

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

CALENDAR AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Sun, Mar 24		A Service of Healing
	10 am	Worship Service, Church School
	11:20 am	Sing and Celebrate Choir Rehearsal, Room 6
	11:20 am	M&J Speaker Series #2 – Marlene Davis on Child Abuse, Library
Mon, Mar 25	7 – 8 pm	Wondrous Encounters (Mindful Monday), Meditation Room
Tues, Mar 26	11 am	Staff meeting, Office
Wed, Mar 27	7 – 8:15 pm	‘Soul Talk’, Lenten Study with Dale, Library
	7:30 – 9 pm	Choir rehearsal, Vestry
Thurs, Mar 28	3 – 4 pm	Community Office Hours, The Coffee Depot in Warren
	4 – 5 pm	‘Come to the Water’ Lenten study with Brendan, The Coffee Depot
Fri, Mar 29		<i>Dale on call for pastoral emergencies</i>
Sun, Mar 31		Mission Sunday (Mission in the World)
		‘One Great Hour of Sharing’ offering
	9 am – 12:15 pm	OWL Session, Library
	10 am	Worship Service, Church School
	11:20 am	Sing and Celebrate Choir Rehearsal, Room 6
	11:20 am	M&J Speaker Series #2 – John Gonzales on Water Protection, Library
	5 – 7 pm	Youth Group meeting, Room 9



Birthdays for the Week of March 24th: *Lois McCartney, Chris Silva, Alexa Bullard, Carolyn McGarry, Shelby Bowman, Van Edwards, Harold Gallant, and Eliot Wemple.* 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.

MARCH DEACONS: Pat Stoddard (star), Stephanie Edwards, Steve Fodor, Joe Judge, and Susan Seader. In the event of a pastoral emergency, if you cannot reach Dale (860 301-6762) or Brendan (318-2447) please call on a deacon.

Emails sent to our old@fullchannel.com addresses will not reach us after the end of March! We have upgraded the computer software in the office, and now ONLY have our@bccucc.org email addresses which are: Dale dale@bccucc.org Brendan brendan@bccucc.org Christine office@bccucc.org Pat pat@bccucc.org Andrea andrea@bccucc.org. Please make the necessary changes to your email contacts/address books. Thank you.

Sing and Celebrate Choir rehearsals continue TODAY at 11:20 am in Room 6. They last about 20 mins and are scheduled for MAR 24, 31, APR 7, & 28 as they prepare to sing in church on MAY 5TH. The S&C Choir welcomes boys & girls in Grades 1-5, and older children are also very welcome to come sing. If there are kindergartners interested, please speak with Kate as she's willing to let them try it out! Questions? Contact Kate Colby at 246-1743 or kcolby@fullchannel.net.

Lenten Speaker Series: The Mission & Justice Team has organized a Lenten Speaker Series again this year. It takes place after church at 11:20 am in the library. All are welcome. The remaining speakers are:

TODAY, SUNDAY, MARCH 24TH: Marlene Davis from Newport Hospital who will speak about their education program that addresses infant abuse.

SUNDAY, MARCH 31ST: John Gonzalez is a member of the Board of Rhode Island Interfaith Power and Light. As a Water Protector who spent three months on the front lines of the Standing Rock occupation, he continues his activism as an organizer with the Land and Water Sovereignty Project here in Rhode Island.

Wondrous Encounters: On MONDAY EVENINGS in Lent (MAR 11TH – APR 8TH) from 7-8 pm, Brendan invites you to participate in a special Lenten meditation series centering on the reflections of the contemplative Christian writer, and founder of the center for action and contemplation, Richard Rohr. This series is offered during Lent as a space for us to explore together how we “encounter” and experience the divine in our daily lives. All are welcome to come for the full six weeks of the meditation series or on a drop-in basis! Questions? Contact Brendan at brendan@bccucc.org or 246-0111.

Community Office Hours during Lent includes ‘Come to the Water’ book/Bible study: From 4-5 pm on THURSDAY AFTERNOONS during Lent (through APR 18TH) Brendan is leading a Lenten book/Bible study ‘Come to the Water’ exploring the theme of God in creation and how our faith moves us to act as stewards and sustainers of the natural world that makes life possible. The book is “*What The Eyes Don’t See*,” by Mona Hanna-Attisha and Brendan is hosting weekly discussions on sections of the book and providing eco-themed scripture passages to expand the discussion. Brendan is incorporating this book study into the second hour of the community office hours that he hosts every Thursday at The Coffee Depot, 501 Main St, Warren, from 3-5 pm. All are welcome. Questions? Contact Brendan at brendan@bccucc.org or 246-0111.

Less Plastic for Lent: The Mission and Justice Team is offering a different type of Lenten discipline this year. You are invited to pick up one of the *Less Plastic for Lent* calendars from the table at the back of Fellowship Hall. To learn more about the origins of this idea, go to <https://ruthvalerio.net/green-living-2/plastic-less-lent-2018/>.

Help turn plastic shopping bags into sleeping mats for the homeless: Church member Liz Wiedenhofer works at L.I.F.E. Inc., an agency that supports adults with developmental disabilities. They have a Community Service program for their clients where they create intentional service projects with local non-profits. They are currently working with the RI Coalition for the Homeless to have the L.I.F.E. clients upcycle and weave plastic bags into strong, durable sleeping mats for those experiencing homelessness. There will be a collection bin for your clean, thin plastic bags in Fellowship Hall for the next 3 weeks. Questions? Contact Liz Wiedenhofer at (401) 396-8010 or LizW@LifeIncRI.org

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

Support the Service Trip to H.O.M.E. A container has been placed in Fellowship Hall for the collection of items needed by H.O.M.E. A "Wish List" has been given to us by the folks at H.O.M.E. and copies are available from the table at the back of Fellowship Hall. Your gifts will be greatly appreciated. Our youth and chaperones will take the items with them when they go on their Mission/Service Trip to H.O.M.E. from April 14-17. *Donations need to be made by Palm Sunday, April 14th when the group will be leaving for their trip.*

One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) is the special Lenten offering of the UCC that will be taken next SUNDAY, MAR 31ST. Your gift to OGHS provides hope in the world and does more for families and communities than we can imagine. For example, in 2018 the offering supported 421 UCC volunteers to rebuild homes ravaged by Hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria in 4 states and Puerto Rico. Last fall the offering provided immediate help to families and communities displaced by wildfires in Northern California. In Kenya, the offering helped hundreds of flood displaced families find shelter until they could return to their homes. The OGHS is present to those in need here in the US and across the globe. One person CAN make a difference: Give generously. It really works. Special offering envelopes will be included in next Sunday's bulletins. Checks should be made to 'BCCUCC' and mark the memo line "OGHS". Learn more at www.ucc.org/oghs

Youth Group meets on SUNDAY, MARCH 31ST from 5-7 pm in Room 9. All youth in grades 6-12 are welcome.

Bereavement Group meets on MON, APR 1ST at 11 am in the Library. The group is open to anyone (not just church members) who has lost a loved one at any time. More info from facilitator Betsy Brenner at jsbeeb@aol.com or 245-8031.

Knitting for Others Group next meets on TUES, APR 2ND from 7-9 pm at the home of Barbara Wuth, 3 Fireside Drive, Barrington. The group meets monthly, makes a variety of different items to be given away (prayer shawls, preemie hats, etc), and can provide patterns and help. All knitters/crocheters are welcome, especially new faces! RSVP to Barbara at bwuth54@gmail.com. To learn more about the group, contact Mary Lou Slicker at 245-0085 or rislick@fullchannel.net.

A Support Group for Young Adults (ages 18 – 30) with Asperger's or Autism is going to start meeting at our church on the 1st Wednesday of the month, beginning WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2ND from 4 – 5 pm in Room 6. Anyone interested in joining should contact Nicco Palmisano at (401) 280-0462.

Women's Faith Group next meets on THURSDAY, APRIL 4TH from 1-2:30 pm in the library. The group welcomes women of all ages from BCCUCC as well as other churches and faiths. Their current book for discussion is *The Interpreter of Maladies* by Jhumpa Lahiri and copies are available for purchase from the church office for \$12. For more information about the group contact Jane Tonn at 289-2349 or jtonn2@cox.net

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, APRIL 4TH from 6 – 7:30 pm in Room 6. For more info contact NAMI RI at info@namirhodeisland.org or call (401) 331-3060.

Leaving a Legacy: Conversations about BCCUCC's Endowment Funds. Join the Endowment Team on SUNDAY, APRIL 7TH OR SUNDAY, APRIL 14TH beginning at 11:30 am in the Library. Did you know our church has permanent funds that earn monies annually to help run our church? Would you like to know the status and significance of these long-term investment funds? Would you like to have input on the strategy for growth of these funds? This legacy has been left to us by people like you who cared about the future of our church. Would you like to leave a legacy too? There will be a brief update on the status and significance of our Endowment funds, but mostly we want you in the conversation. Feedback and ideas will help us develop plans for the future. There are 2 meetings scheduled and childcare will be provided. Come to either one - whichever fits your schedule. We look forward to seeing you there and hearing what you have to say.

The Five Freedoms of the First Amendment: Our Mission and Justice Team are joining with the East Bay Citizens for Peace to bring you a talk by journalist Ed Fitzpatrick on *First Amendment Rights* on THURS, APRIL 11TH at 7 pm in Fellowship Hall. Edward Fitzpatrick is director of media and public relations for Roger Williams University, board member of New England First Amendment Coalition, and Common Cause RI, and a former Providence Journal columnist. His First Amendment column appears monthly in the Journal. He is the author of RWU's First Amendment blog at: FirstAmendment.rwu.edu. The talk is free and open to the public. All are welcome.

Palm Sunday 'Bring and Buy': On PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 14TH we will be having our last mission trip fundraiser. All are encouraged to bring a baked item to church that can be sold and buy something that someone else made. Baked goods will be placed on a table in the foyer. Meet our friendly mission trip participants who will be tending the table. Buy yummy baked goods for Easter and support our church's mission trip. The mission trip team thanks you!

Tickets available for the Loaves and Fishes RI fundraiser: Loaves and Fishes RI (LFRI) is embarking on its 11th year serving food, clothing, and basic necessities to those who are homeless and in need of nourishment and basic necessities, and the truck makes around 20 runs a month to multiple sites statewide. LFRI will be holding an Auction Fundraiser on THURS, MAY 16TH from 6 – 9 pm at the RI Country Club, 150 Nayatt Rd, Barrington. Hors d'oeuvres, buffet and cash bar, silent auction, and raffles. Tickets are \$40 each from church member Phyllis Buckley at coffee hour, or contact her at pbuckley6@cox.net or 742-7320. Learn more about the organization at www.lfri.org.

From the River's Edge: The latest blog is "Come to the Water" by Brendan. 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.

Welcome Folders: If you're new to our church, we extend a warm welcome and invite you to pick up a blue Welcome Folder from the racks half way down the stairs. We also invite you to join us for refreshments after the service at coffee hour in Fellowship Hall, located at the far end of the Education Building. We're glad that you're here.

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.

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.

Please wear a nametag for worship and coffee hour: If you don't have one, there are stick-on ones in a basket beside where the greeters stand. Sign up for a permanent one on the list in the vestry hallway or at the back of Fellowship Hall.

Want to be on our mailing list? Send your info to office@bccucc.org and be sure to include your name. There are also sign up sheets on the table in the narthex (by the greeters) and at the back of Fellowship Hall.