church School
February 15	10 a.m.	Worship Service for All Ages No Church School. Nursery Care only
February 22	10 a.m.	Worship Service for All Ages, Nursery Care only



*Church School for Pre-School through Grade 8 unless otherwise indicated  
Nursery Care available every Sunday morning for infants and children aged 3 and under  
Handicapped Accessible*



### Super Bowl Worship & Coffee Hour Tailgating Party Sunday, February 1<sup>st</sup> 2015



Wear your favorite team colors to church!

Worship Service will be divided into 4 quarters with a special half-time show!

Coffee hour will be a chili cook-off!

Bring a crockpot of your best chili, identify ingredients, and they will be set up on tables with bowls and spoons for people to taste and vote on. Others are invited to bring cornbread.

It would be great to decorate Fellowship Hall with tents, banners...whatever you can think of to get us in the spirit of the day and celebrate the goodness of God's creation.

*If you can bring chili or cornbread, or can provide banners or tents for Fellowship Hall, please contact Jeff Larsen at (401) 246-0111 or [jeff@bccucc.org](mailto:jeff@bccucc.org).*



**ASH  
WEDNESDAY  
SERVICE**

**Wednesday, February 18<sup>th</sup> 7:00-7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary**

It is a quiet, reflective time of readings and prayers.

Ashes are offered to anyone who would like. ALL ARE WELCOME.

Ash Wednesday is the beginning of the 40 days (not including Sundays) of Lent that lead us to the celebration of Easter. The ashes remind us to spend some time during Lent in honest reflection about the meaning of life and our own relationship with God.

#### Guest Preacher in March

UCC RI Conference Interim Minister, the Rev Barbara Libby, will be preaching here on **Sunday, March 8**. Rev Libby will be working with our Deacons to secure an Interim Minister over the next several months.



#### BUILDING SECURITY

A recent incident is a reminder of how important it is that the church buildings be kept secure. Whenever you have a meeting at church, please make sure that all of the doors are locked when you leave. Also, if possible, once everyone has arrived please lock the outer doors – especially for evening meetings. Thank you.

## From our Associate Minister .....



Dear friends,

We're into the New Year! 2015 is now well under way. This is an interesting time of year where we are invited to appreciate the calm of what might be a somewhat quieter lull after all the busyness of the holidays. I want to thank all who participated in the Christmas pageant for making it all come together in a short amount of time! You all did such a wonderful job. It was so much fun and also so very special to make the story come alive together! I am feeling settled here after my installation and I continue to feel honored to serve and be a part our warm, welcoming, and special church community!

We've all heard the news about Jeff by now. I'm certainly sad to see Jeff go but I'm also very happy for him as he moves into his next stage and I wish him and all the Larsens blessings and much happiness as he moves forward. I feel so privileged to have served with him and feel so lucky that our time here has overlapped. I want to assure you that our Christian education programs will continue to be active, engaging, and vibrant. In the confirmation classes I've been trying to convey to our young people that **THEY** are the church so I would like to remind us all of that as well. All of us together make the church! This transition can be for all of us a reminder that at all times it takes all of us to "be the church" together.

There are a lot of exciting possibilities for involvement coming up for the younger members of our congregation. In April we're going to be going on a mission/service project with Save the Bay from the 20<sup>th</sup> to the 22<sup>nd</sup> to clean up the shorelines! I also invite you to stay tuned for a fundraiser for next year's mission/service project! These opportunities are ways we can "be the church," God's beloved community that lives out Christ's justice, peace, and hope together. As we begin the New Year and as we move into a time of transition together let's each ask ourselves, "How am I being the church?"

God's Peace,

*Brendan*

### New to our church community?

You are invited to come to our

#### "CONVERSATIONS"

after church on **Sunday, March 8<sup>th</sup>** from 11:20 a.m. to Noon in Room 6, to meet other new folks and learn a little bit about who this church is and how we do things around here. All are welcome.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the church we urge you to attend this session. New members will be received during worship on **Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup>**.

If you would like to officially join please contact the church office (246-0111, [office@bccucc.org](mailto:office@bccucc.org)). All are welcome!

### Adult study on

#### "The 7 Churches of Revelations"

Led by Rev. Jeff Larsen, the study will be in 2 sessions – following church on

**Sundays, February 15<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup>**

from 11:15 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

in the Library on 2/15 and Room 6 on 2/22.

Based on experiences from the Turkey trip last fall, this will be a chance to examine the formation of Christianity in the early years after Jesus.

**ALL ARE WELCOME.**

In preparation, please read Revelations, chapters 2 & 3.



Does the church office have your current e-mail address? Don't know? Then please send it to [office@bccucc.org](mailto:office@bccucc.org) and be sure to include your name. Thanks!

*A letter to the congregation from your Church Council .....*

Dear members and friends of Barrington Congregational Church, UCC,

In the days since Rev. Jeff Larsen announced his retirement, we have been keenly aware of God's new calling for Jeff and Kathleen even as we have experienced a profound sense of loss. It is not easy to think about ending a Spirit-filled nine-year ministry. These next few months together will be a precious time, enabling us to express our appreciation for the time spent together and wish them well in the next phase of their lives.

Many have already asked: "What happens next?" and "Will current programs continue?" To answer the second question first, YES! All of our current ministry teams and programs will continue. Our Associate Minister, Brendan Curran, will continue in his role, and his work with Andrea and the CEYM Team will ensure continued smooth operation of our Sunday School/Youth Programs. Regarding next steps: We have already been in touch with the RI Conference of the UCC and Interim Conference Minister Rev. Barbara Libby has assured us that they are with us every step of the way with help and guidance. The next steps are as follows:

- *Our bylaws state that it is the Deacons responsibility to choose an interim minister to provide continuity in worship, pastoral care, and program/staff oversight. The RI Conference will advise us on this process. They have assured us that there are several excellent candidates available who offer the specialized skills needed during a transition time. This minister will not be a candidate for the "settled" position.*
- *After the interim minister is in place, we will initiate a search process for a new minister in accordance with our bylaws. We will invite all of you to be part of a self-study that will identify our church's pastoral needs. And we will develop a church profile for our potential candidates. We will be seeking members of the congregation who would like to be a part of the search committee.*
- *Our Conference office will advertise our vacancy among UCC clergy all across the country. Our search committee will read ministerial profiles, screen candidates, conduct interviews, check references, and eventually select a candidate who will be recommended to the entire congregation.*

We will keep you informed on a regular basis. For now, let us express our gratitude to God for Jeff's ministry and enter into a time of celebration with Jeff, Kathleen and their family. Please keep them in your prayers even as you know from experience that he will be praying for us.

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to ask. Contact: Steve Peck, Moderator at 245-1820 or [steven.peck@cox.net](mailto:steven.peck@cox.net) or Cheryl Muth, Chair of the Deacons at 433-2878 or [jccbmath@aol.com](mailto:jccbmath@aol.com).

In Christ's name,

The Church Council at Barrington Congregational Church, UCC



**Thanks from  
the Staff**

We the lay staff of BCCUCC would like to sincerely thank the members of the congregation for their donations to the Staff Christmas Bonus. Your generosity is heart-warming and we are very grateful. While we may never make our fortunes working for a church, we are richly rewarded in so many other ways—including feeling appreciated by the congregation for all the work that we do.

With many thanks,

*Christine, Pat, Andrea, Marina, Jack, Jim, Paul and John*



**"BE THE CHURCH.** Protect the environment. Care for the poor. Embrace diversity. Reject racism. Forgive often. Love God. Fight for the powerless. Share earthly and spiritual resources. Enjoy this life. God is still speaking. Barrington Congregational Church United Church of Christ."

The 2015 stewardship pledge campaign kicks off on **Sunday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>** and concludes on **Sunday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>** with an all-Church luncheon. On four Sundays during the campaign fellow members of the congregation will tell us how they have responded to the call: "Be the Church".

What is your stewardship response? Or as Jeff would ask: "where are you in the story" of Barrington Congregational Church UCC? Prayerfully consider your pledge for 2015 so that this faith community can continue to "Be the Church" now and into the future.

*From your Stewardship Ministry Team: Steve Fodor, Susan Rotblat-Walker, and Ann Wood*



### Church Cancellation Plans in Bad Weather

When the church service has to be cancelled due to bad weather, we will do our best to keep you informed. Information will appear on the cancellation lists of Channels 6 & 10 that scroll across the television screen—also available at [www.turnto10.com](http://www.turnto10.com) under 'Closings'. The church office answering machine will include any cancellation announcements and we will also try to send out a mass e-mail and post it to Facebook and the church website [www.bccucc.org](http://www.bccucc.org). (Note: all this is dependent upon there being power to use the technology needed!)

### Bulletins for the Homebound

If you or someone you know in the congregation is homebound and no longer able to make it to church for Sunday worship, we will be happy to mail them the Sunday bulletin each week—just let the church office know.

## Junior and Senior Youth Group SNOWTUBING at YAWGOO VALLEY

**Sunday, February 1<sup>st</sup> 2 p.m.**

All youth in grades 6-12 are invited to participate – and friends are also welcome. This will be the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Pre-Super Bowl Snowtubing event at Yawgoo Valley in Exeter, RI. Fresh air, exercise and fun are promised and we'll be back in time for the big game!!!



Tickets are \$13 per person for 50 minutes of tubing. *Sorry - no one under 42 inches is allowed.* This has become a very popular family event! Those who sign up can either meet at Yawgoo in time for the 2 p.m. time slot, OR youth needing a ride can meet at the church parking lot at 1 p.m.

**\*\*\*The following is IMPORTANT and a change from last year\*\*\***

Each youth or family needs to reserve and pay for their OWN tickets by going to [www.yawgoo.com/snowtubing.htm](http://www.yawgoo.com/snowtubing.htm). Please read the cancellation/refund policies at Yawgoo described in detail. Yawgoo also requires a signed waiver from all participants.. *Tickets go on-line beginning at Noon on Thursday, January 29<sup>th</sup>* and can be purchased up to two hours before the event. However, if you wait too long, tickets will sell out. Yawgoo Valley recommends checking the weather before purchasing.

Each person should print and bring with them the confirmation payment page and waiver. If any youth needs a ride, a signed BCCUCC permission form is also needed (contact the leaders if you didn't receive one by e-mail). Snacks are available for purchase in the lodge so you might want to bring snack money.

Any youth not attending with their families who needs a ride **must** R.S.V.P. to the leaders at [bccjyg@gmail.com](mailto:bccjyg@gmail.com). Please also use this email address for any questions you may have, or speak with Laurie Dubel, Ginger Stabach, Kim Zeleznik, or Brendan Curran.



### Rinchen update and church school offering reminder

Rinchin Lhamu is the child at the Tibetan Refugee School who is supported by the collection of our children’s offering. She recently sent a letter wishing us a merry Christmas and a Happy New year. Rinchin was hard at work studying for “the annual exam”. She is now on winter break and has gone back to visit her family in her home town of Tuting which is on the boarder of India and Tibet.

#### Church School Offering Envelopes

At church school registration children’s offering envelopes were available to all who registered. Please help your child remember to bring their weekly

Church School offering in the special envelopes. If your child doesn’t have a set of children’s envelopes or needs a new set, please see Andrea Bullard.



### Worship Bags

New and improved Worship Bags are now available on Sundays when there is no Church School scheduled. They are designed for children to use during the service should they wish to, and are available from baskets at the back of the church. The bags will contain different material each time relating to the particular Sunday that they are available. We hope that your child enjoys the activities provided.

Please be sure to return the bag to the ‘Used’ basket at the end of the service. Thank you.

### Update on ‘Our Whole Lives – Sexuality and Our Faith’

The third year of Our Whole Lives has reached the halfway point. We have a terrific team of facilitators and a dedicated group of participants and families that are making this a meaningful and worthwhile commitment. Our hope is to again offer the program to 10<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders next year. Families of rising 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> graders are encouraged to start thinking about possible participation.



We are hopeful more adults will see the benefit of this program and consider becoming trained facilitators. If you would like to know more about the program and training possibilities during the spring and summer, please speak with Kristen Westmoreland, Andrea Bullard, Ray Zarlengo, Brendan Curran or Phyllis Buckley.

OWL sessions this month are on Sunday, February 1<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> from 10 am– 12 pm

All high school aged members of our congregation are invited and encouraged to be a part of the

#### **SPRING SERVICE PROJECT** from April 20<sup>th</sup>—22<sup>nd</sup>.

We will be partnering with *Save the Bay* to clean up our shorelines! Stay tuned for more details.

Contact Brendan if you want to participate at 401-246-0111 or [brendan@bccucc.org](mailto:brendan@bccucc.org)



There will be a **Pot luck and Group-building meeting** on **Sunday, March 1<sup>st</sup>** from 6-8 pm in the Library for all those participating in the **Service Project** on April 20-22<sup>nd</sup> (see above).

#### Senior Youth Group (for Grades 9-12)

Sunday, Feb 1<sup>st</sup> - Snowtubing at Yawgoo Valley with the Junior Youth Group (see page 5 for all the details)

Sunday, Feb 22<sup>nd</sup> - End of vacation Pizza Party from 6-8 pm in the library.



For more details contact Brendan Curran at [Brendan@bccucc.org](mailto:Brendan@bccucc.org) or 246-0111 x 104



#### CONFIRMATION CLASS

**Sunday, February 8<sup>th</sup>**  
from **6—8 pm** in the library

## Kindness: Pay it Forward on **Sunday, February 8<sup>th</sup>**.



Come make Valentines for our Homebound and for our College Students away at school on Sunday, February 8<sup>th</sup> at coffee hour. The Deacons will provide all the materials— you supply the creativity!

Please contact Cheryl Muth with college student's name and address at [jccbmuth@aol.com](mailto:jccbmuth@aol.com). Thank you.

### SERVE UP SOME EGGS FOR THE CHILDREN OF HAITI

The Mission and Justice and CEYM Teams are joining with the Haiti Task Force of the Rhode Island Conference, UCC, for an *eggciting* project during the Lenten season.

Through the **One Egg Haiti** program the Haiti Task Force is providing eggs to children in seven child centers that serve impoverished children.

Why eggs? Because one egg has 70 calories, almost every essential vitamin and mineral and many other beneficial food components. Egg protein is thought to be the highest quality of protein.

As of today, approximately 500 children are receiving one egg a day. It costs about \$60 to provide one egg a day to one child for one year.

In addition, it is hoped that communities will start their own poultry farms creating sustainable jobs for Haitians.

So, let's serve up some eggs for Haiti! On **Sunday, February 8<sup>th</sup>**, members of the Haiti Task Force will be in worship to tell us more about the work they are doing in Haiti. After worship, there will be an opportunity to create a giant nest during the Kindness: Pay It Forward activities (see below). Plastic eggs will be handed out to take home and fill with coins, bills, and checks. Filled eggs can be *eggchanged* each week for empty ones!

Here are some suggestions for setting goals:

15 cents provides: one egg for one child for one day. Each egg can hold at least 45 pennies or 32 quarters or 25 nickels or 50 dimes or 6 bills (any denomination).

Or about \$60 can feed one child an egg every day for a year.

What *eggcellent* donation can you make to One Egg Haiti?

For more information: [www.oneegg.org](http://www.oneegg.org). ->Chapters -> Haiti.

To learn more about the RICUCC Haiti Task Force, visit [www.richaititaskforce.org](http://www.richaititaskforce.org).



**BAKE SALE for 'One Egg for Haiti':** We hope you will contribute and buy a delicious baked good to help our spring fundraiser on February 8<sup>th</sup> in Fellowship Hall. The Mission and Justice Team and the Christian Education Youth Ministries (CEYM) are co-sponsoring "One Egg for Haiti" this spring, a fundraiser that will provide one egg a day for Haiti's orphan children (see above). All proceeds from the bake sale will benefit this cause. If you have any favorite recipes for breads, muffins, pie or cake, please consider contributing a baked good for the sale. For further information, contact Stephanie Edwards at [sedwards@rwu.edu](mailto:sedwards@rwu.edu) 245-9719 or Judy Meissner at [jwonder@cox.net](mailto:jwonder@cox.net) 247-7787

### KINDNESS: PAY IT FORWARD - *Eggstravaganza!*



The Mission & Justice team invites you to help make a large nest for receiving the plastic eggs used for One Egg Haiti donations. (see above). Sharon Sylvester will be helping you find materials from around the church yard as well as things she has brought from home. You might even be able to make a nest to take home for your egg(s).

### Kindness: Pay It Forward – Donate New or Gently Used Books



A small group met awhile back to discuss *Hot Dogs and Hamburgers* by Rob Schindler as part of the UCC'S 'Reading Changes Lives' initiative. One suggestion was to collect new or gently used books to distribute at organizations such as TAPIN and the Women's Resource Center. We invite you to bring books in on Feb. 8<sup>th</sup> and during Lent. There will be a basket in Fellowship Hall for them.

## What about the children in the US?

While we launch the *One Egg Haiti* program, Bread for the World's Briefing Paper from November 2014, provides us with key points in Ending Child Hunger in the United States:

- In 2013, 15.8 million children—more than one-fifth of all children in the United States—lived at risk of hunger.
- Hunger and food insecurity—even for brief periods—put children's health at risk and carry consequences that may last a lifetime.
- The federal government reauthorizes child nutrition programs every five years. The current law, the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 (P.L. 111-296), will expire on September 30, 2015.
- Each program needs sufficient funding to serve all eligible children well. Child nutrition programs should use scientifically-grounded nutrition standards that promote health.
- Investing in children's nutrition is not only the right thing to do, it is the smart thing to do. For example, every dollar a pregnant woman receives in WIC benefits saves up to \$4.21 in Medicaid expenses for her and her child.
- In addition to school lunch and WIC, programs serve children at other key times—for example, school breakfast, summer meals since school lunch and breakfast are not available, and meals for children in small family daycare programs.

*Written by Stacy Cloyd, Senior Domestic Policy Analyst at Bread for the World Institute.*

Bread for the World Institute provides policy analysis on hunger and strategies to end it. The Institute educates opinion leaders, policy makers and the public about hunger in the United States and abroad. The UCC frequently partners with Bread for the World on hunger issues. Visit [www.bread.org](http://www.bread.org).



### Collection during Lent

Once again this Lenten season we are collecting monetary donations for the Holy Joe's Café run by UCC military chaplains.

“HOLY JOE'S CAFÉ is a place where the chaplains in the small Forward Operating Bases, hangar bays, hospitals, aid stations, and their makeshift chapels are able to bring a taste of home to the tired, the anxious, the lonely and the wounded. They all can get gourmet coffee, a reminder that the world they willingly left behind still cares.”

*Chaplain Andrew Sholtes (HOLY JOE'S CAFÉ Blogspot).*

Please support our chaplains and troops by contributing to the baskets set out on the coffee hour table during Lent. These funds will be used to purchase Equal Exchange Coffee that will be sent to Holy Joe's Café.



The Mission and Justice Ministry Team would like to thank the congregation for their tremendous generosity in donating to this year's Giving Tree. A total of \$1,125 was donated and was used to purchase Gift certificates to a variety of different stores including supermarkets, pharmacies, Toys-r-Us etc. The gift cards were given to the Women's Resource Center and the recipients were extremely appreciative.

*Editor's note:* Special thanks to Lory McCoy of M&J who organized the Giving Tree again this year.

**Thank you** to everyone who donated hats, gloves, mittens and scarves to this year's Mitten Tree. Stephanie Edwards of our Mission and Justice Ministry Team delivered them to Amos House in time for Christmas, and the recipients were very appreciative.

Thank you to the Boy Scouts of Troop 4 who spent a Saturday in December painting Room 6. The troop meets at the church on Monday evenings throughout the school year and they wanted to do a service project to show their appreciation. Room 6 looks so much brighter and fresher now!



## Mobile Loaves and Fishes Truck Run

BCCUCC will be taking out the Mobile Loaves and Fishes (MLF) truck on

**Thursday, February 26<sup>th</sup> to Harrington Hall**, a men's shelter in Cranston.

Preparation begins at 4:00 p.m. at BCCUCC with the goal of getting to Cranston by 5:30—5:45 pm. The run works like all others except that the only clothing we can hand out are socks, underwear and toiletries. Also, volunteers who go on this run must be at least 18 years of age.

There are many jobs involved in getting the truck stocked and ready to serve; so help is needed with:

- donations of food items\* (refer to [www.signupgenius.com](http://www.signupgenius.com) for specifics)
- donations of **men's new** underwear, socks, and travel size toiletries\*\*
- making sandwiches, packaging cookies, stocking the truck
- going out with the truck and passing out food and clothing
- cleaning out the truck when it returns to BCCUCC

**we need  
your help!**

\* Food items needed for stocking the truck for this run include: granola bars, single-serve pudding, cookies, potato chips, hard boiled eggs, fruit, and juice bottles.

\*\* Collection boxes will be available in Fellowship Hall.

**Please sign up if you can help.....**



**There is an online sign up** at [www.signupgenius.com](http://www.signupgenius.com) for either donating items or helping with preparation, or going out on the truck. Click on the 'Find a Sign Up' tab near the top, and then search by typing in the church's e-mail address [office@bccucc.org](mailto:office@bccucc.org). The next page will list Active SignUps for our church - click on 'Mobile Loaves and Fishes Thurs Feb 26' to access the sign up sheet. Alternatively, you can click on this link: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050a4aaca2aa75-mobile3>

**If you can't sign up online** and want to help, or just have questions, please contact Liz White (245-0825 or [lizyw2@aol.com](mailto:lizyw2@aol.com)) or Jay or Phyllis Buckley (401-245-1098 or [pbuckley6@cox.net](mailto:pbuckley6@cox.net)).

*For more info about Mobile Loaves and Fishes visit [www.mlf.org](http://www.mlf.org).*

## The Christian Community Soup Kitchen in Pawtucket

The **Buildings and Grounds** and the **Stewardship** Ministry Teams are responsible for providing and serving the meal on **Saturday, February 21, 2015**.



**If you would like to assist with the soup kitchen at any time** — maybe by providing a main dish or salad or fresh fruit or granola bars or going to help serve at the kitchen — please contact our Soup Kitchen Coordinator, Diane Todd at (401) 245-4681 or [diane.todd@verizon.com](mailto:diane.todd@verizon.com).



**One Great Hour of Sharing.** Our congregation joins with other churches and denominations throughout the United States in receiving the One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) offering. This year our church will take the offering on Sunday, February 15<sup>th</sup>.

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.

Leaflets about this year's campaign and OGHS envelopes will be included in the worship bulletin on Feb 15<sup>th</sup>, or go online to [www.ucc.org/oghs](http://www.ucc.org/oghs) to learn more—you can also donate online. Donations may also be sent directly to the church office. Checks should be made payable to BCCUCC, and mark the memo line "OGHS". Thank you.



The **Dine-Out Group** will eat at  
**The Old Grist Mill Tavern**  
 390 Fall River Ave.,  
 Seekonk

on **Friday, February 13<sup>th</sup>** at **6:30 pm**

Ignore superstition and come to a  
 Valentine's dinner!  
 All are welcome - both singles & couples.

**RSVPs are required by Mon, Feb 9<sup>th</sup>**  
 to Sue Black at 245-2772 or  
[sueandjimblack@gmail.com](mailto:sueandjimblack@gmail.com)

## Book Group

next meets on

**Tuesday, February 17<sup>th</sup>**

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

**All are welcome!**

They will discuss the book

'Someone' by Alice McDermott

"The story of a Brooklyn-born woman's  
 life—her family, her neighborhood, her  
 daily trials and triumphs - from childhood  
 to old age".

**For more info on the group contact**  
**Helen Schall at 245-4724 or**  
[helenschall@hotmail.com](mailto:helenschall@hotmail.com)



## Knitting (and Crocheting) for Others

The group will next meet on

**Tuesday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>**

from **7 - 9 p.m.**

at the home of Kathleen Larsen,  
 7 Fireside Drive, Barrington.



Members are currently working on infant caps for the hospitals. They have worked on a variety of different projects for different causes including prayer shawls, helmet liners for soldiers, and Boston Strong scarves. Patterns are available. New ideas for knitting projects are always welcome and so are new knitters (or crocheters).

Contact Mary Lou Slicker (245-0085 or [rislick@fullchannel.net](mailto:rislick@fullchannel.net)) with any questions.

The Women's Faith Group will meet on

**Thursdays, February 5<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>**

from **1:30—3 p.m.** in the library.

Their next book for discussion is

*An Altar in the World* by Barbara Brown Taylor.

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)



## THE BEREAVEMENT GROUP

will meet on **Monday, Jan 26 & Feb 23**

**10—11 a.m.** in the church library

The group is for anyone who has experienced the loss of a loved one.

*New members are always welcome.*

Questions or for more info, contact Betsy Brenner at [jsbeeb@aol.com](mailto:jsbeeb@aol.com) or 245-8031.

## The Memory Impairment Support Group

will meet on **Tuesdays, Feb 10<sup>th</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup>**

from **1—2:30 p.m.** in the church library.

The group is open to both caregivers and patients and is for individuals, couples, and families looking for a safe space to share experiences and coping strategies for dealing with the variety of changes and losses involved with memory impairment diagnoses such as Alzheimer's and dementia. For more information contact Jim or Lois McCartney at 245-3288 or [jrmcc@fullchannel.net](mailto:jrmcc@fullchannel.net). The group is open to all – not just members of this church.



**Have you ever wondered who keeps the pew racks neat and tidy and restocks them as needed?** The answer is a group of dedicated volunteers who are scheduled to come in once every few weeks at their own convenience to do the work.

We are currently in need of some additional volunteers to stock the pews, so if you are interested, please contact Christine Wallis in the church office at 246-0111 or [office@bccucc.org](mailto:office@bccucc.org). She will be able to tell you exactly what is involved, and if you're interested in volunteering, she will add you to the schedule. Thank you.



## New on-line Sign Up Sheet for Coffee Hour



Ministry teams oversee coffee each week but they need additional help from the congregation – by providing food or helping serve or clean up. There is a newly improved on-line sign up sheet that can be used by both team members and by others willing to help. Just go to [www.signupgenius.com](http://www.signupgenius.com) and when prompted, put in the church's e-mail address of [office@bccucc.org](mailto:office@bccucc.org). This will take you to the BCCUCC page where it shows the available sign up sheets. Click on the one for 'Coffee Hours 2015'.

Alternatively, you can click on this link: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050a4aacae2aa75-coffee>

To sign up you just need to put in your first and last name and your e-mail address. You will receive an e-mail reminder a few days prior to the Sunday that you volunteered to help. You can also choose to create a SignUpGenius account by providing the same information – it then makes it even easier to sign up in the future - either to help with coffee hour or for other BCCUCC events such as Mobile Loaves and Fishes.



**Paper Sign Up Sheets:** If signing up on-line isn't your thing, there are also Coffee Hour sign-up sheets for the upcoming weeks at the back of Fellowship Hall or contact Jane Tonn ([jtonn2@cox.net](mailto:jtonn2@cox.net) or 289-2349) chair of Membership. Thank you.

## Family Footnotes

### Baptisms

**Wade Robert Finkle**

Son of Dan and Greta Finkle



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

1 Corinthians 12:13

If you or someone you know is in need of pastoral care, please inform either the ministers or the church office. A confidential message can be left for Jeff Larsen at 246-0111 x 103 or [jeff@bccucc.org](mailto:jeff@bccucc.org) or for Brendan Curran at 246-0111 x 104 or [brendan@bccucc.org](mailto:brendan@bccucc.org).



Susan Seader; Flo Fairfield;  
Diane Kitchin;  
and Steven Venuti's son.



### BIRTHS

*Victor Michael Fernandez*

born December 26th, 2014

to Kimberly Fodor and Luis Fernandez  
Grandparents: Steve and Marion Fodor

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

Paul Movsesian on the death of his brother, Mark;

Joan Cole on the death of her mother, Marian Best;

Laura Ward on the death of her parents,  
Anne and Jacob Nakshian;

Betty Vohr on the death of her sister, Gerda Gaedelis;

Diane Mason on the death of her father;

and to the families and friends of:

Jean Burrows, Helen Major,

Lurline Morris, and John Hess.

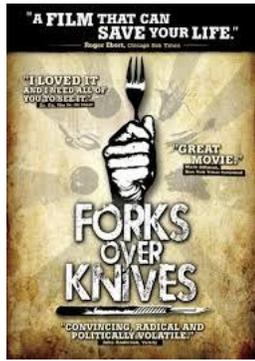


A Memorial Service for John Hess  
will take place at our church on  
Saturday, January 31st at 11 a.m.

**A reminder about two events happening on SUNDAY, JANUARY 25<sup>TH</sup> .....**

**ALL CHURCH LUNCHEON AND TURKEY PROGRAM**

A free (Blount's) soup lunch and program about the church group's trip to Turkey will take place in Fellowship Hall from 11:30 am – 12:45 pm. All are welcome. Some of you saw Jeff's pictures but this will be a chance to hear from trip members and see a movie created by Kathleen. At the morning's worship service, Jeff will preach on one of the sites the group visited related to the Apostle Paul.



**COMMUNITY PLANT-BASED POTLUCK AND 'FORKS OVER KNIVES' DOCUMENTARY**

Another plant based potluck has been organized by church member Judy Harff from 5 – 6:30 pm in Fellowship Hall. It will be followed by a screening and discussion of the *Forks over Knives* documentary from 6:30 – 8:30 pm. This is a community based event so all are welcome to the potluck, the screening or to both – spread the word! Bring a completely plant based dish (low oil and sodium) to share with 8 people. Invite your friends and family – babysitting available. Please RSVP to [judy@2startfresh.com](mailto:judy@2startfresh.com) A \$5 p/p donation is requested to cover hall rental.

**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.

**Barrington Congregational Church,  
United Church of Christ**

461 County Road,  
Barrington, RI 02806

Telephone: (401) 246-0111

E-mail: [office@bccucc.org](mailto:office@bccucc.org)

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

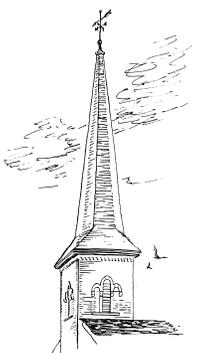
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/bccucc](http://www.facebook.com/bccucc)

Our **On-Line Church Calendar** can be found at

<http://bccucc.view-events.com>,

or go to the church website [www.bccucc.org](http://www.bccucc.org) and click on the link at the bottom of any page. The calendar is the only one we use and it is kept up to date.

Please remember to notify the office (246-0111 or [office@bccucc.org](mailto:office@bccucc.org)) of any changes/additions/corrections needed so it can be kept current.



Senior Minister:

The Rev. Dr. Jeffrey W. Larsen

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

Associate Minister:

The Rev. Brendan J. Curran

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

Organist/Choir Director:

Marina Zabinski

Office Administrator:

Christine Wallis

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

Financial Secretary:

Patricia Stoddard

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

Christian Education Assistant:

Andrea Terni Bullard

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

Custodians:

Jack Salvaggio, Jim Salvaggio,  
Paul Dzedzic, John Cordeiro

## February 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><b>1</b> Epiphany 4 <i>Super Bowl Sunday</i></p> <p><b>8:30 AM</b> CEYM meeting, <i>Library</i></p> <p><b>10:00 AM</b> Super Bowl Worship Service with Communion, Church School</p> <p><b>10:00 AM - 12:00 PM</b> OWL Session, <i>Library</i></p> <p><b>11:15 AM</b> Tailgating party at Coffee Hour</p> <p><b>2:00 PM</b> Jr &amp; Sr Youth Group go Snowtubing, <i>Yawgoo Valley</i></p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p><b>11:00 AM</b> Staff Meeting, <i>Jeff's Office</i></p> <p><b>3:30 PM</b> Lay Visitation meeting, <i>Library</i></p> <p><b>7:00 PM</b> Buildings and Grounds meeting, <i>Room 6</i></p>	<p><b>3</b></p> <p><b>7:00 PM - 9:00 PM</b> Knitting for Others group, <i>Kathleen Larsen's home</i></p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p><b>7:30 PM - 9:00 PM</b> Choir Rehearsal, <i>Vestry</i></p> <p><b>7:30 PM</b> Deacons' Meeting, <i>Room 6</i></p>	<p><b>5</b></p> <p><b>1:30 PM - 3:00 PM</b> Women's Faith Group, <i>Library</i></p>	<p><b>6</b></p>	<p><b>7</b></p>
<p><b>8</b> Epiphany 5 <i>Kindness: Pay it Forward Sunday</i></p> <p><b>10:00 AM</b> Worship Service with members of the Haiti Task Force, Church School</p> <p><b>11:15 AM</b> Eggstravaganza activities at coffee hour</p> <p><b>11:15 AM</b> Valentine Making, <i>Fellowship Hall</i></p> <p><b>6:00 PM - 8:00 PM</b> Confirmation Class, <i>Library</i></p>	<p><b>9</b></p> <p><b>11:00 AM</b> Staff Meeting, <i>Jeff's Office</i></p> <p><b>7:15 PM</b> Church Council meeting, <i>Room 6</i></p> <p><b>7:30 PM</b> Mission &amp; Justice meeting, <i>Stephanie Edwards' house</i></p>	<p><b>10</b></p> <p><b>1:00 PM - 2:30 PM</b> Memory Impairment Support Group, <i>Library</i></p>	<p><b>11</b></p> <p><b>7:30 PM - 9:00 PM</b> Choir Rehearsal, <i>Vestry</i></p>	<p><b>12</b></p>	<p><b>13</b></p> <p><b>6:30 PM</b> Dine Out at The Old Grist Mill Tavern in Seekonk</p>	<p><b>14</b></p>
<p><b>15</b> Transfiguration <i>One Great Hour of Sharing Offering</i></p> <p><b>10:00 AM</b> Worship Service for All Ages, Nursery Care only</p> <p><b>11:15 AM - 12:00 PM</b> Adult Study '7 Churches of Revelation', <i>Library</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Bridge Deadline</i></p>	<p><b>16</b> Presidents' Day  OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p><b>17</b></p> <p><b>7:00 PM</b> Book Group, <i>Coffee Depot</i></p>	<p><b>18</b> Ash Wednesday</p> <p><b>7:00 PM</b> Ash Wednesday Service, <i>Sanctuary</i></p> <p><b>7:30 PM - 9:00 PM</b> Choir Rehearsal, <i>Vestry</i></p>	<p><b>19</b></p> <p><b>1:30 PM - 3:00 PM</b> Women's Faith Group, <i>Library</i></p>	<p><b>20</b></p>	<p><b>21</b></p> <p><b>3:00 PM</b> BCCUCC (B&amp;G and Stewardship) leave to serve meal at Soup Kitchen</p>
<p><b>22</b> Lent 1 <i>Stewardship Campaign</i> begins</p> <p><b>10:00 AM</b> Worship Service for All Ages, Nursery Care only</p> <p><b>10:00 AM - 12:00 PM</b> OWL Session, <i>Library</i></p> <p><b>11:15 AM - 12:00 PM</b> Adult Study '7 Churches of Revelation', <i>Room 6</i></p> <p><b>6:00 PM - 8:00 PM</b> Senior Youth Group Pizza Party &amp; Meeting, <i>Library</i></p>	<p><b>23</b></p> <p><b>10:00 AM - 11:00 AM</b> Bereavement Group, <i>Library</i></p> <p><b>11:00 AM</b> Staff Meeting, <i>Jeff's Office</i></p>	<p><b>24</b></p> <p><b>1:00 PM - 2:30 PM</b> Memory Impairment Support Group, <i>Library</i></p>	<p><b>25</b></p> <p><b>7:30 PM - 9:00 PM</b> Choir Rehearsal, <i>Vestry</i></p>	<p><b>26</b></p> <p><b>4:00 PM</b> Prep begins for Mobile Loaves and Fishes run, <i>BCCUCC kitchen</i></p>	<p><b>27</b></p> <p><b>9:30 AM</b> Collate Bridge, <i>Room 6</i></p>	<p><b>28</b></p>