

CALENDAR AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Sun, Feb 11		<i>Mission Sunday (Mission Abroad)</i>
	10 am	Worship Service, Church School
	11:15 am – 1:15 pm	Confirmation Class, Room 9
	5 – 7 pm	Community Dinner (Fundraiser for Mission Trip), Fellowship Hall
Mon, Feb 12		Office open 9:30 am – 12:30 pm only
	11 am	Bereavement Group, Library
	7 pm	Buildings and Grounds, Vestry
Tue, Feb 13		Staff Meeting, Dale's Office
	1 – 2:30 pm	Memory Impairment Support Group, Library
	7 pm	Church Council, Room 6
Wed, Feb 14		<i>Ash Wednesday</i>
		Office open 9:30 am – 12:30 pm only
	7 pm	Ash Wednesday Service, Sanctuary
	7:45 pm	Choir Rehearsal, Vestry
Thurs, Feb 15		Office open 9:30 am – 12:30 pm only
	1:30 – 3 pm	Women's Faith Group, Library
	3 – 5 pm	Brendan's Community Office Hours, Coffee Depot
	6 pm	Feasting at Fireside, Parsonage
Fri, Feb 16		Office open 9:30 am – 12:30 pm only
Sun, Feb 18		<i>Lent</i>
	10 am	Worship Service for All Ages, Nursery Care only
	6 – 8 pm	Senior Youth Group, Room 9



Birthdays for the Week of February 11th: *Betsy Restituyo, Laura Bilotti, Sydney Blundin, Lynne Lehman, Matt Zeleznik, Ray Zarlengo, Joy Hearn, and Doug Roach.* 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 FEBRUARY: Kim Zeleznik (star), Abby Ashley, Chris Brady, Jon Stabach, & Bernie Hawes. In the event of a pastoral emergency after hours, if you cannot reach Dale (289-3780) or Brendan (318-2447) please call on a deacon.

Community Dinner Fundraiser is TODAY: Tickets will be on sale during coffee hour TODAY for the Community Dinner being held THIS EVENING in Fellowship Hall from 5-7 pm. You can also purchase tickets at the door, but advance ticket purchase is always appreciated. Proceeds from the dinner will go to support our 2018 mission/service trip with the Navajo Nation. Tickets are \$10.00 a person. Children six and under eat for free! Come enjoy a delicious meal of homemade soups, salad, and bread while supporting our youth. Thanks to everyone who is providing the food.

Staff away: Christine is on vacation and will return Tues, Feb 20th. The office will be open shorter hours this week (Mon, Wed, Thurs & Fri 9:30 am – 12:30 pm; Tues 9:30 – 4:30 pm), and then closed Mon, Feb 19th for President's Day.

Bereavement Group meets MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12TH 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.

Memory Impairment Support Group meets TUESDAY, FEB 13TH from 1 - 2:30 pm in the library. It is open to patients and caregivers, and need not be members of this church. Info: contact Jim McCartney 245-3288 jrmcc@fullchannel.net

Lent begins this WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14TH and there are a number of opportunities for Lenten Spiritual Practices being offered here at BCCUCC. All are welcome to participate. See the boxed article on the next page and also the special insert in today's bulletin for further information.

Ash Wednesday Service: WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14TH at 7 pm in the sanctuary. All are welcome.

Women's Faith Group meets THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15TH from 1:30 – 3 pm in the church library. The book they're reading is *Mudbound* by Hillary Jordan. Copies of the book are available from the church office at the discounted price of \$13. The group welcomes all women from BCCUCC as well as other churches and faith traditions. For more information about the group contact Jane Tonn at 289-2349 or jtonn2@cox.net

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.

Church Office will be closed on MONDAY, JANUARY 19TH for Presidents' Day.

Book Group is trying a new time and location: They will meet at the Coffee Depot, 501 Main Street, Warren, on TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20TH at 10:30 am, to discuss *Perfume River* by Robert Butler. "Butler's assured, elegant novel explores a family fractured by the Vietnam War as its members face the losses of age... Eddying fluidly through its half-century span, the book speaks eloquently of the way the past bleeds into the present, history reverberates through individual lives, and mortality challenges our perceptions of ourselves and others." (Publishers Weekly). For more information about the group contact Helen Schall helenschall@hotmail.com 245-4724. All are welcome!

SPECIAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR LENTEN SPIRITUAL PRACTICES

Ash Wednesday Service: WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14TH at 7 pm in the sanctuary. All are welcome.

Adult Faith Formation and Discussion: God in America. In this 6-part series meeting on Wednesday evenings, Dale will guide us through the PBS special “God in America” and in-depth discussions on how the subject matter impacts our religious experiences today. Save the dates of WEDNESDAYS, FEBRUARY 21ST – MARCH 28TH. Public viewing of each episode is from 6 – 7 pm in the library, and discussion follows from 7 – 8 pm. Participants are also welcome to view each episode at their leisure if they are unable to attend the public viewing, and just come for the discussion. The episodes are all available on YouTube or can be found at www.pbs.org/godinamerican/view/

Lenten Meditations: Brendan will be offering two separate interfaith meditation experiences this Lent:

Mindful Mondays will meet MONDAY EVENINGS, FEBRUARY 19TH – MARCH 26TH from 7 – 8 pm in the new Meditation Room (Room 8). The hour will consist of a 20-25 minute guided meditation, a contemplative reading or poem, followed by tea and discussion. These sessions are designed to be inclusive for people of all faiths and will be open to the public.

Mid-Week Recharge will meet WEDNESDAYS, FEBRUARY 21ST – MARCH 28TH from 12:30 – 1 pm in the Meditation Room for a quick spirit-boost. If you’re around town on your lunch break and want to mentally/spiritually hit the reset button in the middle of your week, come enjoy a quick guided relaxation meditation.

‘Healing Hands, Healing Hearts’ Retreat: Brendan will be holding a meditation retreat on SAT, MARCH 17TH from 9 am – 12:30 pm in the Meditation Room, in which participants will engage in many Christian meditative and healing practices. The retreat will include Celtic Christian prayers and meditations on healing - it will be St. Patrick’s Day after all! Please contact Brendan by *March 11th* to let him know if you’ll be attending. Brendan@bccucc.org or 246-0111.

Holy Week: MARCH 26TH – 31ST: Stay tuned for additional opportunities

Maundy Thursday Service: THURSDAY, MARCH 29TH at 7 pm in the Sanctuary

More information about these Lenten opportunities is included in a separate insert in today’s bulletin

JYG Snowtubing: The Junior Youth Group snow-tubing trip to Yawgoo Valley was rescheduled to SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25TH. They will meet in the church parking lot at 1:15 pm and leave at 1:30. Pick-up will be at 4:30 pm when we return. Tickets need to be purchased in advance for this trip so please contact Brendan (401 246-0111 or Brendan@bccucc.org) by *Monday, February 19th* if your 6th-8th grader would like to go. Tickets are \$15.00.

Strategic Plan: The Renewal Team is excited to announce the release of our Strategic Plan 2018. Based on input from the congregation received during our assessment phase last fall and conversation with the Church Council, we have developed a four prong approach to renewal. Our four sections are Congregational Care, Community Connection, Facility Development, and Funding for Ministry. Throughout February 2018, we will be putting together seven teams that will work on aspects of each of these different directions. Details on the strategic plan are available on Facebook and the church website. For those without an internet connection, a few copies are available on the table in the Narthex.

‘From the River’s Edge’ – the Pastor’s blog. The latest posting from Dale ‘An Invitation for Lent...’ is on the church website www.bccucc.org. Printed copies are also now available from the table in the back of Fellowship Hall.

The New England Women’s Celebration takes place every 4 years at various locations in New England. The purpose of the Celebration is to reach women in the pews and to involve them in learning and sharing their faith beyond the local church and Conference setting. Organized by women from UCC congregations across New England, but women from all denominations and religious traditions are welcome to attend. This year Celebration X will be held April 6th – 8th in Portland, ME. Find out more at: <http://www.uccwomenscelebration.org/home> or contact Helen Schall for more information at helenschall@hotmail.com or 245-4724. Registration is \$125 *before Feb 15*, and \$150 Feb 16 – Mar 26.

Save the date of SUNDAY, MAY 20TH, 2018 when the folk duo Atwater-Donnelly will return to BCCUCC for another performance. Concert will be at 3 pm in the Sanctuary. Proceeds will support our church’s service-learning trip with the Navajo Nation in June 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.)

Please wear a nametag: It helps us get to know one other, and is also welcoming to newcomers. If you don’t have a permanent one, stick-on nametags are available from baskets in various locations. Please wear your nametag for worship and coffee hour. Need a nametag? Sign up for one in the vestry hallway or at the Welcome Table in Fellowship Hall. Newly made nametags are placed in the specially labeled basket on the sideboard in the vestry hallway for you to pick up.

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

Sermons on line: If you miss church on Sunday or want to hear the sermon again, you can do so by going to the church website www.bccucc.org and clicking on the post on the home page, or by going to the ‘Worship’ tab and clicking on ‘Sermon Archive’ in the drop down menu. Past sermons can also be found there.

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