

CALENDAR AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Sun, Dec 6	10 am	Worship Service with Communion, Church School
	After Worship	Sing and Celebrate Choir rehearsal, Room 9
	During Coffee Hour	Bake Sale to raise money for Mission Trip, Fellowship Hall
	11:15 am – 1:15 pm	Confirmation Class, Library
Mon, Dec 7	11 am	Staff meeting, Sue's office
	3:30 pm	Lay Visitation meeting, Library
	7 pm	Advent Bible Study, Library
Tues, Dec 8	1:30 – 3 pm	Memory Impairment Support Group, Library
	7 pm	Search Committee – ad hoc, Library
Wed, Dec 9	7:30 pm	Choir rehearsal, Vestry
Fri, Dec 11	6:30 pm	Dine Out group eat at SS Dion
Sat, Dec 12	7:30 pm	Winter Jazz Concert, Sanctuary
Sun, Dec 13	10 am	Worship Service, Church School
	After Worship	Sing and Celebrate Choir rehearsal, Room 9
	After Worship	Deacons pick up Christmas plants for delivery, Vestry
	11:15 am	Pageant rehearsal, Sanctuary
	3 – 6 pm	JYG, SYG and others interested meet to go caroling at nursing homes
	6 – 6:30 pm	Mission Trip meeting for all participants, Library



Birthdays for the Week of December 6th

Bethia Rosner, Liz Rosenholm, Drew Todd,
Holly Meade, Robert Slye, Bill Ward, Kerstin Caesar,
Emily Caesar, and Dave Gregory.

Please keep them in your prayers.

DEACONS FOR DECEMBER

Jon Stabach (star deacon), Abby Ashley, Larry Ashley,
Stephanie Edwards, Greg Voigt, and Liz White.

In the event of a pastoral emergency after hours, if you cannot reach Sue (781 724 9831) or Brendan (401 318 2447) please call on one of the deacons.

Bake Sale: The Mission & Justice Team is hosting a bake sale during coffee hour TODAY to raise money for the 2016 Mission Trip. Please help them by purchasing a home-made baked item. Thanks to everyone who baked.

Candle Sale: To raise funds for the 2016 Mission Trip, Ava Anderson's artisan chemical-free candles are being sold during the four weeks of advent. Candle sales will take place during coffee hour through the month of December. *Deadline for Christmas delivery is December 18th.* Order forms will be available at coffee hour or from the rack outside the church office. To help with this fundraiser or with questions contact Ginger Stabach gstabach@gmail.com or (401) 225-2076. Visit Ginger's website at www.AvaAndersonNonToxic.com/ginger

Volunteers needed for 5 pm Christmas Eve Pageant:

TODAY is the deadline to sign up to participate. Volunteers of all ages are needed as indicated below. To volunteer for any of the roles or ask questions, contact Rev. Brendan Curran at 246-0111 or Brendan@bccucc.org

CAST:

Unless otherwise indicated all parts are open to children age 10 and up. Puppet roles have stars *** next to them.

Narrator - age 12 and up **3 Prophets** **2 Townspeople** **3 Shepherds** *** **3 Innkeepers**
Angel Puppet: *** (3 strong high school students or adults operate this larger puppet)
3 Sheep *** (3 people fifth grade and up - one large adult sized sheep, a medium sized person sheep, and a little sheep!)
We need lively sheep with strong personalities! Must be able to baaaahh!
Mary *** A large puppet - we need a teenager or an adult **Joseph** *** A large puppet - we need a teenager or an adult
Wise Men/Kings *** 3 people are needed to operate the single three kings puppet. One needs to be a teenager or an adult.
Chorus of Angels and Shepherds Younger children from preschool thru age 10

REHEARSAL SCHEDULE:

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13TH at 11:15 am for 45 minutes. Everyone should attend for a reading and walk through. This includes the younger Chorus of Angels and Shepherds who will learn their song and pick up their angel or shepherd costume.
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20TH at 11:15 am. Rehearsal with puppets for cast and puppeteers. Refreshments will be provided. (The chorus of angels and shepherds do not attend – their only rehearsal is on December 13th).
CHRISTMAS EVE at 3:30 pm Dress rehearsal for cast and puppeteers.
CHRISTMAS EVE at 4:30 pm Chorus of Angels and Shepherds arrive.

Winter Jazz Concert by the Barrington High School Jazz Ensemble - nationally recognized for its excellence - will take place on SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12TH at 7:30 pm in our sanctuary. Admission is \$5 and this year the concert is a fundraiser for the 2016 Mission Trip. Refreshments will be served at a reception after the concert. Mark your calendar!

Advent Bible Study: For the first three Monday evenings in Advent, NOVEMBER 30TH, DECEMBER 7TH & 14TH all are invited to join Rev. Brendan Curran at 7 pm in the Library for an hour of practicing "Lectio Divina," a contemplative way of reading scripture. Together, participants will "read, reflect, respond, and rest," with the Advent scriptures inviting the Christmas story to take root in the heart. Hope you can join us for this special time during the busy holiday season.

Christmas Eve services this year are at **5 pm** – Family friendly service includes Pageant (with puppets); **7 pm** – Lessons and Carols (traditional with choir); and **11 pm** – Contemplative Service with Communion.

Advent Candle Lighters needed: Sue and Brendan are looking for people to read the short liturgy and light the Advent candles on December 20, on Christmas Eve at the 5 pm & 7 pm services, and on December 27. Individuals, families or groups are welcome to do this. If you are interested please contact Sue (246-0111 x103 or sue@bccucc.org).

Christmas Eve Readers needed: Volunteers are needed to read scripture at the 7 p.m. Christmas Eve service of Lessons and Carols. If you are interested please contact Rev Sue Remick at (401) 246-0111 ext 103 or sue@bccucc.org

Come Caroling: The Junior and Senior Youth Groups will be joining forces next SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13TH from 3 – 6 pm to go caroling at two local nursing homes, and they invite others from the congregation to join them. Meet in the church library at 3 pm to get organized before carpooling to the nursing homes. They'll return to the church for cookies and cider. Youth group members will require signed permission slips. RSVP to the youth group leaders at bccjyg@gmail.com

Longest Night Service: On MONDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 21ST at 7 pm, we will gather for a brief service for the Longest Night. Many churches hold a gathering on the Longest Night to light candles and give hope and healing to those who are grieving or in despair. It is a reminder that "it is better to light just one little candle, than to stumble in the dark". We will have a few readings, a prayer, hold some periods of silence, light candles, and for those who wish it, receive a blessing with oil. If this is a particularly difficult season for you, join us on the longest night, and be with others in prayer. This service is open to the community so invite your friends. It will be informal and inclusive in nature. One God, one Hope.

Mitten Tree: During Advent, NOVEMBER 29TH - DECEMBER 20TH our Mitten Tree is in the narthex (near where the greeters stand) for your donations of new hats, mittens, scarves and gloves of all sizes - for children, teenagers and adults. The items will be donated to Amos House for distribution to those in need at their annual Christmas dinner in Providence. Both handmade and purchased items are most welcome.

Giving Tree: Our Mission and Justice Ministry Team is again having a "Giving Tree" with envelopes for donations of various amounts to apply to gift cards to supermarkets, pharmacies, gas stations, utilities, toy stores, Wal-Mart, shopping malls, etc. to help needy families afford the necessities, and also allow them to have money for gifts for their families and themselves. The tree will be up in Fellowship Hall THRU SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20TH and donations will be taken each Sunday. The gift cards purchased will be donated to the Women's Resource Center for Newport and Bristol Counties.

Search Committee update: The Search Committee has been taking all the information that you have provided in the Church Chats and have sent in, and are using it for the Church Profile. Many thanks to all that have participated as this will help us a great deal in our search for next Senior Minister. With Christmas right around the corner, we're going to take a few weeks off until after the holidays but will be back at it right in the New Year.

Memory Impairment Support Group meets TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8TH 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 info contact Jim or Lois McCartney at 245-3288 or jrmcc@fullchannel.net

The Bereavement Group meets MON, DEC 14TH at 10 am in the library. Anyone who has lost a loved one at any time is welcome - participants need not be from this church. Contact Betsy Brenner at jsbeeb@aol.com or 245-8031 for more info.

Dine Out Group: All are invited to join Dine Out on FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11TH at 6:30 pm at SS Dion restaurant, 520 Thames Street, Bristol RI. RSVP's are required by *Wednesday, December 9th* to Sue Black or (401) 245-2772 at sueandjimblack@gmail.com. All are welcome - singles, couples, oldtimers and newcomers alike!

Book Group meets TUES., DEC 15TH at 7 pm at The Coffee Depot, 501 Main St, Warren to discuss the book *Goodnight June* by Sarah Jio. All are welcome. For more info, contact Helen Schall at 245-4724 or helenschall@hotmail.com

Women's Faith Group. On THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17TH the group will meet on the first floor of Trafford Restaurant in Warren for their annual Christmas Lunch. RSVP for the lunch by *Dec 14th* to Jane Tonn at 289-2349 or jtonn2@cox.net, or to the church office 246-0111 or office@bccucc.org

Goodwill Professional Clothes Drive: For the next several weeks there is a special Goodwill bin in the foyer of Fellowship Hall for the collection of men's and women's suits, shirts, dresses, blouses, shoes, belts, purses and anything else that might be appropriate for a person to wear for a job interview. The bin will only be here until just after Christmas so don't delay!

Thank you to Cardi Corp for rebuilding the storm drain in the driveway behind the church. They did a great job and it should last a long time. We thank them for doing this work at no cost to the church.

Thank you to Debbi Barton - a Barrington resident and member of St. John's church - who last year saw that the crèche figures on our front lawn were in need of repainting. She volunteered her time and expertise and has repainted about half of the figures. She will do the remaining figures in time for next Christmas. We thank her for her talent and generosity.

Staff Christmas Gift: *A message from Sue and Brendan:* "During the weeks of Advent you will find in the pew racks an envelope marked 'Staff Christmas Bonus'. We are blessed to have wonderful people working here who give more hours to our church than expected or are compensated for. They work especially hard during an interim time. We therefore invite you to give them a gift during these holidays. Your gifts will be divided up among Christine and Pat in the office, Andrea our CE Coordinator, Marina at our organ, and Paul & John on the custodial staff - according to the number of hours they work. Thank you for your generosity."

Deadline for reimbursements: The end of our current fiscal period is December 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, as soon as possible. Vouchers are available from the folder at the front of Pat's desk in the church office. *Expenses turned in after Monday, Dec 14th will be charged to next year's budget!*