

# CALENDAR AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Sun, Dec 18, 2016		<b>Christmas Fund Offering</b>
	10 am	Worship Service, Pageant preparation for Church School children
	11:15 am – 1 pm	Pageant Rehearsal, Library then Fellowship Hall
	Noon	Historical Group meeting, Room 6
Mon, Dec 19		<b>Deadline for Chancel Fund donations</b>
Tues, Dec 20	10:30 – Noon	‘White Privilege’ Curriculum study, Library
	11 am	Staff meeting, Dale’s office
Wed, Dec 21	7:30 – 9 pm	Choir Rehearsal, Vestry
Fri, Dec 23		Office Closed
Sat, Dec 24		<b>Christmas Eve</b>
	4:30 pm	Pageant rehearsal for characters and puppeteers
	5:30 pm	Pageant rehearsal for church school children
	6 pm	Worship Service with Christmas Pageant, Fellowship Hall then Sanctuary
	10 pm	Service of Lessons and Carols, Sanctuary
Sun, Dec 25		<b>Christmas Day</b>
	10 am	Child-friendly Worship Service
Mon, Dec 26		Office Closed
Tues–Thurs, Dec 27-31		Office Open 9:30 am–12:30 pm only.
Sun, Jan 1, 2017	10 am	Worship Service with Communion

## Birthdays for the Week of December 18<sup>th</sup>

*John Faulhaber, David McMillan, Cameron Voigt, Christian Odjakjian, Ozzie Rosenhom, Lynne Githens, Evan Anderson, Steve Fodor, Hannah Lennon, Carol Louttit, and Noelle Cooke.*

## Birthdays for the Week of December 25<sup>th</sup>

*Andrew Todd, Stephanie Edwards, Victor Fernandez, Nancy Voigt, Carolyn Materne, Willow Rainock, Alex Anderson, Gabe Anderson, Giovanni Malpartida, Kristen Westmoreland, Tracy Hoyt, and John Lemos.*

**DEACONS FOR DECEMBER:** Pat Rude (star), Joe Judge, Chris Morton, Susan Rotblat-Walker, Susan Seader, and Tom Wegner. 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 one of the deacons. Dale will be on vacation December 28 – January 2.

**Advent Candle Lighters & Christmas Eve Readers needed:** Dale still needs some people to read the liturgy and light the Advent candles on Christmas Eve at 10 pm, and on Christmas Day at 10 am. 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 please contact Rev. Dale Azevedo a.s.a.p. at (401) 246-0111 ext 103 or [dale@bccucc.org](mailto:dale@bccucc.org). Thank you.

**Christmas Fund Offering:** This SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18<sup>TH</sup> special envelopes will be included in the bulletin for the collection of the UCC’s Christmas Fund for the Veterans of the Cross and the Emergency Fund. The Fund assists with Pension Supplementation, Health Premium Supplementation, Emergency Grants, and Christmas ‘Thank You’ gifts to individuals and families in need. Learn more at [www.christmasfund.org](http://www.christmasfund.org) Please make checks payable to ‘BCCUCC’ and mark the memo line ‘Christmas Fund’. Thank you.

**Pageant rehearsal** will take place this SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18<sup>TH</sup> from 11:15 am – 1 pm. The characters and puppeteers are asked to meet in the library at 11:15 am (grab a cup of coffee on your way if you like). We’ll read through the pageant before moving into Fellowship Hall for a run through. Participants **MUST** be at this rehearsal and stay for its entirety. Pageant preparation for the children will take place during Church School time this SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18<sup>TH</sup>. The final Pageant rehearsal will be on Christmas Eve - main characters and puppeteers at 4:30 pm, and church school children at 5:30 pm. Questions? Contact Brendan at 246-0111 or [Brendan@bccucc.org](mailto:Brendan@bccucc.org)

**Chancel Fund:** MONDAY, DECEMBER 19<sup>TH</sup> is the deadline for receiving donations to the Chancel Fund. Donation forms and special envelopes are included in this Sunday’s bulletin. You are invited to make a donation in memory of, thanksgiving for, or celebration of someone or some special event. Information on how the Fund is used is included on the donation form. A member of the Chancel Team will be at the piano in Fellowship Hall at coffee hour to receive your envelope with completed dedication form and donation or drop it by the church office on Monday. An insert will be included in the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day bulletins listing all of the donors and dedications. Thank you.

**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.”

**Mitten Tree:** The mitten tree is up in the narthex ready to receive your donations of warm hats, gloves, scarves, and mittens for children, youth and adults of all sizes this holiday season. Donations should be made **BY THIS SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18<sup>TH</sup>** so they can be given to Amos House for distribution at their annual Christmas Dinner.

**Giving Tree:** The Mission & Justice Ministry Team's "Giving Tree" will be in Fellowship Hall again this Sunday, with envelopes for your donations of various amounts to apply to gift cards to supermarkets, pharmacies, gas stations, utilities, toy stores, Ocean State Job Lot, 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 them to have money to purchase gifts for their families and themselves. THIS SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18<sup>TH</sup> will be your last opportunity to make a donation! Contact Lory McCoy at [lsnadymccoy@gmail.com](mailto:lsnadymccoy@gmail.com) or 247-2599 for more information or with questions.

**Christmas Services:** Since Christmas is falling on a Sunday this year, we will be hosting only two services on Christmas Eve along with another one on Christmas Day. Please note the change in times from last year.

**Christmas Eve: Saturday, December 24<sup>th</sup>**

**6 pm** The early service will once again be our rendition of the Christmas pageant. Brendan's famous puppets will be returning to star in this service although there will be a new twist with an actual journey to the manger. The service will begin in Fellowship Hall. About half way through the congregation will process to the manger in the Sanctuary for remainder of the service. Provision will be made for anyone needing extra time or assistance moving from one location to the other. We hope that you can join us for this unique telling of the Christmas story.

**10 pm** Our later service will be a more traditional service of lessons and carols led by Marina and the choir, with additional instrumental and vocal solos. Dale will be delivering a brief Christmas message as we come together to welcome God's promise of *Emmanuel*, "God with us".

**Christmas Day: Sunday, December 25<sup>th</sup>**

**10 am** Families and people of all ages are invited to join us for worship on Christmas morning. This service will be celebratory, simple and child friendly. And, yes, there WILL be presents.

**End of Year Giving Reminder:** We respectfully request that if at all possible you fulfill your 2016 financial pledge to the church before the end of the year. Please note that if you wish to have any contribution recorded as being received by the church in 2016, it must be in the hands of the office by December 31<sup>st</sup> or postmarked by that date. Thank you.

**'3 Centuries & Beyond' Merchandise:** The Historical Group is selling 300th Celebration merchandise at coffee hour every Sunday or from the church office. You can pick up a **2017 Calendar** for \$12. Orders can be taken for a **Tote** for \$22, a **T-Shirt** for \$18, and/or a **Fleece** for \$42 - pre-payment is requested with orders. It's too late to get orders in time for Christmas, but you can still order for yourself or as a birthday or other gift for someone else! Proceeds will benefit the yearlong celebration and the archiving & preservation of our historical documents and items. Questions, please contact Pat Rude 837-2845 [ru4880@cox.net](mailto:ru4880@cox.net) or Marion Fodor 245-2003 [smfodor@cox.net](mailto:smfodor@cox.net), or email [300th@bccucc.org](mailto:300th@bccucc.org).

**Concert by Atwater-Donnelly duo** is on SUNDAY, JANUARY 8<sup>TH</sup> at 4 pm in our Sanctuary. This is part of the 300<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Concert Series at BCCUCC being organized by our Historical group. The concert is of traditional American Folk Music and Dance - learn more at [www.atwater-donnelly.com](http://www.atwater-donnelly.com). Tickets are on sale at coffee hour or from the church office. Cost: Adult/Youth - \$15 Seniors (65+) - \$10 Children (2-14) - \$5 Family (4) - \$35.

**Women's Faith Group:** The new book they will read and discuss is *Accidental Saints* by Nadia Bolz-Weber. Copies of the book are available for purchase from the church office at the discounted price of \$12. The group will next meet in the library on THURSDAY, JANUARY 5<sup>TH</sup>. All women are welcome including those from other churches and faiths. For more info contact Carol Louttit 245-2299 or [chl2299@aol.com](mailto:chl2299@aol.com) or Nancy Martin 273-1078 or [nancy.martin3@verizon.net](mailto:nancy.martin3@verizon.net)

**NAMI Family Support Group:** NAMI RI (*National Alliance on Mental Illness*) is holding a monthly support group at our church for family members of people with mental illness. The group is open to anyone in the community and they meet the first Thursday of the month from 6 – 7:30 p.m. in Room 6. Their next meeting is on THURSDAY, JANUARY 5<sup>TH</sup> and all are welcome. For more info contact Cindy Elder at 331-3060 or [cindy.elder@namirhodeisland.org](mailto:cindy.elder@namirhodeisland.org)

**The Bereavement Group** next meets MONDAY, JANUARY 9<sup>TH</sup> from 11:30 am – 12:30 pm in the church library. (Note the change in time). Anyone who has lost a loved one at any time is welcome, and participants need not be from this church. For more information contact the facilitator, Betsy Brenner at [jsbeeb@aol.com](mailto:jsbeeb@aol.com) or 245-8031.

**Memory Impairment Support Group** will next meet on TUESDAY, JANUARY 10<sup>TH</sup> from 1 - 2:30 pm in the church library. The group is open to patients and caregivers, and participants need not be members of this church. For more information contact Jim or Lois McCartney at 245-3288 or [jrmcc@fullchannel.net](mailto:jrmcc@fullchannel.net)

**Knitting for Others** members have been busy making red hats for newborns and preemies as part of 'Little Hats, Big Hearts' [www.heart.org/littlehatsbighearts](http://www.heart.org/littlehatsbighearts), and are also making items for the mitten tree. Knitters are reminded that the red hats need to be given to Paula Rooks (245-1395 or [paularooks@fullchannel.net](mailto:paularooks@fullchannel.net)) in time for her to get them to the Providence headquarters *by the December 31<sup>st</sup> deadline*. Deadline for mitten tree items is *Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup>*. The Knitting for Others group will meet on TUESDAY, JANUARY 10<sup>TH</sup> from 7 – 9 pm at the home of Marion Fodor, 12 Katie Drive, Warren. All knitters and crocheters are welcome, and the group is always pleased to see new faces. For more info contact Mary Lou Slicker at 245-0085 of [rislick@fullchannel.net](mailto:rislick@fullchannel.net)

**Book Group** next meets on TUESDAY, JANUARY 17<sup>TH</sup> at 7 pm in the church library to discuss *The Children's Crusade* by Ann Packer. For more info, contact Helen Schall 245-4724 or [helenschall@hotmail.com](mailto:helenschall@hotmail.com). All are welcome.

**Keypad locks** have been installed on the entrance doors to the Education building in the kitchen and by the church office. A code is required for entry which has been provided to those who need it. If you haven't received it and will need access to the building after hours, please contact Christine in the church office ahead of time at [office@bccucc.org](mailto:office@bccucc.org) or 246-0111. The other outside doors of the education building have been rekeyed so that only a master key will now work. If you had a key for just the Education building it will no longer work in any of the outside doors, so please enter via the doors with keypads. The locks in the church building remain the same.