



Edgewood Congregational Church

1788 Broad Street • Cranston, RI 02905

401-461-1344 • 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

May 2018

Visit Our Website



Check out our website at 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.

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.

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.

May Breakfast



As you may know, our annual May Breakfast is on **May 12th** from 7:00 to 11:00 a.m. Tell your friends and family that we'll be having the best breakfast in the state. Prices are: adults \$8.50, children \$5.00, and children under 3 years old, free.

P.S. No tickets will be printed. Reservations can be made by contacting Pat Kohler at pat-kohler1@hotmail.com 401-461-9612 or Jerry at office@edgewoodchurchri.org 401-461-1344.

Yard Sale



Our next yard sale is Saturday **June 2nd**, from 8:00 to 1:00 p.m.. There'll be all types of merchandise. We have household goods, clothing, shoes, toys, books, and so much more! In addition, we are having vendors at the sale. **Note: We can always use workers for this event. Any help is greatly appreciated.**

PrideFest 2018



As in the past, we are having a booth at RI Pride this year. PrideFest is on **June 16th** and Michael Ruo is looking for volunteers to help. A diverse group would be greatly appreciated. It's a family-friendly festival with many events happening and lots of different foods to enjoy. Contact Michael at michaelruo@gmail.com or Jerry at office@edgewoodchurchri.org.

Special Olympics



The Special Olympics of Rhode Island will be held at URI on **June 2nd**. 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

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, 401-781-1804

Retirement



Barbara Libby, Interim Rhode Island Conference Minister, will be retiring in June. Although she was only with us for four years, she has had many years under her belt before being RI Conference interim. Please come join us in bidding a heartfelt farewell to Barbara at a celebration which takes place on Sunday, **June 24, 2018** from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. at Beneficent Congregational, UCC, 300 Weybosset Street, Providence, RI 02903.

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.



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, Cristina Cabrera from **Environmental Justice League of RI** in March, and Dennis DeJesus from **Special Olympics**. 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. 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...

- May 6:** **Rev. Nancy Soukup:** Come be part of Nancy's energy-filled worship hour and experience ECC's spirit.
- May 13:** **Mother's Day:** Bring a picture of a mom or mom-like person in your life (male or female!) and share a service dedicated to the love of God shown through our motherly influences.
- May 20:** **Rev. Nancy Soukup: Confirmation and Pentecost Sunday.** Join us as we celebrate the confirmation of four of our youth who have grown in the congregation since birth: Emma Maroni, Nicholas Maroni, David Scarborough, and Nathan Scarborough.
- May 27:** **Memorial Day Service:** Michael Ruo will lead us in a service dedicated to those who have died in service to our country. If you are able to participate in sharing your story of a loved one who died in the line of duty, please contact Michael, Jerry, or a member of the Worship Team by May 13th.



More to come next month!

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 rd 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 -----home in Warwick
Alice Laursen -----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.

