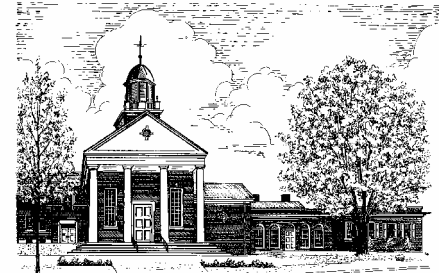


**Edgewood Congregational Church
1788 Broad Street
Cranston, RI 02905**

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



The Good News

Catch Your Breath this Summer

Be still and know . . .

I have a clergy friend who emails me occasionally with a simple message: “Remember to breathe.” If you are like me, you rush from one day to another, from one deadline to the next – and you keep adding new tasks to your to-do list. We forget that God has been calling us to Sabbath ever since creation when God proclaimed the seventh day a day of rest. And Jesus reminds us that this Sabbath day was made for *us!*

We and the world cry out for peace – even when peace is within our grasp – if we take the time to cultivate it. Still, life goes on during the summer – although often at a more relaxed pace. We all need a time to slow down, to catch our breath, to rest, to be re-created.

Our summer services are a case in point. They are more relaxed and, instead of a sermon, I offer a short reflection and invite “talk back” time. Our first two Sundays have elicited great feedback on “Who Is God for You?” and “Healing Powers.” (You can find these two reflections, as well as others, on our website.) Also, at least two of the hymns are picked by the congregation. Children, three years and up, stay in worship with quiet activity bags to keep them occupied.

In addition this summer, we are busy creating a Peace Garden, preparing to tackle the five Interim Tasks in the fall, and readying our education building for a shared ecumenical ministry. Read all about it in this issue of the newsletter! *And, remember to breathe!*

Betsy

Rev. Betsy Aldrich Garland
Interim Minister




Staff at Edgewood Congregational Church

Interim Pastor: Rev. Betsy Garland

Organist/Choir Director: Brenda Muoio


Secretary: Wendy Sullivan

Our Church Family



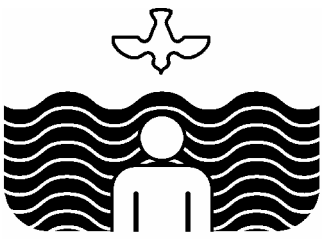
New Address

Leann Karpovitz
85 Briggs Street, Apt. 215
Cranston, RI 02920
401-461-2046



Joined in
Marriage

Congratulations to Kent and Shana Reynolds who were married here at Edgewood Church on Saturday, June 20th.



Sacrament of Baptism

Madison Almada, daughter of Caren and Tony Almada was baptized on Sunday, May 31st.

Benjamin Vuth Phok, son of Stacey and Matthew Phok was baptized on Sunday, June 7th.

Mabel Trahan was baptized on Sunday, June 14th.




Our Heartfelt Sympathy to:

Our sympathy is extended to Kathy Schnabel and her family on the loss of Kathy's mother, Shirley Zingus who passed away on Friday, June 19th in New London, CT.



CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES!

Congratulations to Travis Abram who graduated from Cranston High School East on Saturday, June 14th. Travis plans to attend CCRI in the fall.



Meet our New Members

Welcome to the newest members of Edgewood Church, who joined our church family on Sunday, June 14th.
Mabel Trahan, is a retired legal secretary and resides here in Cranston.
Jim Edwards is a retired school teacher from Maine and resides in Warwick.
Kent and Shana Reynolds, Kent is an area field Manager for U-Haul and Shana is a welder. They reside in East Greenwich.



Dear Edgewood Congregational Church,

Thank you very much for your donation of \$2000.00 to Project Outreach. Your support of our ministry is instrumental to helping those in need.

There is no denying that times are tough and even tougher for the ones we serve. We have experienced an increase in client numbers every month, yet resources are scarce and individual donations have dropped significantly. Project Outreach certainly has felt the strain of these difficult economic times, but thanks to people like you, we have been able to keep up with the demand and continue to help families in need. Your contribution will make it possible for Project Outreach to feed hundreds of families every week.

Your commitment to helping Project Outreach change the lives of families in the Washington Park community and beyond are greatly appreciated. Thanks again for your contribution to our ministry and the families we serve.

God Bless, Zuleika Vidal, Director



Central Congregational Church in Middleboro, MA was severely damaged after a four alarm fire broke out on Monday morning, May 25th (Memorial Day). After speaking with their pastor, Rev. Bruce D. Smith, our Mission Deacon Carol Carson learned that they would appreciate donations for new hymnals and will recognize our donations with book plates in the front of each. Donations can be given by using your July offering envelopes.

August Mission- Project Outreach Back to School Supplies

Project Outreach continues to be the major provider of food, clothing, services and other programs to the Washington Park community (02905 area code) in Providence and Cranston. Donations of "Back to School" supplies are needed for the children of this community as well. Donations of materials may be left in the Narthex or cash donations can be given by using your August mission envelope. Join us on Sunday, August 30th during coffee hour as we work together to fill the backpacks with all the supplies!



Is Your Pledge Up-to Date?

Our Financial Secretary Jen Smith is preparing six-month Giving Statements to be sent out in July to alert us to where we stand on our pledges for 2009. If you are behind in your pledge, now would be a good time to catch up. If you are away for the summer, now would be a good time to send a check to the church to cover your pledge until Labor Day.

We know that many of us are stretched financially right now, having been laid off or having our hours cut. So, if you are having trouble financially, now would be a good time to call the church to ask for prayers and support. And if you are managing well enough, now would be a good time to remember the church with your pledge – or your special gift to help us help others. We will be very grateful!

Volunteers Activating Youth Groups

*Watch for a **Youth Activity Survey** coming to your mailbox shortly to capture your ideas about what you would like our youth groups to do. There will be separate columns for youth and parents. List ideas that you think would be fun for youth and would help other people while building Christian character. Your suggestions can be practical or difficult; they can be free or cost money; they can take an afternoon or a week; they can be something you did as a young person or have always wanted to do. Also, senior high youth can indicate their interest in a mission trip and/or a regional UCC high school conference.*

Come September, Edgewood Church will have a youth group for older elementary children in grades 4, 5, and 6, thanks to the vision of Pam Lowell who has volunteered to take the leadership responsibility. Pam is planning regular meetings and special activities each month, beginning in September.

Also in September, the Confirmation Class – Theresa Alston, Alex Martin, Jillian Proulx, and Sean Sullivan – will be meeting weekly with Reverend Betsy in preparation for Confirmation Sunday on November 8. Once they have joined the church, they will continue as a Senior High Youth Group to invest in some of the special activities they have planned.

Undergirding these efforts is a Resource Committee that Dave Stachkunas is drawing together from Edgewood members who have experience working with youth and who are committed to youth programming. The guiding image for our emerging youth groups is to provide a place where Christian teachings and values are explicit and practiced in a caring environment where youth can make friends, develop leadership skills, serve others, and have fun.

Transition Team Meeting

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven. Eccl. 3:1

With these words, in late June the Transition Team began its work. Its purpose is to help us to gain perspective on the chapter in our lives that has ended; to gather feelings and ideas from our members and constituents; to provide a forum for the sharing and focusing of hopes and aspirations for the future; and to help us move from preoccupation with the past to readiness for a new chapter in the life of Edgewood Church with a new settled pastor.

The team also is considering ways to involve all of us in accomplishing five developmental tasks:

1. **Coming to Terms with History**, *e.g.*, telling the church's story, sharing significant moments and accomplishments, putting the tenure of former pastors in perspective, deciding what is important to carry into the future.
2. **Discovering a New Identity**, *e.g.*, assessing our self-image, separating the church's identity from the former minister's personality and style, taking advantage of the opportunity for renewal and growth.
3. **Making Necessary Leadership Changes**, *e.g.*, clarifying the leadership structure, writing ministry descriptions, recruiting new leaders, reconstituting committees, revising the bylaws.
4. **Renewing Denominational Linkages**, *e.g.*, building on a healthy relationship with the RI Conference UCC and seeking its support for an upcoming search process.
5. **Making a Commitment to New Directions in Ministry**, *i.e.*, building wide ownership of and excitement about a shared vision for the future of Edgewood Church, clarifying what we are looking for in a new minister, and handing over a first draft of the church's profile to a Search Committee which will pick up the baton and begin the search process.

The Interim Team is studying these tasks and considering strategies that might be a good "fit" for this congregation. Possibilities include an all-congregational forum (or two), meetings in members' homes, Bible studies, a retreat, interviews with long-time members, surveys mailed to members and constituents, and more. Right now we are thinking about our history and ways to present it to newcomers and about how best to gather data about our priorities.

It will be a busy fall here at Edgewood! We plan to offer a variety of ways you can participate and to share your hopes and dreams for this congregation. We have a "Suggestion Box" in the sanctuary and encourage you to tell us what you are thinking. Also, if you are online, you can check out where we are in the process through our "transition time" page on the website. In the meantime, ask yourself these questions: "Why did I come to Edgewood Church?" "Why did I stay?" and "What will have to happen to keep me here for the future?"

Team members, appointed by the Deacons on your recommendations, are Carol Cornell, Judy Dewey, Jack Falk, Don Fowler, Fred Fullerton, Dave Stachkunas, with Rev. Betsy, *ex officio*.

May Peace Prevail on Earth!

In preparation for dedicating our Peace Garden this summer, we have ordered our Peace Pole which will have six sides, two languages on each side, proclaiming "May peace prevail on earth." We selected the languages based on input from the congregation; in alpha order they are Arabic, English, French, Gaelic, German, Hebrew, Hindi, Portuguese, Spanish, Thai, Wampanoag, and Paw Prints (in honor of our furry friends).

The pole will be a beautiful finished wood, and it will sit in the center of the garden on the grassy patch of lawn in front of the office entrance. Pat Kohler and Bill Maude have been to Planet Gardens in Cumberland (founded by Bill and his sister Cindy) to price benches and to get ideas about memorial bricks or paving stones. You will be offered an opportunity to contribute to the garden and to remember loved ones or honor important people in your life through your donation.

For more information, call Pat Kohler or speak to members of the committee. In addition to Pat and Bill, they are Christine Rockwell, Kathy Schnabel, Kent Reynolds, Alan Chamberlin (Property Deacon), Megan Scarborough, and Rev. Betsy. Donations, marked "Peace Garden," may be mailed to the church office.



Sunday, August 23rd
Iron's Homestead
688 Snake Hill Road, Gloucester. RI

Our annual Outdoor Worship and Picnic will once again be at Iron's Homestead this year. This conference owned facility offers 102 wooded acres, large covered pavilion, outdoor fireplace, meditation path, volleyball court, swings, horseshoe pit, swimming at Commer Pond and much more.

Following the 10:30am outdoor worship service, we will have our picnic under the pavilion. The church will provide the burgers, hotdogs, drinks and paper goods; you supply the rest (salads, desserts, etc.) It is a beautiful place for children of all ages. We hope to see you there! (P.S. Regular worship at Edgewood Church will not be held that morning)

Directions: From Route 95 North or South, Take Rt. 295 to Rt. 44 West/Greenville (7B). Follow Rt. 44 to left turn on Rt. 116 South. Continue on Rt. 116 to intersection where Rt. 116 goes left. Continue straight, road becomes Snake Hill Road. Follow for 3 ½ miles. Irons is on the left.

Education Building Renovated for Shared Ministry

Conversations are underway between Edgewood Congregational Church and Open Table of Christ United Methodist Church to move the Washington Park Nursery School to our empty education building. Our deacons have given us the go-ahead to proceed with negotiations to make this a two-year shared ministry pilot project, with the goal of opening the nursery school in September. Plans are to offer a morning toddler and preschool program and an enrichment program for kindergartners on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons.

Washington Park's head teacher Alissa Bourque (who lives in Edgewood) and Rev. Betsy have been to DCYF to discuss the application process, and we have called the State Fire Marshal to do an inspection. If all goes well and we are able to proceed, we will mobilize people from both Edgewood and Open Table to do the necessary repairs and paint the space. Considerable "sweat equity" will be provided by Open Table to make our building usable and attractive and to prevent further deterioration from its standing empty.

There is a lot to do behind the scenes, such as working out a Memorandum of Understanding and budgets for one-time capital improvements and an operating budget for the school year. The project will be covered by both churches' insurance. Ongoing expenses such as salaries, utilities, and materials will be included in the school budget. While we will not accrue rent for the space (which we have not been able to do for three years), we will cover our out-of-pocket costs. If all goes well, we will put together an Advisory Board with members from both churches and the community.

With the economy affecting denominations and their local churches, the time is right to work ecumenically. We have not given up our dream of an "Edgewood Center;" the nursery school is just the first step to make something happen right away. In the meantime, we are considering other options for broader programming using our resources and for positioning Edgewood Church as a vital part of the neighborhood.

Wish List for Pre-School: wooden shed (walk-in in to store outdoor play equipment)
helmets (sized ages 2-6) tricycles/ bikes with training wheels sand pails and buckets
large bubble wands jump-ropes wooden doll cradle or bed
outdoor chalk outdoor balls child-size basketball hoop
dolls (in good condition) wooden toy kitchen set doll highchair
2 mirrors- child-length (not breakable) baby blankets (in good condition) outdoor play sand equipment (playhouse, good condition swing-set, sand box w/ cover, kiddie pool, etc)

Donations to purchase required new items.

Donations of special services: electrician, plumber, gardener/landscaper, painter, carpenter, etc.

Volunteers to do the following: empty and clean school building, paint, garden, install playground equipment, install laminate floor

Allow use of pick-up truck to move materials and furniture from Open Table to ECC.

If you know of a child between the ages of 2-6 and would like more information about the school call Alissa Bourque (774-219-8164). Work dates have been scheduled for the following Saturdays: July 11, July 18, July 25 from 8:30 - 3:30 please call Alissa to sign-up to volunteer (774-219-8164)



July 2 Sandra Wiesendanger
 July 3 Lois Goff
 July 3 Tom Ey
 July 5 Nancy Chamberlin
 July 6 Judy Pelkey
 July 6 Allison Abram
 July 10 Stella Martin
 July 10 Bert Reid
 July 10 Peter Maroni
 July 11 Don Josephson
 July 16 Stacey Phok
 July 16 Steve Cornell
 July 18 Alicia Martin
 July 19 Paula Wroe
 July 19 Herb Alexander
 July 19 Andrew Budihas
 July 20 Susan Karpovitz
 July 22 Margaret Thielsch

Happy Birthday Kids!

July 5 Nathan Quero
 July 16 Sarah Lowell
 July 23 Nicholas Maroni
 July 25 Grace Webb
 July 29 Michael Correia
 July 29 Megan Scarborough

Happy Anniversary!

July 10 Paul & Debby Bayne
 July 20 Fred & Joan Fullerton
 July 29 Tom & Sandy Ey
 July 31 Deb & Lou Martini

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>July 2009</h1>						
			1 7pm AA	2 10am Al-Anon 7pm Al-Anon	3	 Independence DAY
5 5 th Sunday after Pentecost 10 Worship with Communion 11am Fellowship Tim	6	7 10am Al-Anon 7pm AA	8 7pm AA	9 10am Al-Anon 7pm Al-Anon	10	11
12 6 th Sunday after Pentecost 10am Worship 11am Fellowship Time	13	14 10am Al-Anon 7pm AA	15 7pm AA	16 10am Al-Anon 7pm Al-Anon	17	18
19 7 th Sunday after Pentecost 10am Worship 11am Fellowship Time	20	21 10am Al-Anon 7pm AA	22 7pm AA	23 10am Al-Anon 7pm Al-Anon	24	25
26 8 th Sunday after Pentecost 10am Worship 11am Fellowship Time	27	28 10am Al-Anon 7pm AA	29 7pm AA	30 10am Al-Anon 7pm Al-Anon	31	



August 5 Vanessa Williams
 August 6 Jim Pierce
 August 7 Barbara Brooks
 August 7 John DeRosa
 August 11 Wendy Sullivan
 August 11 David Williams
 August 12 Melissa Andrews
 August 20 Sabine Downey
 August 23 Jean Benson
 August 27 Leann Karpovitz
 August 27 Alice Laurenson
 August 27 Stuart Cornell
 August 28 Elizabeth Abram
 August 29 ID Kuti

Happy Birthday Kids!

August 4 Nathan Scarborough
 August 7 Michael Andrews
 August 7 Liam DeRosa
 August 8 Chandler Harkins
 August 22 Sean Sullivan
 August 25 Zachary Marafino

Happy Anniversary!

August 10 John & Joyce McGee
 August 19 David & Susan Dean
 August 21 James & Susan Neary
 August 23 Robert & Evelyn Ranone
 August 29 Jack & Joyce Falk
 August 31 Jose & Heidi Quero

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>August 2009</h1>						1
2 9 th Sunday after Pentecost 10am Worship with Communion 11am Fellowship Time	3	4 10am AI-Anon 7pm AA	5 7pm AA	6 10am AI-Anon 7pm AI-Anon	7	8
9 10 th Sunday after Pentecost 10am Worship 11am Fellowship Time	10	11 10am AI-Anon 7pm AA	12 7pm AA	13 10am AI-Anon 7pm AI-Anon	14	15
16 11 th Sunday after Pentecost 10am Worship 11am Fellowship Time	17	18 10am AI-Anon 7pm AA	19 7pm AA	20 10am AI-Anon 7pm AI-Anon	21	22
23 12 th Sunday after Pentecost 10:30am Outdoor Worship and Picnic at Iron's Homestead	24	25 10am AI-Anon 7pm AA	26 7pm AA	27 10am AI-Anon 7pm AI-Anon	28	29
30 13 th Sunday after Pentecost 10am Worship 11am Fellowship Time Backpack Sunday	31					