

## CALENDAR AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sun., Dec., 7	10 am After Church School 6 – 8 pm	Worship Service with Communion, Church School Sing and Celebrate Choir rehearsal, Room 9 Confirmation Class, Library
Mon., Dec., 8	10 am 11 am 7 pm	Bereavement Group, Library Staff meeting, Jeff's office Sacred Conversations in Advent, Library
Tue., Dec., 9	1-2:30 pm 7 pm	Memory Impairment Support Group, Library Book Group, Coffee Depot
Wed., Dec., 10	7:30 pm	Choir rehearsal, Vestry
Thurs., Dec., 11	12:30 pm 6 – 8 pm	Women's Faith Group Holiday Lunch, Trafford's restaurant Senior Youth Group, Room 9
Fri., Dec., 12	7:30 pm	BHS Jazz Band Christmas Concert, Sanctuary
Sat., Dec., 13	2:30 pm	Volunteers leave to serve meal at Soup Kitchen in Pawtucket
Sun., Dec., 14	10 am 11:15 am 2:30 pm	<i>Jazz Christmas Sunday</i> Worship Service with Jazz Music, Church School Finance Team meeting, Library Junior & Senior Youth Group meet at church to go Caroling



### Birthdays for the Week of December 7<sup>th</sup>

*Liz Rosenholm, Drew Todd, Holly Meade,  
Robert Slye, Bill Ward, Kerstin Caesar, Emily  
Caesar, Dave Gregory, and Ava DiMatteo.*  
Please keep them in your prayers.

### DEACONS FOR DECEMBER

Chris Brady (Star Deacon), Cheryl Muth,  
Liz White, and Greg Voigt.

*If in a pastoral emergency after hours you cannot reach  
Brendan (318-2447) or Jeff (247-1787) please contact a deacon.*

**Children's Bulletins:** We have two different versions – one for ages 3-6 and one for ages 7-12 – available for pick up from the basket on the table in the narthex as you come into church. If you forgot, please feel free to go get one!

**Headphones Available.** There are two sets of full headphones in the sanctuary for those who need extra help hearing the service. They plug into the usual box and cover both ears. Check with the ushers for availability.

**Who volunteered to light the Advent Candles on Christmas Eve?** Last Sunday someone spoke to Jeff at coffee hour and volunteered to do it at the 5 pm Christmas Eve service. Unfortunately, he didn't write it down and can't remember who it was. It turns out that the need is for the 9 p.m. service and not the earlier service so Jeff needs to know if the volunteer would like to do it at the later service instead. Would the person who volunteered please contact Jeff a.s.a.p. at 246-0111 ext 103 or [Jeff@bccucc.org](mailto:Jeff@bccucc.org) Thanks.

**Christmas Eve Readers Needed:** A couple more volunteers are needed to read Scripture at the 9 pm Christmas Eve service. Please contact Jeff if interested ([jeff@bccucc.org](mailto:jeff@bccucc.org) or 246-0111, x. 103). Thank you!

**Sacred Conversations in Advent:** On Monday Evenings during Advent, Brendan is facilitating a sacred conversations group in the Library at 7 pm. Meetings consist of lighting the advent candles, reading a brief reflection, sharing together about the weekly conversation topic, as well as sharing Joys and Concerns. The intention is to provide a contemplative and intimate space for reflection and sharing to nurture our spiritual lives together during what can be a stressful time of year. All are welcome for any or all remaining Monday meetings on DECEMBER 8<sup>TH</sup>, 15<sup>TH</sup> & 22<sup>ND</sup> -

**Christmas Eve Services:**

5 pm	Family-friendly service that includes a Christmas Pageant
9 pm	Traditional Service of carols and readings with the adult choir
11:30 pm	Contemplative Service with Communion

**Christmas Pageant:** This year's pageant will take place at the 5 pm Christmas Eve service and will include participants of all ages. Brendan has made large puppets for some of the main characters in the Christmas story, so in addition to speaking roles there is also a need for some puppeteers. Church school children are invited to be part of the angel chorus or crowd of shepherds. The full list of characters is as follows and volunteers should be age 12 and up:

**Narrator; Prophets (3); Townspeople (2); Angel Puppet (3)** (all puppeteers come dressed as angels); **3 Sheep** (3 able bodied people willing to make three sheep puppet-suits come alive. We need lively sheep with strong personalities! Be able to baaaahh! We need one large adult sized sheep, a medium sized person sheep, and a little sheep!); **3 Shepherds** (We need three people to shepherd the sheep! You can bring your bathrobe and we will provide the shepherd masks and the sheep!); **Star; Innkeepers (3); Mary; Joseph; Wise Men/Kings (3)** Three strong people able to operate a three kings puppet. We need three people to be inside the puppet!

To volunteer for any of these roles, please contact Brendan Curran at 318-2447 or [Brendan@bccucc.org](mailto:Brendan@bccucc.org).

**Pageant Rehearsals:** Puppeteers and main characters will rehearse on SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21<sup>ST</sup> from 11:15 – 12:45 pm, and again on CHRISTMAS EVE from 3:30 pm. Rehearsals for the church school children will be during church school time on SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21<sup>ST</sup> and then on CHRISTMAS EVE from 4:30 pm.

**Jazz Christmas Sunday** is next SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14<sup>TH</sup> so our worship service will feature Christmas music in a jazz style. Our Sing and Celebrate Choir will be singing, as well as our Adult Choir. Marina Zabinski, our organist/choir director is an excellent jazz pianist so if you've never heard her play jazz, you're in for a treat! She will be joined by other musicians in what should be a wonderful worship experience.

**Soup Kitchen:** Our church will be providing and serving the meal at the Christian Community Soup Kitchen in Pawtucket next SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13<sup>TH</sup> and a few more items are needed, namely bags of lettuce, tomatoes, and fruit (oranges and bananas.) If you can donate any of these foods either contact Jane Tonn at 289-2349 or [jtonn2@cox.net](mailto:jtonn2@cox.net) or use the signup genius <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050d48a5ab2da57-december>

**Staff Christmas Bonus:** *A message from Jeff.....* "During Advent you will find in the pew racks an envelope marked 'Staff Christmas Bonus'. Brendan and I are blessed to have wonderful people working here who give more hours to our church than expected or than compensated for. We invite you to give them a gift during these holidays. Please be generous. Your gifts will be divided up among eight different people; Christine and Pat in the office, Andrea our CE Coordinator, Marina at our organ, and Jack, Jimmy, Paul & John on the custodial staff - percentage-wise according to the number of hours they work. Thank you."

**The Bereavement Group** meets tomorrow MONDAY, DECEMBER 8<sup>TH</sup> from 10 - 11 am in the church library. The group is for anyone who has experienced the loss of a loved one and new members are always welcome. For more info about the group, contact Betsy Brenner at [jsbeeb@aol.com](mailto:jsbeeb@aol.com) or 245-8031.

**The Memory Impairment Support Group** will meet on TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9<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 info contact Jim or Lois McCartney at 245-3288 or [jrmcc@fullchannel.net](mailto:jrmcc@fullchannel.net)

**The Book Group** will meet on TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9<sup>TH</sup> at 7 pm at The Coffee Depot in Warren to discuss *Good Poems* edited by Garrison Keillor. *Good Poems* includes poems about lovers, children, failure, everyday life, death, and transcendence. It features the work of classic poets, such as Emily Dickinson, Walt Whitman, and Robert Frost, as well as the work of contemporary greats such as Howard Nemerov, Charles Bukowski, Donald Hall, Billy Collins, Robert Bly, and Sharon Olds. It's a book of poems for anybody who loves poetry whether they know it or not. Contact Helen Schall at [helenschall@hotmail.com](mailto:helenschall@hotmail.com) or 245-4724 for information about the group. All are welcome.

**The Women's Faith Group** will meet for a Holiday Lunch this THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11<sup>TH</sup> at 12:30 pm at Trafford's in Warren. Please RSVP to Jane Tonn at 289-2349 or [jtonn2@cox.net](mailto:jtonn2@cox.net).

**Mitten Tree:** Our Mission and Justice Ministry Team has a Christmas Tree in the narthex (where the greeters stand) and they ask the congregation to fill it with new hats, mittens, scarves and gloves of all sizes - for children, teenagers and adults. The items will be donated to various local agencies for distribution to those in need. Both handmade and purchased items are most welcome. Please bring in your items by December 14<sup>th</sup>.

**Giving Tree:** The Mission and Justice Ministry Team's "Giving Tree" has 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 is up in Fellowship Hall and donations will be taken each Sunday through December 14<sup>th</sup>. The gift cards purchased will be donated to the Women's Resource Center for Newport and Bristol Counties.

**Attention High School students!** For those who don't make it to church because of heavy homework loads, you are invited to come to church this THURSDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 11<sup>TH</sup> from 6-8 p.m when we will meet in Room 9. The first hour will be time for us to work or study together. From 7-8 p.m. we will make Christmas cards together! This is a way to be together and support each other during the busy Christmas season! Cookies and hot chocolate will be provided! The Senior Youth Group is teaming up with the JYG for caroling next SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14<sup>TH</sup> (for information below)

**Youth Group Christmas Caroling:** Next Sunday afternoon, DECEMBER 14<sup>TH</sup> the Junior and Senior Youth Groups will be going caroling together to local nursing homes Atria Bay Spring and East Bay Manor. They will meet at the church at 2:30 pm for a brief warm up before heading out. After caroling, they will go to the Stabach's home for a potluck dinner and Yankee Swap (please bring a \$10 wrapped gift). Please remember to RSVP to the e-mail that was sent out so the leaders know who is going. Questions or to be added to their e-mail list, please contact the JYG leaders at [bccjpf@gmail.com](mailto:bccjpf@gmail.com) or speak with Kim Zeleznik, Ginger Stabach or Laurie Dubel.

**Chancel Fund:** The congregation is invited to make donations to our Chancel Fund which is used to purchase plants for decorating the Sanctuary for Christmas. The Fund is also used to purchase Christmas plants for donation to our homebound, sick and bereaved. See the separate insert in today's bulletin for details and donation form. Thank you.

**Help Needed with Coffee Hour:** This is an ongoing need so please consider signing up to help by providing food, serving or clearing up on a Sunday that works for you. There are sign-up sheets on the table at the back of Fellowship Hall or contact Jane Tonn ([jtonn2@cox.net](mailto:jtonn2@cox.net) or 289-2349) chair of Membership.

**Free to a Good Home:** There is a wooden drop-leaf table downstairs in the Vestry that is free to anyone who wants it. First come, first serve! The table is in need of a little t.l.c. and is the one with a sign on it **J**

**BHS Jazz Band Winter Concert** will take place in the sanctuary of our church on FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12<sup>TH</sup> at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$5 each and it is a fundraiser for the Barrington Preservation Society. Refreshments will be served afterwards.

**The Bristol County Chorus Christmas Concert** is TODAY at 3 p.m. in St. Mary's Church, Wood St., Bristol. Tickets are \$20 at the door. BCCUCC choir member, Carol Spiller sings with the group.

**A Service of Advent Lessons and Carols** is TODAY at 5:30 p.m. at St John's Episcopal Church, 191 County Road, Barrington. All are invited (and Christine will be singing with the newly enlarged and much improved St John's choir!)