



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

June 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.

Food & Fellowship

Yard Sale



Thank you to everyone who helped at the yard sale. Your continued support helps our church thrive, not just financially but socially. Many people ask about our yard sales and "when is the next one going to be."

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.

Irons Homestead Camp and Retreat

Day and Overnight Camping at Irons Homestead

Check out the many great opportunities for children ages 6 – 18 being offered at Irons Homestead this summer.

Each week of camp includes all the traditional camp activities of swimming, music, games, crafts, campfire, etc. with each week having a special theme with its own unique quality activities.

Forest Day Camp for those ages 6 – 12 will run for nine weeks Monday to Friday from 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. with optional before and after care. Book for one, some or all nine weeks.

“Water World”, “Mission Possible”, and “Paint the Town” are the three overnight options offered in July for children going into grades 4 – 12. Go to www.IronsHomestead.org to check out all the details.



Volunteer Service Opportunities

Irons Homestead has several volunteer service opportunities available for individuals and groups. Volunteers for Summer Camp will support the paid staff on a weekly or daily basis and/or bring their unique skill to a theme week. Check out www.IronsHomestead.org for weekly themes.

Work crews are needed to:

Reroof the Pavilion; reroof the garage; build a tent platform; build bunkbeds; build gaga pits; put up the tents for summer camp; build a lifeguard building at the waterfront; licensed plumber to do a few minor projects.

For pictures and more details about these projects check out: www.IronsHomestead.org - volunteer opportunities.

To volunteer, email Jennifer Geary at IronsHomestead@ricucc.org or call 401-710-9478.



Free Fun Day at Irons Homestead

Sunday, June 10, 2018

All churches and individuals who are part of the Rhode Island Conference of the United Church of Christ (RICUCC) are invited to spend a day at Irons Homestead Camp & Retreat. You can arrive any time after noon. Lifeguards will be on duty from 12:30 PM to 6:00 PM. Please bring your own food, dishes, and anything you would like to share. Grills will be available. Spend the afternoon relaxing in the sun, swimming, boating, playing in the sand; playing a huge variety of games on the soccer and ball fields; pitching horseshoes, throwing rocks; relaxing in the shade—something for all ages. Arrive when you can—we'll be here all day.

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 few 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.



After fifty years as the church organist, Gladys made a genuine effort to adjust to the new worship format.



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...

- June 3:** **Rev. Nancy Soukup:** Come be part of Nancy's energy-filled worship hour and experience ECC's spirit.
- June 10:** **Children's Sunday:** Our talented children will lead our worship. Please come and support them with your presence and enthusiasm!
- June 17:** **Father's Day:** Rev. Nancy Soukup will lead service and we will remember our fatherly influences!
- June 24:** **Manna: Feeding the Body Feeding the Spirit:** Come experience this unique casual worship format combined with a meal. Bring a friend; someone (or many!) who would enjoy spirit and fellowship!



FOLLOWING THIS SERVICE ON JUNE 24 WILL BE OUR PROMISED "STAGE TWO" ALL-CHURCH MEETING: (FOLLOWING UP FROM JANUARY).

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.”*

Merrimack Valley Ringers



On Saturday, June 16th, 4:00 p.m. at Seekonk Congregational Church, 600 Fall River Avenue, Seekonk MA, the Merrimack Valley Ringers will present a concert – *Fill My Heart with Song*. This group is an auditioned community handbell ensemble dedicated to playing, performing, and distributing handbell music. Its mission is to promote the art of handbell ringing, to encourage the public appreciation of and interest in handbell music, and to educate others in the community in the art of handbell ringing.

A suggested donation is \$10.00. There will be a reception that follows the concert in the church hall.

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.

