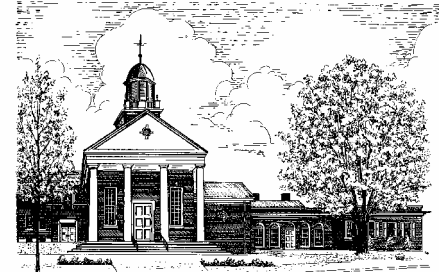


Edgewood Congregational Church
1788 Broad Street
Cranston, RI 02905

Change service requested

Edgewood Congregational Church
1788 Broad Street, Cranston, RI 02905
(401) 461-1344 Fax 461-8843
Office Hours: 9:00am - Noon
www.worshipatedgewood.org
e-mail: office@worshipatedgewood.org



Good News

Dear Friends,

As your Interim Minister I am working on two parallel tracks: First, I am your pastor with all the expectations you might have for your minister – Sunday worship; spiritual formation; baptisms and funerals; visits and crisis care. I have been on this track since December. As of May 1, however, I became full-time at Edgewood and have added a second track – that of guiding you through the transition time between settled pastors.

To prepare for this added responsibility, I attended three days of Interim Ministry Training in Los Angeles, California, in early May and am ready to work with you on the five tasks a church undertakes during an interim period. They are (1) coming to terms with our history; (2) discovering a new identity, (3) determining what kind of leadership and structure we need for the future, (4) reviewing resources and services available through the denomination, and (5) coming to new directions in ministry.

It has been a long time since Edgewood Church looked for a new pastor – and we and the neighborhood have changed. This process will give us time to *rediscover* who we are and what we are called to be and do in this new century. Not until we have done this work will we be really ready to assemble a parish profile and appoint a search committee. Right now the questions are, “Who are we?” and “What are we doing here?”

This summer we will begin by identifying a few people to serve on an Interim Team to help me guide the process. At our worship service on May 31, I will invite everyone to give us three names of people who might be candidates for such an assignment. If you cannot be there on the 31st, send your suggestions to me no later than June 7th for consideration by the Deacons in June.

May all God’s blessings be yours!

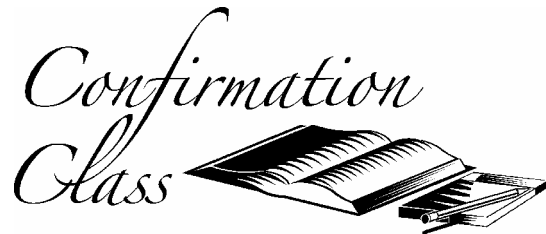
Rev. Betsy Aldrich Garland
Interim Minister



Staff at Edgewood Congregational Church
Interim Pastor: Rev. Betsy Aldrich Garland
Organist/Choir Director: Brenda Farrell Muoio
Secretary: Wendy Sullivan



June 14th is Children's Sunday and this marks the end of our Sunday school year. The children have a special performance planned which will be followed by a Pot Luck luncheon. This will go on rain or shine. If it is a sunny day, we'll eat outside on the lawn (you may want to bring lawn chairs or a blanket). If it rains, we'll set up in lower Sawyer. We will be circulating a sign-up sheet for the luncheon just so we don't wind up with six dozen brownies and no potato salad. Weather permitting; we'll also be doing a butterfly release. Hope to see you there!



Weekly Confirmation Class Begins in September

Plans are underway right now for a weekly Confirmation Class that will begin in September and run through early November. Reverend Betsy will meet with the Confirmation Class and their parents in June to discuss expectations; to plan for service projects, a retreat, and a field trip; and to finalize the schedule.

The teens already have participated in two activities. They saw the play "But For The Grace" in March to learn about hunger in Rhode Island and walked at the Good Friday Walk in April to raise funds to help hungry and homeless people. Additional events will be planned for the summer.

We anticipate that the class will meet late Sunday afternoons at the same time as the Youth Group. If you know a teenager who would benefit from being part of this class, speak to Betsy – or email her at bgarland@worshipatedgewood.org.



Grandparents Camp will be offered this summer at Iron's homestead from July 31-Aug 2, 2009. Come spend time with your grandchildren, away from the busyness of schedules and everyday life. At Irons Homestead, you can get back to basics and enjoy time together. The cost of Grandparents Camp is \$50.00 per person with a maximum of \$150 per family. A registration form can be downloaded from our website @ www.ricucc.org.



Women's Celebration

New England Women's CELEBRATION VIII

Save the Date! RICUCC Women are invited to the New England Women's CELEBRATION VIII in Burlington, Vermont, March 12-14, 2010. The theme is "Together, building bridges...a time to break down and a time to build up...Ecclesiastes 3:3." Celebration VIII will include an intergenerational event featuring our own Valerie Tutson, inspiring worship, a wide variety of workshop offerings, and countless opportunities for fellowship. Registration materials will be sent to all churches later this year.

News on the Edgewood Church Peace Garden

Since our groundbreaking on Earth Day in April, we are working to design and implement a Peace Garden on the church lawn, to the right of the side entrance, this spring/summer. Central to our design is our Peace Pole, which will be a hand-crafted monument with the message, May Peace Prevail, in different languages. The current plan is for a six-sided pole with two languages on each side, for a total of 12 languages – to be as inclusive as possible. There are more than 200,000 Peace Poles in 180 countries all over the world. They serve as a reminder for us to visualize and pray for world peace.

Our hope is that the garden will be a serene and lovely place where people can rest and reflect. Joel Hamilton, who proposed the idea that Edgewood Church have a meditation garden when he was our Deacon at Large, is working on a design. Meanwhile, we are researching what our Peace Pole will look like and preparing the property for its “planting.” Committee members are Christine Rockwell, Kathy Schnabel, Bill Maude, Kent Reynolds, Alan Chamberlin (Property Deacon), Rev. Betsy Garland, and Pat Kohler.

We are hoping to finance the garden through donations from members and friends. Donors will receive recognition in some form as part of the garden’s overall design – we’ll keep you posted on exactly what that will be.

If you have any questions, are interested in joining our committee, or would like to make a donation to the Peace Garden, please call the church office or Pat Kohler at 461-9612.

Amazing, Joyful Ordination!

How can I ever say thank you for the amazing, joyful occasion of my ordination on May 3rd? I was overwhelmed not only by your attendance and participation in the service but also by your gifts and cards.

And I am especially grateful for your gift of the portable Communion Set, not only because I needed one so that I can take communion to our shut-ins every month – but also because it launches me into my pastoral ministry. The inscription on the cover, *Rev. Betsy Aldrich Garland, May 3, 2009*, will remind me, for years to come, of that amazing day!

Much love and many blessings to all! *The Reverend Betsy Aldrich Garland*

Our Church Family

Remember These in Your Prayers:

Frank Maroni, Peter’s father, died on May 2 and was buried from St. Paul Church across the street on Monday, May 11, surrounded by his wife and their 12 children – and *their* spouses and grandchildren. We will remember Pete, Leslie, Francesca, Emma, and Nicholas in our prayers.

We continue to remember long-time member **Frances Segerson** who died on April 22 in Malaga, Spain, and whose memorial service was held at Butterfield Chapel on May 1, with Reverend Betsy officiating. Fran was buried in Acotes Hill Cemetery in Chepachet. Please keep her daughters Jodi Girard and Patricia Wohl and their families in your prayers.

Remember, also, to pray for **Edgewood Congregational Church** and its leaders in this interim time and for all churches in transition.

If you know of others in need of our pastoral care and prayers, please call the church office.

Andrew Edward Budihas,
Andrew and Rebecca’s son and
Shelby’s little brother was
baptized by Reverend Betsy on
May 10th in the presence of his
proud family and the Edgewood
congregation.



Congratulations to Matt and
Stacey Phok on the birth of
their son Benjamin who was
born on March 30th. Benjamin
who is the younger brother to
Alexander and Theodore will be
baptized here at Edgewood
Church on June 7th.



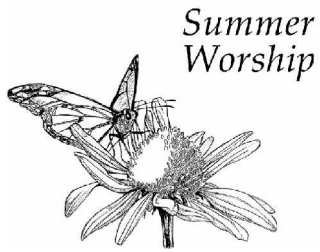
Congratulations to the following Graduates:

Anthonia Kuti graduated from The University of Rhode Island on May 17th with a Doctor of Pharmacy degree.

Alison Wroe graduated from Rhode Island College on May 16th with a Bachelor of Science Degree.

Jessica Sullivan graduates from Cranston High School East on June 13th. Jessica plans to attend Champlain College in Burlington, Vermont

Russell Cornell graduates from Cranston High School East on June 13th. Russell plans to attend CCRI.



Start Your Summer Sundays with Worship!

Summer begins at Edgewood Church on June 21st this year, and we are going to shorten and simplify our services so you will have ample time afterwards for family plans. Instead of a sermon, Rev. Betsy will offer a reflection and invite you to “talk back” on the importance of a summer Sabbath in our personal and church lives as well as the matter of “Living Well

While Doing Good,” based on Rev. Donna Schaper’s book by the same title. Betsy will include thoughts on simplifying our lives so that we can act for our own health, our church’s health, and the world’s health.

Also, we will recruit congregational talent for special music and invite you to suggest your favorite hymns for a hymn sing. Child care will be provided in the nursery for those less than 3 years; activity bags with quiet toys will be provided for those 3 years and up who will stay in worship. Curious? *Come and start your week right with us!*

Celebrate Pentecost with Us on May 31st!

We will celebrate the birth of the church on Pentecost Sunday, May 31. We also will baptize Madison Lucia Almada, Caren and Tony’s daughter and Don and Carolyn Josephsons’ granddaughter. Wear something red to remind us of when the Holy Spirit descended on the disciples.

Are You Ready to Join Edgewood UCC?

After the worship service on May 31, the deacons will meet with those who are asking about joining the church. If you have been thinking about it, come to the meeting to find out more. Members of the congregation are invited to attend as well; get your coffee and a cookie and come to the Smith Room. Membership Sunday will be June 14th.

Take Part in the Action Offering

After our pledge offering each Sunday, we have added an Action Offering – a phone call to a legislator, a bag of groceries for the food pantry or toiletries for the homeless, a pledge to bake brownies or a bread for coffee hour, a meal for a shut-in, a letter to someone in the service, pet food for the animal shelter, or *(you fill in the blank with a suggestion)*. **Not everyone will do everything – but everyone can do something!** Call the office with suggestions for the Action Offerings. We plan to offer a variety over the course of the next few months.

**203 rd Annual Meeting
of the Rhode Island Conference United Church of Christ
Saturday, May 2nd, 2009
Peace Dale Congregational Church, UCC**

The meeting was called to order at 9am with the registrar reporting a quorum. 27 of the 33 churches in the conference were present with 82 lay delegates, 27 ministers and 8 visitors in attendance.

A meaningful worship service was followed by the business meeting at which the conference budget was approved. Board and committee members were elected and one resolution relative to climate change was approved and is to be forwarded to the 27th General Synod.

The keynote speaker was The Rev. Dr. Robert W. Pazmino, Valeria Stone professor of Christian Education at Andover Newton Theological School.

Following lunch, there was the opportunity to attend three workshops, one for ministers and the others for delegates and visitors.

Edgewood received two certificates from the Conference. The first for our 2008 contribution for Basic Support of our church’s wider mission, the other was for our again being a “5 for 5 Congregation.

Respectfully submitted by: Jack Falk, Conference delegate



Please join our Board of Deacons on Sunday, June 7th after the worship service for a congregational meeting. At this time we will ratify the contract for our Interim Minister, elect the board of deacons and adopt the revised budget.



June 1 Colleen Kelly
 June 4 Bill Maude
 June 5 Katie Lizarraga
 June 10 Kathryn Hamilton
 June 13 Cathy Solina
 June 15 Cindy Cornell
 June 16 Robert Ranone
 June 18 Sandra Ey
 June 21 Donald Fowler
 June 21 Diane VanNort
 June 22 Judy Dewey
 June 23 Kristen Stone
 June 24 Leah Trevino
 June 27 Laura Coulam
 June 29 Barbara Harkins
 June 30 Jennifer Pierce

HAPPY BIRTHDAY KIDS!

June 7 Catherine Morris
 June 10 Abigail Lizarraga
 June 25 Patricia Ranone

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

June 2 Andrew & Irene Abram
 June 3 Don & Jean Benson
 June 6 Wayne & Laura Webb
 June 15 Katie & Tony Lizarraga
 June 17 Richard & Wendy Sullivan
 June 28 Earl & Louise Harrington
 June 28 Stuart & Carol Cornell

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>June 2009</h1>						
	1	2	3	4 10am AI-Anon 7pm AI-Anon 7pm Choir Rehearsal	5 6pm Girl Scouts	6
7 Trinity Sunday 10am Worship 11am Coffee Hour	8	9 10am AI-Anon 7pm AA	10 7pm AA 7pm Deacons Meeting	11 10am AI-Anon 7pm AI-Anon 7pm Choir Rehearsal	12 6pm Girl Scouts	13
14 2 nd Sunday after Pentecost Children's Sunday 10am Worship 11am Potluck Lunch	15	16 10am AI-Anon 7pm AA	17 7pm AA	18 10am AI-Anon 7pm AI-Anon 7pm Choir Rehearsal	19 6pm Girl Scouts	20
21 3 rd Sunday after Pentecost 10am Worship 11am Coffee Hour	22	23 10am AI-Anon 7pm AA	24 7pm AA	25 10am AI-Anon 7pm AI-Anon 7pm Choir Rehearsal	26 6pm Girl Scouts	27
28 4 th Sunday after Pentecost 10am Worship 11am Coffee Hour	29	30 10am AI-Anon 7pm AA				