

The church calendar for December and January can be found on page 14 & 15 at the end of this newsletter



December 2013 & January 2014

Dear Friends,

Our family, like many of yours, is looking at the weeks of Advent and Christmas ahead wondering if this is the last time we will celebrate them with certain family members. I am reminded that there is a connection between the wooden cradle the baby was placed in and the wooden cross where his earthly life ended...the bookends of Christmas and Easter are very real.

I am also aware that there are some who will be celebrating these holy days with new family members – a child recently born, a new significant relationship begun, or a marriage just celebrated. The roller-coaster of emotions that come with these days can be a wild ride.

My prayers are with all of you during this time. I pray that you find some quiet in the midst of all the noise, some peace of mind in focusing on what good surrounds you, some comfort in our church community. It is a time when we are all pulled in thousands of directions but perhaps more than ever need to remember the one direction pointed out for us by God.

I look forward to seeing you in worship.

Peace,



DEACONS FOR DECEMBER

Cheryl Muth (star deacon),
Helen Schall, Sam Sylvester,
Greg Voigt, and Liz White.

DEACONS FOR JANUARY

Stephanie Edwards (star deacon),
Michael Collins, Steve Peck,
Susan Rotblat-Walker,
Pat Rude, and Francis Seader.

In the event of a pastoral emergency after hours, if you cannot reach Jeff (247-1787 home) please call on one of the deacons.

Celebrate the 40th Anniversary of Jeff's Ordination

Sunday, December 8th at 10 a.m.

Please come to worship early on December 8th and enter the sanctuary quietly as we will have special music beginning at 9:45 a.m.

There will be extra guests with us in worship that day as, in addition to it being the 2nd Sunday of Advent, it is also the 40th anniversary of Jeff Larsen's ordination. Several people from that original service will be here, as well as representatives of the different churches Jeff has served.

We hope you can join us as we give thanks to God for Jeff's 40 years of ministry.



Clergy & Staff Away

Rev Jeff Larsen will be away December 25-29.

Christine Wallis will be away December 23-27.

Services for December 2013 & January 2014

December 1	10 a.m.	Worship Service with Communion, Advent Activities for PreK-Grade 8 in Fellowship Hall following the Children's Message
December 8	9:45 a.m. 10 a.m.	<i>40th Anniversary of Jeff's Ordination</i> Special Music begins (Please come early and enter Sanctuary quietly) Worship Service for Jeff's anniversary, Church School
December 15	10 a.m.	Worship Service, Church School
December 22	10 a.m.	Worship Service for All Ages with the Sing and Celebrate Choir and a Christmas Cantata sung by the choir, No Church School. Nursery Care only



5:00 p.m. Service of carols and story especially for children

10:00 p.m. Service of carols and readings



December 29	10 a.m.	Worship Service for All Ages with Rev. Sharon Key, No Church School. Nursery Care only
January 5	10 a.m.	Worship Service with Communion, Church School
January 12	10 a.m. 10:15 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.	Worship Service, Church School OWL session, Library
January 19	10 a.m.	Worship Service for All Ages No Church School. Nursery Care only
January 26	10 a.m.	<i>Laity Sunday</i> Worship Service led by the Deacons, Church School

*Church School for Pre-School through Grade 8 unless otherwise indicated
Nursery Care available every Sunday morning for infants and children aged 3 and under
Handicapped Accessible*

OFFICE CLOSINGS in December & January

The church office will be **CLOSED** on
Tues., Wed. and Thurs., Dec. 24, 25 & 26 and Wed., Jan. 1.

The office will be **OPEN** from **9 a.m. - Noon only** on
Fri., Dec 27, Mon., Dec. 30, and Tues., Dec 31.

The office will also be **CLOSED** on Mon., Jan. 20
for the Martin Luther King Jr. Day Holiday.

You will see Rev Sharon Key helping to lead worship from time to time and teaching our Confirmation Class. She is a part-time staff member brought on until May 2014 to help fill the gap with Elizabeth Barnum no longer here. Nice to have you here, Sharon!

Advent Candle Lighters needed

Jeff still needs a few more volunteers to read the liturgy and light the Advent candles on the following dates: Dec. 1, 15, and the 10 pm Christmas Eve service.

Individuals or families are welcome to volunteer. No experience necessary!

If you are interested please contact Jeff (246-0111 ext 103 or Jeff@bccucc.org).



Christmas Eve readers needed

Several volunteers are needed to read scripture at the 10 p.m. Christmas Eve service.

If you are interested please contact Jeff (246-0111 ext 103 or Jeff@bccucc.org).



Book Discussion

led by Rev. Jeff Larsen

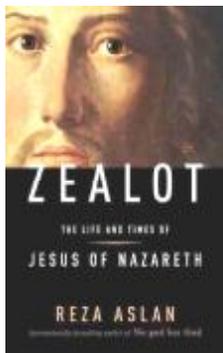
Sunday, December 15th

11:30 a.m. in the church library

The book to be discussed is

Zealot: The Life and Times of Jesus of Nazareth

by Reza Aslan.



The book is a provocative new lens through which to look at the life and ministry of Jesus.

ALL ARE WELCOME

Advent Preaching Themes:

“The Five Commands of Advent”

Dec 1, “Be ready for the Unexpected”
Matthew 24:44

Dec 8, “Make the Paths Straight”
Matthew 3:3

Dec 15, “Lift Up the Lowly”
Luke 1:52

Dec 22, “Do Not Be Afraid”
Matthew 1:20

Dec 24, “Go With Haste”
Luke 2:16

Preparing for the end of life: difficult conversations and informed decisions

A follow up conversation on the “5 Wishes” program—for those of all ages who are concerned about being in charge of their own future—will take place after church on

Sunday, December 1st from **11:15 am—12:00 pm** in the **church library**.

ALL ARE WELCOME. Additional copies of the “5 Wishes” booklet are available from the church office for anyone who would like one (\$1 each).



During the first 3 weeks of December (Dec 1, 8 & 15) you will find in the pew racks an envelope marked “Staff Christmas Bonus.”

We 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 join with us in giving 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 ahead of time, Jeff



The deadline for submission of articles to be included in the February *Bridge* will be

Wednesday, January 15th.

Celebration Brunch for the 40th Anniversary of Jeff's Ordination

Sunday, December 8th at 12:30 p.m. at The Wharf Tavern, 215 Water Street, Warren.

Seating is limited and unfortunately all the tickets have been sold and there's a waiting list. If you purchased a ticket and find yourself unable to attend for any reason, please contact one of the organizers so that someone can go in your place. The organizers are:

Bernie Hawes (437-1860 BHawes1@cox.net)

Sue Terhune (246-1868 Sierramadre50@cox.net)

Susan Seader (245-5679 seader@cox.net).



An update from Church Council

Your Church Council has been hard at work on decisions about replacing our former Associate Minister, Rev. Elizabeth Barnum. At its November meeting it voted to select a Search Committee to find a part-time ordained minister as our new Associate. This person would have responsibility to facilitate our Christian Education and Youth ministry programs and to assist Jeff Larsen in pastoral duties. The Council's recommendations for this Search Committee will be brought before the congregation for approval at a special meeting to be called soon. The hope is to advertise the position through the UCC national office immediately after the holidays and, hopefully, be screening and interviewing candidates this winter with a selection in the spring.



Church Cancellation Plans in Bad Weather

When the church service has to be cancelled due to bad weather, we will do our best to keep you informed. Information will appear on the cancellation lists of Channels 6 & 10 that scroll across the television screen—also available at www.turnto10.com. The church office answering machine will include any cancellation announcements and we will also try to send out a mass e-mail and post it to Facebook. (Note: all this is dependent upon there being power to use the technology needed!)

CHRISTMAS FUND

The Christmas Fund for the Veterans of the Cross and the Emergency Fund is a unique Special Mission Offering of the United Church of Christ that affords us an opportunity to recognize and honor those who serve our Church. One of the special aspects of the Christmas Fund is that the funds do not support programs, make grants to institutions, or fund advocacy programs, but rather, they provide direct financial assistance to individual UCC clergy and lay employees. Your generous giving to the 2012 Offering enabled the Pension Boards' Ministerial Assistance Program to provide, on behalf of the whole Church, \$1,465,437.55 in Supplementation of Small Annuities, Health Premium Supplementation, Emergency Grants and Christmas 'Thank You' Gift Checks to clergy and lay individuals and families in need.

Christmas Fund envelopes will be included in the Sunday bulletins on December 15 and 22 for your use. Donations may also be sent directly to the church office. Please make checks payable to "Barrington Congregational Church" and mark the memo line "Christmas Fund". Thank you.



Special Offering for Disaster Relief in the Philippines



The United Church of Christ has issued an appeal for donations to provide disaster relief to the Philippines. The country suffered a terrible loss of life and destruction as a result of Typhoon Haiyan. Congregations have been asked to hold special offerings to support this desperate need and *we will be collecting donations through Sunday, December 1st.*

Donations may be put in the offering plate or sent to the church office. Checks should be made payable to 'BCCUCC' and please mark the memo line 'Typhoon'. Cash may be put in a pew envelope and under 'Other' please make the same notation. You can also give directly online at www.ucc.org.

A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

SERRV
INTERNATIONAL
Gifts That Make A Difference



fair trade= handmade= nonprofit

Once again this year we have the opportunity to purchase items from the SERRV catalog for Christmas. Through these purchases we are directly creating employment and training for artisans and farmers in 36 countries around the world. This income enables them to work their way out of poverty and to build better lives.

Helen Schall has catalogs available at the piano in coffee hour and will be taking orders *until Sunday, December 1st*. You can also go to the SERRV website to view the items at www.serrv.org/ Ordering through the church will save you on shipping costs and provide the church with funds to support our 2014 Mission Trip.

Contact Helen at 245-4724 or helenschall@hotmail.com for more information.

WELCOME to our NEW MEMBERS

On Sunday, November 17th, we welcomed as new members **Adam and Megan Hecht** when they joined our church. They have two daughters, Olivia and Maeve. Adam enjoys golf and basketball and is a Patriots, Celtics and Red Sox sports fan. Megan enjoys running and outdoor activities especially family hiking outings with their girls and the family's chocolate lab "Gus."



UCC New England Women's CELEBRATION IX "Together We Can..."

March 28-30, 2014 Portland, Maine.

How wonderful it is ... for God's people to live together in harmony.

-Psalm 133:1



What is the New England Women's Celebration? The New England Women's Celebration takes place every four years at various locations in New England. The purpose of the Celebrations is to reach women in the pews and to involve them in learning and sharing their faith beyond the local church and Conference setting. It is organized by women from United Church of Christ (UCC) congregations across New England, however women from all denominations and religious traditions are welcome to attend.

For more information or to register, go to www.uccwomenscelebration.org.

Information and registration forms are also available from the table at the back of Fellowship Hall.

Note: Helen Schall is on the Celebration IX Coordinating Team and will be happy to talk with anyone about the event.

In addition some of the workshops will be given by RICUCC folks:

Health and Ministry - Caring for body, mind and spirit. Ways to create a ministry of the whole for the health of the congregation. (Peggy Matteson, Conference Commissioned Minister for Congregational Health and Wellness)

Art for the Soul: Prayer Beads and Sacred Movement - Engage your spirit with sacred movement and learn the meaning of color prayer beads and create a prayer chain. (Kristen Putney, Conference CE/YM Resource Consultant)

Book Cart

You are invited to take books from the book cart at the back of Fellowship Hall or to add books that you've finished reading that you think others might enjoy. In addition to both fiction and non-fiction books, there are also some large print books and audio books.



Cat's Meow rendition of BCCUCC

There are still a few of the Cat's Meow wooden replicas of our church available for purchase—at the clearance price of **\$10 each** (originally \$20). They make great Christmas gifts and once they're sold out we won't be ordering any more. Please note that BCCUCC is the only place where this unique gift can be purchased. Stop by (or call) the church office to purchase your 'church'.



Help Beautify Our Sanctuary for Christmas



We invite you to make a donation to the
Chancel Fund

Money donated to this fund is used to help beautify the Sanctuary – including the purchase of poinsettias to decorate the church this Christmas. Some of the donations will also be used to purchase Christmas plants that will be delivered by the Deacons before Christmas to our homebound, sick or recently bereaved in our congregation. This year the sanctuary will be decorated from before Christmas through Epiphany.

You are invited to make a donation in any amount, large or small.

Donations to the Chancel Fund may be made in memory of a loved one, or in thanksgiving for, or celebration of, someone or something (a person, birthday, anniversary, etc). All dedications will be listed in a special insert to be included in the Christmas Eve bulletins.

Please complete the donation form on the next page and return to the church office with your donation by Monday, December 16th. Alternatively, the completed form and donation can be put in the offering plate on Sundays or left with a member of the Chancel Ministry Team who will be hosting coffee hour in Fellowship Hall following Sunday services. Thank you for your donation.

Chancel Fund Donation - Christmas 2013

See information on previous page before completing this form

I would like to donate \$ to the Chancel Fund.

Donations are welcome in any amount.

Please make checks payable to 'Barrington Congregational Church' and mark the memo line "Chancel Fund".

Please put the following dedication in the Christmas bulletin insert:

Given by
(please print clearly)

In memory of

In thanksgiving for

In celebration of

Please complete & return with your donation by Monday, December 16 Thank you for your donation.

Trip to Turkey 'In the Footsteps of Paul' October 10-20, 2014

Deposit due December 1st from those who want to go



A number of people have expressed interest in going on this trip to be led by Jeff and Kathleen Larsen. Included will be several days in Istanbul, travel to marvelous Cappadocia, significant early church locations of Antioch, Konya, Colossae (Paul's Letter to the Colossians in the Bible), the incredible archaeological dig of Ephesus (Paul's Letter to the Ephesians), the ancient ruins of Troy (of wooden horse fame) and more. Cost will be approximately \$3700 including airfare, hotels, ground travel, entrances to all exhibits, breakfasts and dinners, and insurance. Single supplement: \$650. A copy of the travel itinerary and fact sheet are available from Jeff (246-0111 ext 103 or jeff@bccucc.org).

The group going to Turkey will be invited to monthly meetings studying the places to be visited and the life of the Apostle Paul.

A \$100 per person deposit is due on Sunday, December 1st from those who want to go on the trip. This educational trip is not limited to people from our church—friends are also most welcome. The more people we get over the minimum of 10 required, the lower the price!

On Sunday,
December 22nd
the choir will sing



Child of Hope:
A Christmas Message of
Encouragement and Peace
with Jeff Larsen as narrator.

This Christmas Cantata will be part of the 10 a.m. worship service and we hope that all will come hear it. The Cantata blends familiar carols with powerful new music, and includes some short narrations.

Once more BCCUCC will host the 11th Annual

WINTER JAZZ CONCERT

sponsored by Barrington Preservation Society

featuring

The Barrington High School Jazz Ensemble
Barbara Hughes, Director



in the Sanctuary of Barrington Congregational Church, UCC
Friday, December 13, 2013 7:30 p.m. Admission \$5
Refreshments will be served at a reception after the concert.

The BHS Jazz Ensemble has been nationally recognized for its excellence. Their repertoire ranges from Big Band music of the 30's to Duke Ellington favorites. Our church has hosted this event for the past few years and it is always a lively and exciting evening for Jazz lovers of all ages.

Questions?

Contact Van Edwards (245-9719 or bvnedwards@gmail.com)

Altar flower donors needed

Our altar flowers each week are provided by Wildflower Florists and are paid for by donations from members of the congregation. The flowers can be given as a memorial, or in thanksgiving, or to celebrate a special occasion. Donors can choose to pay for either one or both of the arrangements (\$30 each) and also have the option of taking them home after the service. If they choose not to take them, they are delivered to church members who are sick, homebound or recently bereaved.



Donors are needed to pay for the altar flowers on the following upcoming dates: Dec 19, Jan 19 & 26. If you would like to donate either one or both arrangements on any of these dates, please contact Cheryl Muth of the Chancel Ministry Team at 433-2878 or jccbmuth@aol.com.

Godly Play Stories (PreK - 6)



- Dec. 1 Advent Arts and Crafts. Following the Children's Message children in grades PreK - Gd 8 are invited to Fellowship Hall for Advent activities. No Church school.
- Dec. 8 PreK-Gd 2 *Advent 1 & 2*
Gds 3-6 *The Story of Mary*
- Dec. 15 PreK-Gd 2 *Advent 3 & 4*
Gds 3-6 *St. Nicholas*
- Dec. 22 & 29 Worship for All Ages.
No Church School. Nursery care only.
- Jan. 5 PreK-Gd 2 *St. Nicholas*
Gds 3 & 4 *Epiphany*
Gds 5 & 6 *The Story of Elijah*
- Jan. 12 PreK-Gd 4 *Parable of the Good Shepherd*
Gds 5-6 *The Story of Isaiah*
- Jan. 19 Worship for All Ages.
No Church School. Nursery care only.
- Jan. 26 PreK-Gd 4 *Parable of the Good Samaritan*
Gds 5-6 *The Story of Jeremiah*

RICUCC Youth Event ADVENT ADVENTURES



for youth in Grades 5-8

Sunday, December 1st

1:30 - 4 p.m.

Irons Homestead,

688 Snake Hill Rd., Gloucester, RI

Activities include:

*Advent Symbol Scavenger Hunt *
Fireside S'mores * Christmas Music *
Advent Candy Calendar Craft *
Hot Cider in a "Manger" * and more!*

Wear warm clothes for outdoor activities.

Cost: \$3 per child.

RSVP by November 25th to

Kristin Putney at 774-991-1555 or
mitchmoon12@hotmail.com

Youth in Gds 5-8 are welcome to attend individually or as part of a youth group.

Tot's Cooperative Preschool

Wreath & Bake Sale

BCCUCC Parking Lot

Saturday, December 7

10 a.m.— 2 p.m.



Our Whole Lives-Sexuality and our Faith

Comprehensive Sexuality Education

PROGRAM UPDATE

The second year of Our Whole Lives (OWL) and Sexuality & Our Faith is underway. We have a terrific team of facilitators and a dedicated group of participants and families that are making this a meaningful and worthwhile commitment. Our hope is to again offer the program to 7th & 8th graders next year. Families of rising 7th and 8th graders are encouraged to start thinking about possible participation.

Any potential volunteer facilitators for both age groups (Gds 7 - 8 & Gds 10 - 12) are invited to speak with Andrea Bullard, Kristen Westmoreland and/or Ray Zarlengo to learn more about the program and training possibilities during the spring and summer of 2014.

The next OWL session is Sunday, January 12th
from **10:15 am to 5:30 pm** in the **church library.**



End of Calendar Year Giving Reminder

Please note that if you wish to have any contribution recorded as being received by the church in 2013, it must be in the hands of the office by December 31st (or postmarked by that date).



Junior Pilgrim Fellowship — JPF — (aka Middle School Youth Group)

All youth in grades 6-8 are invited to participate. Bring your friends!

The December JPF gathering will be to go **CHRISTMAS CAROLING**

Sunday, December 15th 3—6 p.m.

Meet at the church parking lot at 3 p.m. Pick-up at 6 p.m. from the church parking lot. We are planning to visit several local nursing homes to say hello and sing carols! Join us! AND there will be a hot cocoa stop afterwards!

Please bring: permission form and a holiday snack to share

For this event, others who are not in 6th—8th grade who are interested in joining us are asked to also RSVP (especially people who love to sing!!!!)

For planning purposes, *please RSVP no later than Thursday, December 12th*
to Kim Zeleznik at kimberleyz@gmail.com or 247-4605.

If you are willing to be a *volunteer driver/chaperone* for this event, please let us know ASAP. Thank you!



The January JPF Activity will be a **ROCK-A-THON AND SLEEPOVER**

from 6 p.m. Friday, January 3rd to 7:30 a.m. Saturday, January 4th at BCCUCC.

JPF members will 'rock' in rocking chairs from 6:30—11 pm to raise money for their spiritual overnight visit to St John the Divine Cathedral in NYC in April, 2014. Following the rock-a-thon they will sleep in the church library, and be picked up by parents at 7:30 am on Saturday morning.

During the evening there will be pizza, movie, snacks, drinks, card and board games. Youth are asked to bring \$5 for pizza dinner, a sleeping bag, pillow, overnight bath basics, board or card games and a sitting cushion. If you have a rocking chair, please let us know and bring that also!

Participants are asked to collect at least \$25 in pledges. A sponsorship form is available.

R.S.V.P. by Sunday, December 29th to Laurie Dubel at lauriedubel3@gmail.com or 245-5126.



Are your kids getting everything they want this holiday season?



We live in a world of instant gratification; but kids who learn to appreciate long term goals and persevere in hardship develop resiliency.

- Encourage your kids to help out a neighbor by shoveling a sidewalk, bring in mail or taking over some groceries
- Give kids allowances that require saving a portion that cannot be spent until it has accumulated to a set amount
- Encourage sports like golf and cross country running to develop an appreciation for long term rewards

Kids with resiliency skills are more likely to make healthy choices later in life

Parenting is Prevention Tip #61 — kindly offered by the BAY Team
The Barrington Adult Youth Team Against Alcohol and Drug Abuse
www.thebayteam.org

Coffee Hour Hosts for December & January



The **Pastor Parish Relations Team** and the **Chancel Team** will host coffee hour in **DECEMBER**.

The **Finance Team** and **Members at Large** will host coffee hour in **JANUARY**.

The hosts often appreciate assistance so feel free to volunteer to help - by serving or providing food.

To learn more about the work of the different teams, be sure to talk to the servers.

Is Your Pledge?
Up to Date?

Dec 31st marks the half-way point of our fiscal year. Will your pledge be 50% paid?



Sharing Our Toys



Most of our children are fortunate and receive lots of presents at Christmas but approximately 40,000 children in Rhode Island are not so lucky. They live in poverty and their holiday season doesn't look so bright!

Kathleen Larsen is once again organizing a toy donation program for the holidays and is asking for donations of gently used toys, stuffed animals, games, riding toys, bikes, helmets, etc. All donations will be given to a local Providence agency called Children's Friend which is located next to Crossroads.

Children — do you have some toys that you are willing to give to a child who may not be getting presents this Christmas?

Parents — your help and support is needed. Can you talk about this with your child at dinner etc. and then help them choose something to give away?

There will be a large box in the narthex as you go into church for the collection of toys through December 15th.

If you have any questions or have larger items to donate, please contact Kathleen Larsen at 247-1787 or klarsenswc@hotmail.com.

Toys for all ages are needed. Thank you for your help.



The Justice & Witness Ministry Team is having a "Giving Tree" again this year, with 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. Donations will be taken each Sunday through December 15.

The gift cards purchased will be donated to the Women's Resource Center for Newport and Bristol Counties.



Please continue to bring in used (or new) **men's clothing** for the homeless in Providence. Warm men's clothing of all types and also **men's winter boots** are essential during the winter months for those living on the streets. A collection hamper is in the vestry.

We continue to accept canned goods and non-perishable food items for **TapIn** and these donations may be placed in the bins in the narthex. Thank you.

The Justice and Witness Ministry Team will once again be sponsoring a **Mitten Tree**. You are asked to please fill the Christmas tree in the narthex of the church with **new hats, mittens and gloves of all sizes - for children, teenagers and adults** by December 15th. The items will be donated to various local agencies for distribution to those in need. Both handmade and purchased items are most welcome. *A warm thank you to all who can help.*



The Christian Community Soup Kitchen in Pawtucket

The **Ushers, Members at Large, and Justice and Witness Ministry Team** are responsible for providing and serving the meal on **Saturday, December 21, 2013**.

If you would like to assist with the soup kitchen at any time — maybe by providing a main dish or salad or fresh fruit or granola bars or going to help serve at the kitchen — please contact our Soup Kitchen Coordinator, Diane Todd at (401) 245-4681 or diane.todd@verizon.com.



Book Group

postponed their November meeting to
Tuesday, December 3rd at 7 pm
at **The Coffee Depot,**
501 Main Street, Warren



They will discuss:

In the Heart of the Sea:
The Tragedy of the Whaleship Essex
by Nathaniel Philbrick

A vivid account of a 19th-century maritime disaster that engaged the popular imagination of the time with its horrors of castaways and cannibalism.

The group will also share with each other any new or old book that they've read.

All are welcome!

For more info on the group contact
Helen Schall at 245-4724 or
helenschall@hotmail.com



At the time of writing, nothing has been scheduled for Dine Out. Watch for any updates in the weekly communications.

THE BEREAVEMENT GROUP

will meet from **12:30—1:30 p.m.**
in the **church library** on the following
dates in December and January:
Mondays, December 2, 9 & 16
and **January 6, 13 & 27.**

The group is for anyone who has experienced the loss of a loved one. New members are always welcome.

Questions or for more information,
contact Betsy Brenner at
jsbeeb@aol.com or 245-8031.

Knitting (and Crocheting) for Others



The group will meet on
Tuesday, December 10th
from **7 - 9 p.m.**

at the home of Liz Rosenholm, 15 Freemont Ave., Barrington.
(401) 245-9098 lizzozier@cox.net

The group is currently focusing on making hats and other items for the mitten tree (see page 11) as well as prayer shawls. Let's fill the mitten tree with hats, mittens and scarves!

They will also meet on **Tuesday, January 14th from 7 - 9 p.m.**
at the home of Carol Louttit, 28 Melrose Ave., Barrington.
(401) 245-2299 or chl2299@aol.com

Anyone interested may join this group for knitting, crocheting and fellowship. Contact Mary Lou Slicker (245-0085 or rislick@fullchannel.net), with any questions.

The Women's Faith Group



will not have regular meetings in December
but will meet for lunch at
Trafford Restaurant, 285 Water Street, Warren
on **Monday, December 9th at Noon.**

R.S.V.P. to Carol Louttit (245-2299 or chl2299@aol.com).

They will meet again on **Thursdays, January 9th & 23rd**
from **1:30—3 p.m.** in the **library** when they will read and discuss sermons by the Rev. Jerald Stinson. Copies of the sermons will be available at the meetings.

The group welcomes all women from BCCUCC as well as from other churches and faith traditions.

For more information about the group contact Carol Louttit.

The Memory Impairment Support Group

will meet on the following dates:

Wednesdays, Nov 27, Dec 4 & 18, Jan 8 & 22
from 2:30 - 3:30 p.m. in the church library.

The group is open to both caregivers and patients and is for individuals, couples, and families looking for a safe space to share experiences and coping strategies for dealing with the variety of changes and losses involved with memory impairment diagnoses such as Alzheimer's and dementia. For more information contact Jim or Lois McCartney at 245-3288 or jrmcc@fullchannel.net. The group is open to all – not just members of this church.



Does the church office have your current e-mail address? Don't know? Then please send it to office@bccucc.org and be sure to include your name. Thanks!

Thank You! THANK YOU!

-to everyone who attended the Afternoon of Godly Play
-to Cathleen Joachim for “being Andrea” on October 20th.
-to Amy Gorman, Melissa Alschuler, Francis Seader, Leslie Strolla, Michael Collins, Kathy Sullivan, Wendy Bennet, Betsy Restituyo, Ginger Stabach, Anita DiMatteo, Kim Hoyt, Kim Zeleznik, Carol Strakosch, Helen Schall, Jen Silva, Greg Knight, Laurie Dubel, Kate Loos, Kristen Westmoreland, Evan Shoaf and Susan Short for volunteering in church school
-to Ray and Beth Zarlengo for organizing the Citrus Sale to raise money for the Mission Trip, and to all who purchased fruit
-to Navyn Salem for the very informative and fascinating talk and slideshow she gave after church on Nov 17
-and to all who made infant hats to send to Baragnawath Blessings via Cassie Costello—the girl scout working on her Gold Award who taught us how to make the hats on circular looms. We have given her at least 25 hats so far!

Now there are a variety of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. 1 Corinthians 12:4-6

NOT ABLE TO GET TO CHURCH?

If you are no longer able to make it to church on Sunday mornings due to health or age related issues, we are happy to mail you the Sunday bulletin each week. Just call the church office at 246-0111 and we will add your name to our list.

A tape recording is usually made of the Sunday worship service, and is available to anyone who would like to borrow it. Perhaps there is a homebound church member you know who would enjoy listening to the Sunday service. The tape is available from the office.



Family Footnotes



We welcome the following new members who joined our church on November 16, 2013.

Adam and Megan Hecht

If you or someone you know is in need of pastoral care, please inform either the ministers or the church office. Thank you.



Congratulations to . . .

**Kimberly Fodor
and
Luis Fernandez**

married November 16, 2013

Mary Jacobs; Dot Muth;
Joanne Ela's sister; Kate Loos' father;
and Diane Kitchin's father.



We offer our prayers, support and sympathy to....

Tom Colby and family on the death of his grandmother;
and to the families of William Thurber and Edgar Briggs.





A Reminder for November....

All are invited to attend the Barrington Clergy Association's
ANNUAL INTERFAITH THANKSGIVING SERVICE

Monday, November 25th 7 p.m.

St James Lutheran Church, 49 Middle Highway, Barrington

This year's service will again include musical and other offerings from the various religious communities in Barrington. For BCCUCC, Pat Stoddard will be playing a bell solo, accompanied by Christine Wallis. It will be followed by a time of refreshment and conversation.

Please bring a non-perishable food item for TAP-IN. Monetary donations will also be accepted.



BCCUCC's Affirmation of Welcome

We believe that all people are blessed and loved equally by God. Following the teachings of Jesus we heartily welcome everyone into God's covenantal community. Whatever your race, ethnicity, age, socioeconomic or marital status, variety of thoughts and beliefs, physical or mental ability, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression--whoever you are and wherever you come from you are welcome into the full life and ministry of our church.



www.facebook.com/bccucc

Be sure to 'Like' us to get our news feeds including

the *Bridge newsletter* and Ennouncements that are posted to it. And suggest our Facebook page to your friends!

Note: You don't have to have a Facebook account in order to access our page.

Our Mission Statement

The Barrington Congregational Church, UCC, is a Christian community that worships God, embraces all people, ministers to one another, works for justice and peace, and renders loving service to God's world.



December 2013 & January 2014

Senior Minister:
Organist/Choir Director:
Office Administrator:
Financial Secretary:
Christian Education Assistant:
Custodians:

The Rev. Dr. Jeffrey W. Larsen
Marina Zabinski
Christine Wallis
Patricia Stoddard
Andrea Terni Bullard
Jack Salvaggio, Jim Salvaggio, Paul Dziedzic, John Cordeiro

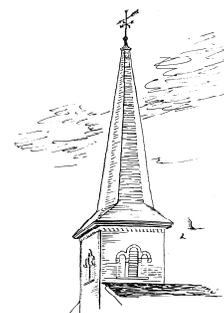
jeff@bccucc.org

office@bccucc.org

pat@bccucc.org

andrea@bccucc.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/bccucc



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 ADVENT 1 10 am Worship Service with communion, Advent Arts & Crafts for PreK-Gd 8 after children's time 11:15 am '5 Wishes' discussion, <i>Library</i> 1:30-4 pm RICUCC Advent Adventures(Gds 5-8), <i>Irons Homestead</i> 4:30 pm Confirmation Class, <i>Library</i>	2 11am Staff meeting, <i>Jeff's office</i> 12:30 pm Bereavement Group, <i>Library</i> 3:30 pm Lay Visitation, <i>Library</i> No Deacons Meeting	3 Noon Staff Christmas Lunch	4 2:30 pm Memory Support Gp, <i>Library</i> 7:30 pm MA, <i>Rm 8</i> 7:30 pm Choir, <i>Vestry</i>	5	6	7
8 ADVENT 2 <i>Jeff's 40th anniversary of Ordination</i> 9:45 am Special Music begins, <i>Sanctuary</i> 10 am Special Worship Service for Jeff's Anniversary, Church School After Worship Sing and Celebrate Choir rehearsal, <i>Room 9</i> 12:30 pm Celebration Brunch, <i>Wharf Tavern</i>	9 11am Staff meeting, <i>Jeff's office</i> Noon Women's Faith Group Lunch, <i>Trafford Restaurant</i> 12:30 pm Bereavement Group, <i>Library</i> 7 pm B&G, <i>Room 6</i>	10 7-9 pm Knitting group, <i>Liz Rosenholm's home</i>	11 7-9 pm District AA Mtg, <i>Rm 9</i> 7:30 pm MA, <i>Rm 8</i> 7:30 pm Justice and Witness Mtg, <i>Lib'y</i> 7:30 pm Choir, <i>Vestry</i>	12	13 7:30 pm BHS Jazz Band Winter Concert, <i>Sanctuary</i>	14
15 ADVENT 3 10 am Worship Service, Church School 11:30 am Book Discussion with Jeff, <i>Library</i> 3-6 pm JPF go Caroling	16 <i>Deadline for Chancel Fund donations</i> 11am Staff meeting, <i>Jeff's office</i> No Church Council meeting	17	18 2:30 pm Memory Support Gp, <i>Library</i> 7:30 pm MA, <i>Rm 8</i> 7:30 pm Choir, <i>Vestry</i>	19	20	21 2:30 pm Soup Kitchen (Ushers, Members at Large, and J&W)
22 <i>Christmas Fund Offering</i> ADVENT 4 10 am Worship Service for All Ages with Sing and Celebrate Choir and Christmas Cantata from the Choir, Nursery Care only	23 11am Staff meeting, <i>Jeff's office</i>	24 Christmas Eve OFFICE CLOSED 5 pm Worship service 10 pm Worship service	25 Christmas Day OFFICE CLOSED	26 OFFICE CLOSED	27 Office Open 9am-Noon	28
29 CHRISTMAS 1 10 am Worship Service for All Ages, Nursery Care only	30 Office Open 9am-Noon	31 New Year's Eve Office Open 9am-Noon	<h1>December 2013</h1>			

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
January 2014			1 New Year's Day OFFICE CLOSED	2	3 6 pm à JPF Rock-a- thon and Sleepover, <i>Library</i>	4 3:30 am JPF Sleepover ends – Parent pick up
5 8:30 am CEYM meeting, <i>Library</i> 10 am Worship Service with communion, Church School	CHRISTMAS 2 6 <i>Epiphany</i> 11am Staff meeting, <i>Jeff's office</i> 12:30 pm Bereavement Group, <i>Library</i> 3:30 pm Lay Visitation, <i>Library</i> 7:30 pm Deacons, <i>Room 6</i>	7	8 2:30 pm Memory Support Gp, <i>Library</i> 7-9 pm District AA Mtg, <i>Rm 9</i> 7:30 pm MA, <i>Rm 8</i> 7:30 pm Choir, <i>Vestry</i>	9 1:30 – 3 pm Women's Faith Group, <i>Library</i>	10	11
12 EPIPHANY 1/BAPTISM OF CHRIST 10 am Worship Service, Church School 10:15am – 5:30 pm OWL, <i>Library</i>	13 11am Staff meeting, <i>Jeff's office</i> 12:30 pm Bereavement Group, <i>Library</i> 7 pm B&G, <i>Room 6</i> 7:30 pm J&W, <i>Stephanie Edward's</i>	14 7-9 pm Knitting group, <i>Carol Louttit's home</i>	15 <i>Deadline for Bridge</i> 7:30 pm MA, <i>Rm 8</i> 7:30 pm Choir, <i>Vestry</i>	16	17	18
19 EPIPHANY 2 10 am Worship Service for All Ages, Nursery Care only	20 MLK Jr. Day OFFICE CLOSED	21	22 2:30 pm Memory Support Gp, <i>Library</i> 7:30 pm MA, <i>Rm 8</i> 7:30 pm Choir, <i>Vestry</i>	23 1:30 – 3 pm Women's Faith Group, <i>Library</i>	24 Confirmation Retreat, <i>Craigville MA à</i>	25 3 Confirmation Retreat, <i>Craigville MA</i>
26 <i>Laity Sunday</i> EPIPHANY 3 10 am Worship Service led by the Deacons, Church School	27 11am Staff meeting, <i>Jeff's office</i> 12:30 pm Bereavement Group, <i>Library</i> 7:15 pm Church Council, <i>Room 6</i>	28	29 7:30 pm MA, <i>Rm 8</i> 7:30 pm Choir, <i>Vestry</i>	30	31	