

CALENDAR AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

The church office is open Monday – Friday from 9:30 am – 12:30 pm and 1:30 pm – 4:30 pm

Sun, Dec 2		First Sunday of Advent
	9 am – 12:15 pm	OWL Session, Library
	10 am	Worship Service with Communion, Church School
	11:30 am	<i>Age Friendly Barrington</i> Focus Group, Room 6
	11:30 am – 1:30 pm	Confirmation Class, Room 9
Mon, Dec 3	11 am	Bereavement Group, Library
	7 pm	Mindful Monday with Lighting of Advent Wreath, Meditation Room
Tue, Dec 4	11 am	Staff Meeting, Dale's office
	Noon	Senior Luncheon, Fellowship Hall
	7 – 9 pm	Knitting for Others Group, Audrey Rogers' home
Wed, Dec 5	7 pm	Mission and Justice Team meeting, Library
	7:30 – 8:15 am	Choir rehearsal, Vestry
	8:15 – 9 pm	Rehearsal for Christmas Cantata, Vestry
Thurs, Dec 6	3 – 5 pm	Community Office Hours, The Coffee Depot
	6 – 7:30 pm	NAMI Family Support Group, Room 6
Fri, Dec 7		<i>Brendan on call for pastoral emergencies</i>
Sun, Dec 9		Second Sunday of Advent
	9 am	Renewal Group, Library
	10 am	Worship Service, Church School
	11:20 am – 12:30 pm	SPRT meeting, Dale's Office



Birthdays for the Week of December 2nd *Ray Parker, Greg Dubel, Jonah Amundson, Addy Forzanno, Bethia Rosner, and Liz Rosenholm.* 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.

DEC. DEACONS: Jon Stabach (star), Abby Ashley, Chris Brady, Bernie Hawes, Carol Strakosch, and Kim Zeleznik. In the event of a pastoral emergency, if you cannot reach Dale (860) 301-6762 or Brendan (318-2447) please call on a deacon.

Our complete Church calendar can be viewed online from our website or directly at <http://bccucc.view-events.com>

Pew Pals: Located halfway up the stairs as you come into the sanctuary are baskets of "Pew Pals" for children who would like some company during their time in the service. Please return them to the basket as you leave the sanctuary.

The Mitten Tree is up in the narthex starting TODAY ready to receive your donations of warm hats, gloves, scarves, and mittens etc. - both purchased and hand-made - for children, youth, and adults of all sizes. *Donations may be made through December 23rd.* Items on the mitten tree will be donated to Loaves and Fishes RI and to Amos House.

Giving Tree: Mission and Justice's "Giving Tree" will be in Fellowship Hall again TODAY with envelopes for your donations of various amounts to apply to gift cards to supermarkets, pharmacies, gas stations, utilities, etc. The gift cards will be given to the Women's Resource Center to help families there afford the necessities, and also allow the women to have money to purchase gifts for their families and themselves. Donations need to be made *by Sunday, December 16th.* Contact Nancy Arena at nancy.arena@outlook.com or 246-0212 for more information or with questions.

Chancel Fund: Donation forms with all of the information together with special envelopes are included in the bulletins the first 3 Sundays of Advent, which includes TODAY's bulletin. Money from the chancel fund is used to purchase the plants that decorate the sanctuary at Christmas, plus the plants that are delivered by the deacons to our homebound and sick. We hope that you will consider donating to this fund. *Deadline for donations is Mon, Dec 17th.*

Focus Group Discussion: *Age-Friendly Barrington* is a grassroots group of volunteers looking to enrich Barrington's community of support for older residents. They invite the congregation to participate in a Focus Group discussion TODAY at 11:30 am in Room 6. They also invite residents of every age to complete a survey on the Town website at www.barrington.ri.gov (copies are also available from the table at the back of Fellowship Hall).

Giving Card Reminder: Since Consecration Sunday on Nov 11th the church has received 88 Giving Cards from members and friends with their financial commitment for 2019. Thank you! If you intend to return a Giving Card for 2019, we hope to hear from you as soon as possible. Our Finance Team and Church Council are in the process of finalizing the 2019 budget and many of their decisions are based on these financial commitments. If you need a new Giving Card please contact the church office (cards are also available from the rack outside the office and from the Vestry table). You may also email Financial Secretary Pat Stoddard (pat@bccucc.org) with your financial commitment for 2019, and she will confirm receipt of your email and the amount. You may also mail in your card or place it in the offering plate.

Bereavement Group meets tomorrow, MONDAY, DECEMBER 3RD at 11 am in the library. The group is open to anyone who has lost a loved one at any time. More information from facilitator Betsy Brenner at jsbeeb@aol.com or 245-8031.

Lighting the way to Christmas: For the four weeks of Advent, Brendan will be incorporating the lighting of Advent candles into "Mindful Mondays." Every Monday beginning TOMORROW, DECEMBER 3RD, at 7:50 pm we will read an Advent scripture, a psalm, and light a candle on the Advent wreath in Room 8 (the Meditation Room.) You are welcome to come for the full hour (7 – 8 pm) or if you'd simply like to join in for the lighting of the candles in a quiet contemplative atmosphere, you are welcome to do so at 7:50 pm. Please respect the quiet, contemplative space as the intention is to hold space to honor the sacred and find a moment of peace together amidst the busyness of the season.

Senior Luncheon: Senior adults are invited to a Christmas Luncheon this TUES, DEC 4TH in Fellowship Hall at Noon. We would also love to include any who are not seniors, but are free that day. Please join us! Sign up at Coffee Hour TODAY. We can provide rides – just let us know. You don't want to miss this festive event to kick off the Christmas season!

Knitting for Others Group meets TUESDAY, DEC 4TH from 7 – 9 pm at the home of Audrey Rogers, 12 Zephyr Lane, Barrington. All knitters/crocheters welcome, especially new faces! RSVP to Audrey at adrogers8@cox.net or 246-1727. For more information about the group, contact Mary Lou Slicker at (245-0085 rislick@fullchannel.net).

Women's Faith Group Christmas Lunch: The group will not meet on December 6th. They next get together for their annual Christmas Lunch at Trafford's Restaurant in Warren on THURSDAY, DECEMBER 20TH at noon. RSVP for the lunch to Jane Tonn at 289-2349 or jtonn2@cox.net or to the church office at 246-0111 or office@bccucc.org by Tues, Dec 18th.

Community Office Hours: Anyone from the church or community is invited to stop by The Coffee Depot, 501 Main Street, Warren on THURSDAYS from 3–5 pm to visit with Brendan in this more informal setting. All are welcome.

NAMI Family Support Group: NAMI RI (*National Alliance on Mental Illness*) holds a monthly support group here for family members of people with mental illness. Open to anyone in the community the next meeting is THURS, DEC 6TH from 6 – 7:30 pm in Room 6. For more info contact NAMI RI at info@namirhodeisland.org or call (401) 331-3060.

Warm clothing needed for Loaves and Fishes RI: Our church will be sponsoring another Loaves and Fishes RI truck run on WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 26TH. In preparation, we are collecting warm clothing to give out to those in need and we're seeking donations of new or gently used adult warm clothing. This includes hats, gloves, scarves, socks, sweatshirts, sweatpants etc. There is a bin on the stage in Fellowship Hall for your donations. Thank you.

East Bay Kids Clothes Swap is a place to trade in clean (non-stained) clothes and shoes, and get clothes the next size up for newborn to age 12 years old. Next one is SATURDAY, DEC 15TH from 9:30 - 11:30 am in Fellowship Hall. Give what you can, take what you need! There's a \$3-\$5 donation at the door but no one will be turned away. Learn more at <https://www.facebook.com/EastBayKidsClothesSwap/>. Open to the community.

Soup Kitchen: BCCUCC is next scheduled to do the Soup Kitchen in Pawtucket on SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15TH. Anyone willing to help the teams responsible this time (Membership and Finance), should contact either the team leaders, or our Soup Kitchen Coordinator Diane Todd (245-4681 diane.todd15@gmail.com).

Holiday Jazz Concert: The Barrington High School Jazz band will give a concert of holiday music in our sanctuary on SATURDAY, DEC 15TH at 7:30 pm. Tickets are \$5 and will be available at the door. All proceeds support the Barrington High School Jazz band and the 2019 BCCUCC Youth Service Trip. Come enjoy great talent and support our youth.



BCCUCC's Family Christmas Spectacular!!

On SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16TH, BCCUCC's choir will be presenting an upbeat and powerful **Christmas Cantata** during the 10 AM worship service, which will be followed by a coffee hour filled with **cookies, crafts and cocoa!!**



Our choir, along with many special musical guests, will present *Joy! A Gospel Christmas*, by Joel Raney.

There will be childcare provided and special activities during worship for our youngest wigglers who just can't sit still.

We want to pack the church with this family friendly event to celebrate our choir's hard work, before retiring to Fellowship Hall to broaden our waistbands with Christmas cheer!

December Youth Group Meeting/Caroling: The youth group - for anyone in Grades 6-12 - will meet on SUN, DEC 16TH after church, following the "Family Christmas Spectacular" (see above). After refreshments we will gather in Rm 9 and depart for caroling at 12 pm to a couple of nursing homes in the area. When we return from caroling we will have our own party with a "white elephant" gift exchange where everyone brings a repurposed gift to swap. Maybe you were given a gift in the past that you would like to re-gift. Maybe you have something you like but would be willing to offer to someone else as a Christmas gift. Come celebrate the Christmas season together! Christmas cookies will be provided!

Book Group meets TUES, DEC 18TH at 11:30 am at the Coffee Depot, Warren, to discuss *Best Cook in the World* by Rick Bragg: For more info about the group, contact Helen Schall at helenschall@hotmail.com or 245-4724. All are welcome!

Pageant 2018 Casting Call: It's time for Pageant 2018! We need 12 volunteers to make the puppets come to life. Those with experience are especially encouraged to return. If you're interested and able to operate a puppet, please contact Brendan asap (brendan@bccucc.org). A full rehearsal with the puppets will take place after church on SUNDAY, DECEMBER 23RD from 11:30-12:30. All those operating a puppet along with participants with speaking/singing roles need to be able to attend this rehearsal and will also need to come at 4:45 pm on CHRISTMAS EVE to run through the pageant. Children participating in the pageant will rehearse a song and make a craft during church school on SUNDAY, DECEMBER 23RD. Children needing to get into costumes are asked to arrive at 5:30 pm on CHRISTMAS EVE. The whole congregation also has the opportunity to participate in the pageant again this year! All who plan to attend the SIX O'CLOCK pageant on CHRISTMAS EVE are encouraged to come dressed as a nativity character! (Mary, Joseph, an angel, a shepherd, a wise person, or even an ox, or an ass!) Participation is optional but encouraged. Make a simple costume during advent and wear it to the pageant and be part of our living nativity with the puppets! Let's all help bring the nativity to life!

Christmas Eve Services at our church will be held MONDAY, DEC 24TH at 6 pm (Family Service with Pageant) and at 10 pm (Lessons and Carols with the vocal choir). We hope you'll be able to join us for one of the services if you are in town.

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."

'From the River's Edge': The latest blog is 'O, Worship the Migrant!' written by Dale. It can be read on the church website www.bccucc.org, on Facebook, or in the eBridge. Printed copies are on the table at the back of Fellowship Hall.