

# CALENDAR AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Sun, Mar 26		'One Great Hour of Sharing' offering
	10 am	Worship Service, Church School
	11:15 am	Sing and Celebrate Choir rehearsal, Room 6
	11:15 am - 1:15 pm	Senior Youth Group, Room 9
	11:20 am - 12:30 pm	Speaker Series, Library - Emily Jones, RI Interfaith Coalition to Reduce Poverty
	11:30 am - 1 pm	Conversations about our Church, Room 7
Tues, Mar 28	11 am	Staff meeting, Dale's office
	1 pm	Memory Impairment Support Group, Library
Wed, Mar 29	7 pm	Lenten Service, Sanctuary
	7:30 pm	Choir rehearsal, Vestry
Sat, Apr 1	2:50 pm	BCCUCC volunteers (CEYM and JYG) meet to go serve meal at Soup Kitchen
Sun, Apr 2	8:30 am	CEYM meeting, Library
	10 am	Children's Communion in Library, then Church School
	10 am	Worship Service with Communion
	11:15 am	Sing and Celebrate Choir rehearsal, Room 6
	11:15 am - 1:15 pm	Confirmation Class, Room 9



## Birthdays for the Week of March 26<sup>th</sup>

*Carolyn McGarry, Shelby Bowman, Van Edwards, and Harold Gallant.*

If you are celebrating a birthday and your name doesn't appear in this list, it's because we don't have your birthdate in our database. Contact the church office at [office@bccucc.org](mailto:office@bccucc.org) or 246-0111 with the information so it'll appear next year!

**DEACONS FOR MARCH:** Joe Judge (star), Chris Morton, Tom Wegner, Susan Rotblat-Walker, Pat Rude, and Susan Seader. 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.

**'One Great Hour of Sharing' offering** is this SUNDAY, MARCH 26<sup>TH</sup>. OGHS is one of the four national UCC offerings that we take each year at BCCUCC. Informational leaflets and special collection envelopes are included in this Sunday's bulletin. Please make checks payable to 'BCCUCC' and mark the memo line 'OGHS'. Thank you. You can learn more about the offering and how the funds are used at [www.ucc.org/oghs](http://www.ucc.org/oghs), where you can also donate online.

**Sunday Sermon Series in Lent:** The many different facets of prayer are being explored through a weekly sermon series called 'Encountering God'. If you missed any of the sermons, or want to listen to them again, you can hear them on the 'Sermon Archive' page of our church website [www.bccucc.org](http://www.bccucc.org) under the 'Worship' tab.

**Guest Preacher this Sunday:** We welcome Emily Jones as our guest preacher this morning. She will also be speaking after church in the library (see below). Emily leads the RI Interfaith Coalition to Reduce Poverty, a group of faith leaders and advocates working together to educate, organize and mobilize faith communities to fight poverty in our state. Emily will be continuing the Lenten sermon series on prayer and will be preaching on 'Encountering God: Prayer in Action'.

**Chancel Fund:** Please see the insert in today's bulletin about making a donation to the Chancel Fund this Easter. Money from the fund is used in a variety of different ways that enhance the worship experience – read about them on the insert.

**After Worship Speaker Series:** The last in the Speaker Series organized by our Mission and Justice Team will take place this SUNDAY, MARCH 26<sup>TH</sup> from about 11:20 am – 12:30 pm in the church library. The speaker will be Emily Jones, Interfaith Coordinator of Rhode Island Interfaith Coalition to Reduce Poverty (see above). All are welcome.

**Sing and Celebrate Choir** rehearsals are now in Room 6. They are practicing after church EACH SUNDAY THRU APRIL 2<sup>ND</sup> and hope to sing in church on Palm Sunday, April 9<sup>th</sup>. All children Grade 1 & up are welcome to come sing. Contact Marina Zabinski [marina@bccucc.org](mailto:marina@bccucc.org) or 726-5118; or Kate Colby [kcolby@fullchannel.net](mailto:kcolby@fullchannel.net) or 246-1743 for more info.

**Senior Youth Group (SYG)** meets this SUNDAY, MARCH 26<sup>TH</sup> from 11:15 am – 1:15 pm in Room 9. They will be gathering for pizza and conversation and planning upcoming projects. All 9th-12th graders are welcome to join!

**Considering joining our church?** Or are you new and just want to learn more about us? Then come to *Conversations about our Church* with Rev. Dale Azevedo this SUNDAY, MARCH 26<sup>TH</sup> from 11:30 am – 1 pm in Room 7. Attendees who decide to join the church will have the opportunity to do so during the worship service on Sunday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>. Don't worry if you didn't sign up ahead of time – you are still most welcome to attend. Child care will be provided, but it's a very informal session so older children are also welcome to sit in.

**Altar Flowers:** The altar just wouldn't look the same without the flowers that adorn it each Sunday. Members of the congregation pay for the arrangements and anyone can do so in thanksgiving, celebration, or memory of an event or person, and a dedication appears in the Sunday bulletin. There are currently some Sundays in April without anyone to pay for the flowers. Each arrangement costs \$30 and donors can choose to pay for one or both. Anyone interested in being a 'donor' should contact Cheryl Muth at [jcbmuth@aol.com](mailto:jcbmuth@aol.com) or 433-2878.

**Donate items for Dorcas International:** This is the last Sunday when the Mission and Justice Ministry Team will be collecting items for Dorcas International. There is currently a need for toiletries (shampoo, soap, razors, feminine hygiene products, toothpaste, etc. - hotel or regular size). Go to their website to learn more and see other needed items: <http://www.diiri.org/HowYouCanHelp/DonateHousewarestoTheRefugeeResourceCenter/tabid/452/Default.aspx>. Or go to [www.diiri.org](http://www.diiri.org) and click on the 'How You Can Help' tab. A collection bin is in Fellowship Hall. Thank you.

**'From the River's Edge' – the Pastor's blog.** There's a new posting titled "Doors off the hinges" and it's written by Brendan. It can be read from the home page of our church's website [www.bccucc.org](http://www.bccucc.org) and a link to it was included in this week's *eBridge*. Printed copies are also available from the table in the back of Fellowship Hall.

**Mission Trip 'envelope' fundraiser update:** Many thanks to all who have supported our mission trip by taking an envelope off our "board of many dwelling places" in Fellowship Hall and made a donation. We are making good progress with fundraising, but are still about \$600 short of our goal. If you haven't yet taken an envelope you are encouraged to do so, and also to return envelopes that have been taken. The fundraiser will continue all the way up to Easter Sunday. Your support will help cover the cost of the trip for those going to Orland Maine to help build homes for low-income families.

**Thank you** to the White family and Taco for providing the church with much needed parts to keep our heating system running and in good order. It is much appreciated.

**Sanctuary Church:** Reports of immigration raids, along with the Trump Administration's stand on immigration and deportation of undocumented immigrants has caused some churches to declare themselves "Sanctuary Churches" that offer a safe haven for individuals who fear deportation. There are many factors involved in deciding whether a church will declare itself a Sanctuary Church. We would like to form an ad-hoc committee to explore those factors and produce information to present to the congregation. The congregation would be asked to vote on any declaration of a sanctuary church. If you are interested in joining this committee, please email Steve Peck at [steven.peck@cox.net](mailto:steven.peck@cox.net).

**The Memory Impairment Support Group** meets TUESDAY, MARCH 28<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 McCartney at 245-3288 or [jrmcc@fullchannel.net](mailto:jrmcc@fullchannel.net)

**Wednesday Evenings in Lent:** This Lent, join your friends at BCCUCC for a special Wednesday evening Lenten worship series. We are gathering each Wednesday (thru April 5<sup>th</sup>) at 7 pm in the Sanctuary for a brief read meditation followed by communion. This year's meditations come from Robert Fulghum's classic book, *All I Really Needed to Know I Learned in Kindergarten*. All are welcome to come as they are able.

**Soup Kitchen:** Our church is providing and serving the meal at the Christian Community Soup Kitchen at Park Place Church in Pawtucket on SATURDAY, APRIL 1<sup>ST</sup> and CEYM and JYG are responsible for doing it this time. However, extra help is often needed and is always appreciated. Volunteers can help by providing a main dish or salad or fresh fruit or granola bars or going to help serve at the kitchen. If interested, please contact our Soup Kitchen Coordinator, Diane Todd at (401) 245-4681 or [diane.todd15@gmail.com](mailto:diane.todd15@gmail.com); or contact Carol Strakosch (CEYM) 247-1620 or [strakosc@gmail.com](mailto:strakosc@gmail.com), or Kathy Sullivan (JYG) 245-2416 [ksullivan@risas.org](mailto:ksullivan@risas.org).

**Children's Communion** will take place in the library next SUNDAY, APRIL 2<sup>ND</sup>. All church school children should be dropped off in the church library at 10 a.m. After their service, they will go to their regular church school classes.

**Fundraiser for Irons Homestead Camp and Retreat Center** will take place SUNDAY, APRIL 2<sup>ND</sup> from 2 – 4 pm at Chepachet Union Church, 1138 Putnam Pike, Chepachet RI 02814. They will host a Sugar Eat (Maple sugar on snow party), and also have maple candy, dill pickles, doughnuts, devilled eggs and drinks. Tickets are \$5 adults, \$3 children under 12. For more info go to [www.ironshomestead.org](http://www.ironshomestead.org) or contact (401) 710-9478 or [ironshometead@ricucc.org](mailto:ironshometead@ricucc.org).

**The Bereavement Group** will meet on MONDAY, APRIL 3<sup>RD</sup> from 11:30 – 12:30 pm in the church library. 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 245-8031 or [jsbeeb@aol.com](mailto:jsbeeb@aol.com)

**Knitting for Others Group** meets TUESDAY, APRIL 4<sup>TH</sup> from 7 – 9 pm at the home of Liz Rosenholm, 15 Freemont Avenue, Barrington. They continue to work on prayer shawls and other projects and can provide patterns and help for newcomers. All knitters/crocheters are welcome, especially new faces! Please let Liz (245-9098 or [lizzozier@cox.net](mailto:lizzozier@cox.net)) know if you are coming. Contact Mary Lou Slicker (245-0085 [rislick@fullchannel.net](mailto:rislick@fullchannel.net)) for more info.

**Women's Faith Group** next meets on THURSDAY, APRIL 6<sup>TH</sup> from 1:30 – 3 pm in the church library, to begin discussion of a new book, *A Man Called Ove* by Frederick Backman. Copies of the book are available for purchase from the church office. All women are welcome, including from other faiths and churches. 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*) holds 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 pm in Room 6. Their next meeting is on THURSDAY, APRIL 6<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)

**RICUCC 'Passion of Christ Retreat'** at Irons Homestead, APRIL 13 – 15. Learn more at [www.ironshomestead.org](http://www.ironshomestead.org)

**Holy Week and Easter:** Tenebrae Service on MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 13<sup>TH</sup> at 7 pm. Ecumenical Easter Sunrise Service at 6 am at Osamequin Point on EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 16<sup>TH</sup>. Easter services in the sanctuary at 9:15 and 11 am, with an Easter Egg Hunt for children in elementary grades and younger following the 9:15 am service. All are welcome.

**Did you know.....**the mystery/history of our steeple and 'Wind Vane' is difficult to find. The best information found is as follows: When the building was first on the present location in 1737 there was no steeple, in 1806 a small tower was erected, and in 1851 a small spire was erected for the installation of a bell. In 1888 the building was enlarged and improved and the 'weather vane' was repaired and gilded. When had it been added to the spire? The 1938 hurricane tore the steeple from the church and the wind vane with it. In September of 1939 the 'wind-weather vane' was repaired and put back in place. In September of 1983, the 1939 wind vane was again back in place. Where did it go and what happened to it? Here we are almost 35 years later and we are putting a replica of the 1939 wind vane (which might also be a replica of the original one?) back in place. If anyone has better knowledge would you please come forward with the information and contact Liz Rosenholm at (401) 245-9098 or [lizzozier@cox.net](mailto:lizzozier@cox.net). Forever grateful!

*The 'Did you know...' historical segments are brought to you by the '3 Centuries and Beyond' group.*