

CALENDAR AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

We encourage you to take this sheet home to refer to as needed.

Sun, Dec 10		<i>Advent 2</i>
	10 am	Worship Service with extra music from the choir, Church School
	After Church School	Sing and Celebrate Choir rehearsal, Room 6
Mon, Dec 11	10 am – 5 pm	OWL Class, Library
	7 pm	Buildings and Grounds meeting, Vestry
Tue, Dec 12	11 am	Staff meeting, Dale's office
	1 – 2:30 pm	Memory Impairment Support Group, Library
	7 pm	Church Council, Room 6
Wed, Dec 13	<i>Noon</i>	<i>Deadline for eBridge</i>
	6 – 8 pm	Feasting at Fireside, Parsonage
	7:30 – 9 pm	Choir rehearsal, Vestry
Thurs, Dec 14	3 – 5 pm	Brendan's Community Office Hours, Coffee Depot
Sat, Dec 16	7:30 pm	Barrington High School Jazz Band Concert, Sanctuary
Sun, Dec 17		<i>Advent 3</i>
	10 am	Worship Service with Sing and Celebrate Choir, Church School
	11:15 am – 12:30 pm	Pageant Rehearsal, Sanctuary
	12:30 pm	JYG & SYG meet in Room 9 to go Caroling, then have a Christmas Party



Birthdays for the Week of Dec 10th: *Robert Slye, Bill Ward, Dave Gregory, Ava DiMatteo, Amelia De La Torre, Wyatt Porter, Sydney Zarlengo, and Kim Colby.* Please keep them in your prayers.

If your birthday doesn't appear, please contact us at office@bccucc.org or 246-0111 so we can update the database.

DEACONS FOR DECEMBER: Jon Stabach (star), Abby Ashley, Chris Brady, Kim Zeleznik, and Bernie Hawes. In the event of a pastoral emergency after hours, if you cannot reach Dale (401 289-3780) or Brendan (401 318-2447) please call on a deacon.

Advent Candle Lighters & Christmas Eve Readers needed: Dale and Brendan are looking for people to read the liturgy and light the Advent candles on SUNDAYS, DEC 17 at 10 am, and on DEC 24 at 10 am, 5 pm & 10 pm. Additional volunteers are also needed to read scripture at the 10 pm Christmas Eve service of Lessons and Carols. If you are interested in volunteering for any of these please contact Rev. Dale Azevedo (401) 246-0111 ext 103 or dale@bccucc.org.

Mitten Tree: The mitten tree is up in the narthex TODAY to receive your donations of warm hats, gloves, scarves, and mittens etc. for children, youth and adults of all sizes this holiday season. Donations should be made *by next Sunday, December 17th* so they can be given to Amos House for distribution at their annual Christmas Dinner.

Giving Tree: Mission & Justice's "Giving Tree" is in Fellowship Hall again TODAY with envelopes for your donations of various amounts to apply to gift cards to supermarkets, pharmacies, gas stations, utilities, toy stores, shopping malls, etc. The gift cards will be given to the Women's Resource Center to help the families there afford the necessities, and also allow the women to have money to purchase gifts for their families and themselves. Donations need to be made *by Sunday, December 17th*. Contact Lory McCoy at lsnadmccoy@gmail.com or 247-2599 for more info or with questions.

OneEggHaiti fundraiser: Colorful bracelets made by Haitian women will be sold at coffee hour during December. The proceeds will help feed a child in Haiti an egg a day, an incredible source of protein that is important for cognitive and physical development. The RIC UCC Haiti Task Force is partners with OneEggHaiti to provide much needed protein for undernourished Haitian children in schools and orphanages. The bracelets make excellent Christmas presents!

Cards for Sale: Cards with a watercolor print of the church continue to be available during coffee hour while supplies last. The original painting was the work of long time member Mary Kutcher. The cards make great gifts for family and friends, are available in two sizes - greeting card (3 for \$5) and note card (5 for \$5) sizes – and are blank inside.

Chancel Fund: Donation forms with all of the information together with special envelopes are included in the bulletins the first 3 Sundays of Advent, which includes TODAY's bulletin. Money from the chancel fund is used to purchase the plants that decorate the sanctuary at Christmas, plus the plants that are delivered by the deacons to our homebound, sick or recently bereaved. We hope that you will consider donating to this fund. *Deadline for donations is Mon, Dec 18th.*

Sing and Celebrate Choir: Rehearsals continue TODAY after worship in Room 6. They are working on a song to be sung in church next Sunday, December 17th. Boys & girls in Grades 1 and older are most welcome to come sing and new singers are always welcome. Questions? Contact Kate Colby 246-1743 kcolby@fullchannel.net

Deadline for 2017 Reimbursable Expenses: The end of our current fiscal period is Dec 31st. If you have any invoices or expenses that you need to be reimbursed for, please fill out vouchers (which must be signed by the leader of your ministry team) and send them to the church office, with receipts attached, a.s.a.p. Vouchers are available from a folder on Pat's desk in the church office. *Expenses turned in after Mon, December 11th will be charged to next year's budget!*

Memory Impairment Support Group meets TUES, DEC 12TH from 1 - 2:30 pm in the library. It is open to patients and caregivers, and they need not be members of this church. Info: contact Jim McCartney 245-3288 jrmcc@fullchannel.net

Next eBridge: The next eBridge will be published THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14TH and this will be the last newsletter for 2017. Deadline for submissions is Noon on Wednesday, December 13th, but an earlier submission is appreciated.

Community Office Hours are when our ministers make themselves available in a more informal setting for anyone from the church or community to stop by and visit. Brendan is at The Coffee Depot, 501 Main Street, Warren on THURSDAY AFTERNOONS from 3–5 pm. Dale is hoping to resume his community office hours in the New Year. Stay tuned!

Holiday Jazz Concert: On SATURDAY, DEC 16TH at 7:30 pm the Barrington High School Jazz Band will be playing a concert in the sanctuary as a fundraiser for our mission trip to the Navajo Nation! Admission is \$5 at the door. Come enjoy a wonderful evening of music and support our mission trip. Refreshments will follow the performance in the vestry.

JYG/SYG Caroling and Christmas Party: The Junior and Senior Youth groups will be going Christmas caroling to local assisted living facilities on SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17TH, leaving from the church at 12:45 pm. (Gather in Room 9 at 12:30 pm after the pageant rehearsal). Following the caroling there will be a Christmas party in Room 9 with refreshments and a white elephant gift exchange (where everyone re-gifts something they like but choose to give it away in the spirit of giving). The youth will also make ornaments and watch a Christmas movie. All in grades 6-12 are welcome. Questions? Contact Brendan at Brendan@bccucc.org

Bereavement Group meets MONDAY, DECEMBER 18TH at 11 am in the library. The group is open to anyone who has lost a loved one at any time. For more info contact the facilitator Betsy Brenner at jsbeeb@aol.com or 245-8031.

The Book Group meets TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19TH at 7 pm in the church library. They will discuss *The Relic Master* by Christopher Buckley. “Through the cheeky humor, the author gives readers a very real sense of the 16th century when science and superstition held equal sway, and a man was always a sword's breadth away from a horrible death”. (Publisher's Weekly). For more info contact Helen Schall helenschall@hotmail.com 245-4724. All are welcome!

Our Church calendar can be viewed online at <http://bccucc.view-events.com> If you have any meetings or activities planned, please send them to office@bccucc.org to be added to the calendar. Also any errors or changes. Thanks.

Christmas Eve Services: On SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24TH there will be a regular **10 am** worship service for the 4th Sunday of Advent. Dale will give the last sermon in the Advent series ‘It is Coming...’ Later the same day, Christmas Eve services will be held in the sanctuary at 5 pm and 10 pm. The **5 pm** Family service will include a Christmas Pageant with Brendan’s giant puppets and this year we’re inviting the congregation to come dressed as a nativity character or animal. (more information below). Please note that, unlike last year, this year’s 5 pm service will take place entirely in the sanctuary. The **10 pm** service will be a traditional service of Lessons and Carols and Dale will give the Christmas message. Music at the later service will include congregational singing of many favorite carols with special selections from our adult choir and instrumentalists. We hope that you can join us for worship this Christmas Eve.

Christmas Pageant 2017! The puppets will be back and we need everyone’s help! We want to include the whole congregation this year! All who plan to attend the five o’clock pageant on Christmas Eve are encouraged to come to the pageant dressed as their favorite nativity character! (this is optional but you are encouraged.) Is God calling you to be Mary or Joseph? Maybe you’re a donkey! Maybe you’re an angel, a shepherd, or a wise person! Please make a costume during Advent and wear it to the pageant and be part of our living nativity with the puppets! We also need puppeteers! If you’re interested in operating a puppet please contact Brendan at brendan@bccucc.org. Children participating in the pageant will rehearse during church school on Sun. Dec. 17th. Participants operating puppets will need to come to the pageant rehearsal after church on Sunday Dec. 17th from 11:15-12:30. Participants with speaking roles and Puppeteers are also asked to come early on Christmas Eve to run through the pageant at 4 pm. Children participating are asked to arrive at 4:30 pm. Let’s all help bring the nativity to life this year!

Staff Christmas Gift: *A message from Dale and Brendan...* “During the weeks of Advent you will find in the pew racks an envelope marked “Staff Christmas Gift.” We are blessed to have wonderful people working here who give more hours to our church than expected or are compensated for. We therefore invite you to join with us in giving them a gift during these holidays. Your gifts will be divided up among six different people; Christine and Pat in the office, Andrea our CE Coordinator, Marina at our organ, and Paul & John on the custodial staff. Each staff person will receive this gift according to the number of hours they work. Thank you ahead of time for your generosity.”

Make money for the church while Christmas shopping: You can raise money for our church when you shop online by shopping at **AmazonSmile** where every eligible purchase you make on Amazon will raise 0.5% of the purchase price for our church. To learn more visit <http://smile.amazon.com> and choose ‘Barrington Congregational Church’ as your charitable organization. The church receives a quarterly deposit from Amazon!

Embracing & Sharing Beloved Community: A Dialogue/Conversation between Rev. Dr. Dale Azevedo & Rabbi Andrew Klein will take place at Temple Habonim on FRIDAY, JANUARY 12TH at 6:15 pm - Worship followed by dinner; and at Barrington Congregational Church on SUNDAY, JANUARY 14TH at 10 am - Worship followed by fellowship. BCCUCC and Temple Habonim share a long history of being good neighbors, welcoming each other into our respective houses of worship, and appreciating the differences between us. Our two communities of faith will gather twice over Martin Luther King Jr. weekend to celebrate his vision of beloved community and explore ways that we can keep his dream alive during these challenging times. Please mark your calendar and then join us at either or both worship services.

Dale and Elizabeth would like to get to know you better! All members and friends of the church are encouraged to sign up and join Elizabeth and Dale Azevedo for monthly dinners at the parsonage (7 Fireside Drive, Barrington). Sign up for dates in early 2018 at the following link <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0d4eaba823a6f85-feasting> or contact the church office. They don't guarantee a gourmet meal, but do promise a comfortable table where all are welcome!

Room 8 to become a Meditation Room: As a part of his ministry plan this year, Brendan will be leading meditation classes at the church and we need your help to transform Room 8 into a meditation space. A list of what’s needed is on the church website (www.bccucc.org and click on the link on the home page) or speak with Brendan. Thanks to everyone who has already made a donation. With some more donations we’re hoping to create the meditation room in early 2018.

There is a Nursery Nook available in the vestry - located directly below the sanctuary - where a parent can retreat with a fussy child during worship, should they wish to, and still hear the service on the loudspeaker down there. (If you can't hear anything, use the knob on the front of the speaker to turn up the volume.)