



# Edgewood Congregational Church

1788 Broad Street • Cranston, RI 02905

401-461-1344 • [www.edgewoodchurchri.org](http://www.edgewoodchurchri.org)

## Vision Statement

*Edgewood Congregational Church is a progressive congregation whose vision is to reclaim Christianity as a faith of extravagant grace, radical inclusion, and relentless compassion.*

**Rhode Island Conference Office**  
Rev. Barbara J. Libby, Interim Conference Minister  
8 Summer Street • Pawtucket, RI 02860

Conference Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 8:30 - 4:30  
401-724-7700 • [ricucc@ricucc.org](mailto:ricucc@ricucc.org)

## April 2018

### Visit Our Website



Check out our website at [www.edgewoodchurchri.org](http://www.edgewoodchurchri.org), especially the *Calendar* section. There you'll find everything that's scheduled for the church.

Need to contact the office? To send information or questions to Jerry in the church office, send it to [office@edgewoodchurchri.org](mailto:office@edgewoodchurchri.org).

### Lydia's Closet



The thrift shop is open on Saturdays and the hours are 10 a.m. to noon. If you have a free Saturday, come by and help out and meet people. Also, help is always needed for sorting items. Thanks!

Donations have been steadily coming in and now we have even more varied items to choose from. Tell your friends and family.

With spring cleaning, this would be a great opportunity to review your items and donate them to the shop.

The Thrift Shop is in need of household items in good/like-new condition such as pans, bakeware, dishes, kitchen gadgets, yard tools, small appliances, small furniture such as bookcases, side tables, and plant stands, decorations, knick knacks, collectibles, etc. Jewelry, pocketbooks, and shoes are always hot items.

Please be sure to like/friend us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/EdgewoodCongregationalThriftShop/>

### Altar Flowers



Would you like a way to honor or remember a loved one on a birthday or special date? You can, by dedicating the flowers used in the Sanctuary to their honor or memory. If you would like to dedicate the altar flowers for a particular Sunday in memory or honor of a loved one, you can do so with a gift of \$25.00. Please note on the check or envelope that your gift is for a flower dedication, the explanation for the dedication, and the date of dedication. Contact Jerry at the office by calling or emailing him at 461-344 [office@edgewoodchurchri.org](mailto:office@edgewoodchurchri.org).

### Coffee Hour



**Coffee Hour Fellowship and Refreshments** – If there is anyone who would like to help with coffee hour, there's a coffee hour sign-up sheet posted in Sawyer Hall. Included on the sheet will be the contact person for more information. Everyone's help is greatly appreciated. A special thank you to everyone who brings in goodies for the coffee hour! For those homemade treats, you may want to share the recipe for a church cookbook that Dee Dee Kiehl is putting together.

### Thanks!



Thank you to all who donated candy for the Easter hunt! A great time was had by the children and by those who are children at heart!

## New Worship Format Update!



Have you experienced worship at ECC over the last couple months? If so, you have been part of some amazing moments! If not, come see how we are worshipping God in some unique and powerful ways!

**Mission Sundays** have included George Ortiz from **The Elisha Project** in February and Cristina Cabrera from **Environmental Justice League of RI** in March. They shared the focus of their missions with us, and congregation members participated in “hands and feet of Jesus” work DURING these services. In addition to members of ECC learning about the many ways in which God is at work in our local community and how each of us can contribute, Elisha and EJLRI received half of our loose plate offerings on those Sundays to put toward their good works.



Our new Manna: **Feeding the Body** † **Feeding the Spirit** monthly worship program is in full swing! This short, casual worship service in Fellowship Hall is combined with a delicious **breakfast** once a month. So many people have been involved in this; from cooking and setting up, to leading worship, to obtaining donations from the community, to inviting those who may be lonely to be our guests (**March: Hall Manor**). From 9 a.m. (or earlier for some!), the kitchen and hall are abuzz preparing food and worship. Comments have been so positive; many who thought they would only enjoy worship in the sanctuary are realizing that a more **casual, intimate** environment can be meaningful as well! Don't worry, though; our beloved **Brenda** and **ECC choir** still play and sing during these services!

Upcoming Worship includes...

**April 8:** **“What on Earth Can We Do?” An Earth-Day Inspired Worship Service** offered by Michael C. Ruo with Wenley Ferguson, of Save the Bay

*\*Dress for the weather, as we may be outside for part of the service. Also, you may want to bring your utility bill for solar energy discussion during coffee hour.*

**April 15:** **Rev. Nancy Soukup:** Come be part of Nancy's energy-filled worship hour and experience ECC's spirit.

**April 22:** **Combined Mission and Manna:** A representative and a few **athletes from Special Olympics** will be here to share their mission/needs (and a yummy breakfast) with us! Come to support the athletes as well as members of our church who have been involved with Special Olympics for years!

**April 29:** **5th Sunday Good Ol'-Fashioned Hymn Sing**

## Confirmation News

Mark your calendars for May 20<sup>th</sup> to celebrate Pentecost and the Confirmation service of four of our youth: Emma Maroni, Nick Maroni, David Scarborough, and Nathan Scarborough.

These youth have been working hard with 3 youths from Woodridge Congregational Church, learning about their faith and sharing fellowship time since September! Events have included snowtubing, discussions, and two meaningful afternoon retreats in Barrington shared with their Mentors (Merry Scarborough, Bill Maude, ID Kutu, and Pete Maroni). In addition, some of the youth will join Woodridge on a mission trip during Spring Break to Philadelphia!



## Huge Thank You!



Hi Edgewood Family

I want to say a quick thank you to two of our generous, anonymous members. Our first member donated money to help defray the costs associated with hiring our part-time monthly pastor, Rev. Nancy Hamlin Soukup. Our other member heard that we had some unexpected expenses associated with the Education Building. First we had to fix the heating system and then the hot water heater had to be replaced. This member made a donation to defray those expenses. I wanted to say a heartfelt thank you to both of those individuals. Should any of you wish to

make a similar donation, just make a notation on your check and place it in the collection plate or send it to the church office. Thank you. Judy Provorse

## Sad News



Former Co-Pastor of ECC from 1972-1977, Rev. Dr. William E. Downey passed away on March 24<sup>th</sup>. His wife, co-pastor Rev. Sabine Downey sent us a notice in the mail which reads (translated from German):

With much sadness we bid farewell to my dear husband, our dear father, and grandfather, who passed away at the age of 87 years old.

Dr. William Emerson Downey

02/28/1931

03/24/2018

Sabine Downey  
Dr. Rebecca Downey  
with Amina and Belel  
Dr. Markus Downey

The Downey family asks that if anyone would like to commemorate William E. Downey may do so by a donation to: *Doctors Without Borders*. Contact Jerry at the office for the website link to donate online or the form to donate by mail.

## Boy Scout/Cub Scout Troop



Cub Scout Pack 22 and Boy Scout Troop 22 are always looking for new members. Cub Scouts is a youth/parent program for boys in grades 1 to 5. Activities include crafts, skills instruction, field trips, and fun! Boy Scouts is a more active boy-chosen and boy-led program for boys age 11 to 18. Activities include hiking, camping, field trips, skills instruction, and fun! We would love to show you what we do. Meetings are most Thursdays at 7:00 PM. For more information, contact Paul Kelley at 941-7225, or email to [paulkelley14@msn.com](mailto:paulkelley14@msn.com).



**Saturday, April 7<sup>th</sup>**, Boy Scout Troop 22 will be holding a Macaroni Dinner as a fundraiser from **5:00 to 8:00 p.m.** in Sawyer Hall. Members of Troop 22 will serve macaroni, meatballs, salad, and deserts. Coffee and soft drinks will also be provided. Proceeds will help offset program expenses. Tickets are \$12 for adults and ages 12+, \$10 for children 11 and younger. To help us eliminate shortages or waste, tickets are by pre-sale or reservation only. Contact Scoutmaster Paul Kelley at 401-941-7225 (H) or 401-595-6726 (C) for more information. Any boys who might be interested in joining Cub Scouts or Boy Scouts can talk to us at the dinner!

## Special Olympics



The Special Olympics of Rhode Island will be held at URI on **June 2<sup>nd</sup>**. If anyone is interested in volunteering again this summer for the 2018 summer games, please contact Dee Close who will be coordinating this. You can contact her by email: [deeclose14@gmail.com](mailto:deeclose14@gmail.com)

## Church Cookbook



Here's a message from Dee Kiehl:

I'd like to collect recipes from all the members of the church, and their families. My goal is to put together a recipe booklet for our church...nothing fancy. We could sell it at events and the thrift store then use the money for our different food-related missions.

My first step is collecting all the recipes! I'll take the recipes any way you want to give them to me...handwritten, emailed, or dictated over the phone

Dee Kiehl, [irishdd1959@yahoo.com](mailto:irishdd1959@yahoo.com), 401-781-1804

## Thank You



Thank you from everyone in the church to the kitchen staff who make the terrific breakfasts every month. The food is delicious and the meal is a really good way of bringing people together in a relaxed, friendly setting.

## Weekly Self-Help Meetings

AA	Adult Children of Alcoholics	Al-Anon
Sundays..... 7:00 p.m.	Wednesdays..... 7:00 p.m.	Tuesdays..... 10:00 a.m.
Tuesdays..... 7:30 p.m.		Wednesdays..... 7:30 p.m.
Wednesdays..... 7:30 p.m.		
Every 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday ..... 7:00 p.m.		

## Food Closet



**Helping the Community** – Did you know that the Edgewood-Pawtuxet Food Closet is part of the Comprehensive Community Action Program (CCAP) and the Rhode Island Food Bank? Our Food Closet covers people who live between Providence on the north, Warwick on the south, Narragansett Bay on the east, and Elmwood Avenue on the west. Clients are referred by CCAP. The Church of the Transfiguration donates space and volunteers donate their time on Tuesday and Friday mornings, and Wednesday evenings. Some of the food is purchased from the RI Food Bank, but the rest must come from donations.

Items that are always needed are: boxed pastas such as elbow, ziti, shells, etc.; canned fruit and vegetables; tomato paste, diced tomatoes, tomato sauce; dry beans, and toilet paper. Any non-perishable food items and individual personal care products can be placed in the shopping cart in our Narthex and our volunteer, Carol Cornell, will deliver them to the Edgewood-Pawtuxet Food Closet. Thanks so much Carol!

Everything you donate is used directly by those who need it most. Please remember the words of Christ, “*What you have done to the least of these you have done to me.*”

## Thinking of you

Art Carter -----at Cherry Hill Manor  
Joe DiCiccio -----at Rhode Island Hospital  
Alice Laurenson -----assisted living at Wingate  
Bert Reid -----home in Agoura Hills, California  
Mabel Trahan -----assisted living at Scandinavian Home  
Betty True-----home in Warwick  
Rev. Kit Wilke-----home in Long Beach, California



## Holy Joe's Café

### Holy Joe's Café – COFFEE FOR THE TROOPS



Holy Joe's Café originated from the First Congregational Church in Wallingford, Connecticut on Pentecost Sunday, 2006. Based on a simple goal to collect and ship coffee thus assisting our military chaplains in Iraq, Afghanistan, and Kuwait with their Coffee House Ministry. What began as a coffee drive within one church family has gained momentum through the Holy Spirit and has grown into a national donation effort.

At this time in Iraq and Kuwait find themselves in difficult and life-threatening situations. This exacts and extreme physical, emotional, and psychological toll on them. Through Holy

Joe's Café Ministry, the support that is offered to them is so effective and well received, that the outreach program has grown to assist over 120 chaplains.

You can help in this special ministry to our troops by a donation through <http://Interfaith.EqualExchange.com> or by making your donation through the church office. You can designate your gift and make it through the offering on Sundays or bring your gift to the church office and Jerry will be glad to collect it on behalf of Holy Joe's Café. Brochures are located in the Narthex and at the Arnold Avenue entrance.

As usual, ½ of the loose currency in the collection for the last Sunday of the month is donated to Holy Joe's Café.

