

Amicable Congregational Church **United Church of Christ**

Friendly Messenger

May 2021

Amicable Welcomes The Reverend Nancy Hamlin Soukup as Interim Minister



After weeks of constructive dialogue and a great deal of prayer, the Amicable Congregational Church Interim Minister Search Team is excited to announce that we have unanimously chosen The Reverend Nancy Hamlin Soukup to be our interim minister.

The Rev. Soukup offers years of experience, a strong faith, and the warmth, energy, and passion needed by our congregation as we navigate a period of transition and prepare for a settled pastor. She will hold us as we overcome our grief at the loss of our long-term pastor and adjust to a post-Covid19 world. She will nourish our relationships with God and each other through relevant ministry and heartfelt pastoral care. She will lead us through a careful analysis of our lay leadership organizational structure and guide us in discerning our needs, challenges, and future goals, which will be used in our search for a settled pastor.

The Rev. Soukup served as the well-respected University Multifaith Chaplain and Director of the Office of Spiritual Life at Roger Williams University for eight years and has recently served as Designated Minister for Edgewood Congregational Church in Cranston. She is available to begin her

interim ministry on June 1st, after she finishes writing and defends her dissertation for her Doctorate of Ministry at Hartford Seminary and completes the Interim Training offered through Interim Ministry Network (a refresher course for her) in May.



Worship Services

We have returned to pre-recorded services until we enter our sanctuary once again

Sunday, May 9th - A Mother's Day with our guest worship leader: The Rev. Cindy Maybeck. Rev. Maybeck is an inspiring speaker and accomplished storyteller. Founder of Spirit Story ministry, she designs original presentations blending scripture telling and storytelling as a way to bring God's word to life and to inspire the church to move forward in faith with hope and joy. You may learn more about her ministry at www.cindymaybeck.com.

Sunday, May 16th - The Disciples regroup after Easter: From Disarray to Decision-Time ... and won't this sound familiar, as we reflect upon our own journey(s) through these last 12 weeks? In anticipation, feel free to dip into the Acts of the Apostles, from your Bible: Chapter One.



Sunday, May 23rd - Celebrating Pentecost! Happy Birthday to the Church. Following the benediction at your computer or phone screen, please get in your car and drive to the North parking lot of the church premises. Balloons and Birthday cupcakes, a story with sound effects provided by our kids ... (well maybe some brave teens and adults as well). A morning of rejoicing and being together again outdoors, jointly offered by the Worship Team and the Christian Education Team. Think sunny thoughts!

Sunday, May 30th, Memorial Day Weekend - "Hard Times, Come No More" is the Special Music of the morning. People struggling to live through such times inspired it. Stephen Foster wrote it, Eric Bronner will sing it. And we will all pray on it ... in these tender and trying times both memorable and hopeful.

Sunday, June 6th - What we do know is that we'll share Communion because we always do so on the first Sunday of each month. What we don't yet precisely know is what else will shape our worship because of where we've come from and what we've learned in May.

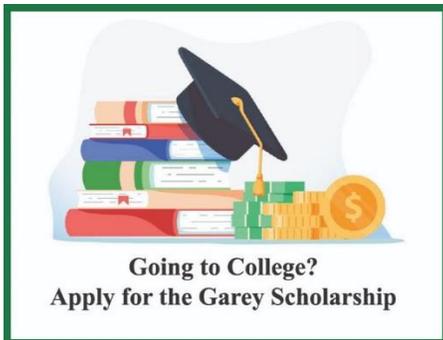


Pastoral Care

Until June 1st, any requests for Pastoral Care should be made by calling the church phone: 401-624-4611. Pat Campion will be checking voicemails and will ensure that your request is addressed.



Garey Scholarships



Are you or do you know someone that is attending college in the Fall? The Garey scholarship is to support higher education of members and friends who support the work and programs of Amicable Church. The Scholarship Fund was initiated in 1982 by church educator Carl Garey in memory of his sister Doris Garey. Over the years the fund has grown because of generous contributions, sometimes marked by birthdays, holidays or anniversaries.

For more information please contact Julie Lohr at julie.lohr@gmail.com or 401-639-4083.



Thank You

The Trustees wish to thank all those members and friends who turned out on April 17, 2021 to help with the Spring Clean Up. A special thanks goes out to the Martin family, especially Elizabeth and Quinn



Employment Opportunities

There are two employment opportunities currently available at Amicable Church. The first is the Church Secretary position which is a part-time 10 hour per week role. The second is the Church Custodian position, also a part-time position. Weekly hours dependent on candidate skill level. If anyone is interested please send an email to office@amicablechurch.org or call the church office at 401-624-2323.



Financial Notes of Interest - April 2021

- 2021 remains in a general “Church Closure” mode, with weekly Worship Services still being presented via Zoom and/or Amicable’s Facebook page.
- Cleaning, maintenance, and utility expenses remain lower than budgeted during this period.
- We are still operating without a Secretary or Custodian so that these normal expenses are not accumulating at present. The Trustees have initiated searches for both part-time positions.

- These lower expenses will help offset income losses since the 5K Event for 2021 has been canceled and Summer Festival activity planning has been on hold so far.
- Regular pledged and general donations are holding steady and in total represent just about what was planned through the first third of the year.
- The Thrift Shop continued having good receipts during April, well above the budgeted amount.
- No big expense surprises in April, although a small oil fuel pump fitting leak required correction.
- As the search for an Interim Minister remains on-going, there were no minister expenses in April. As was the case in March, Guest Minister expenses were higher than planned, but of course nothing approaching typical full-time ministerial expenses.

Respectfully Submitted: Treasurer, Roger Gauthier



Sophia Piffard	5/03	Michael & Julie McCoy	5/14
Mark David Coelho	5/04	Edward & Diane Medeiros	5/16
Abigail Canto	5/05	Kimberly & John Poulton	5/18
Connor Campion	5/06	Shawn & Sarah Martin	5/21
Jim Goncalo	5/07	David & Rosalie Durfee	5/22
Sheila Gediman	5/07	Laura & Arthur Mello	5/25
Marcia Phillips	5/10	Bob & Christine Messenger	5/27
Laura Mello	5/10	Sherry & Steven Winn	5/28
Karen Sheehan	5/11		
Henry Picard	5/12		
Camden Pyne	5/12		
Sandy Berdos	5/14		
Ryan Campion	5/15		
Robert Campion	5/16		
Sandra Lovley	5/18		
Viktor Martin	5/19		
Eunice Durfee	5/21		
Kristen Zeiser	5/21		
Sarah Mello	5/21		
Dominique Dufour	5/25		
Kayla Glover	5/27		



May 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 ACTS Open 10-2
2 Worship 10:00 AM	3	4	5 Church Council 7:00 PM	6 ACTS Open 10-2	7	8 ACTS Open 10-2
9 Worship 10:00 AM	10	11 Trustees Meeting 4:00 PM	12 Standing Committee 7:30 PM	13 ACTS Open 10-2	14	15 ACTS Open 10-2
16 Worship 10:00 AM	17	18	19 Choir Zoom Chat 5:30 PM	20 ACTS Open 10-2	21 Submission Deadline for Friendly Messenger	22 ACTS Open 10-2
23 Worship 10:00 AM	24	25	26	27 ACTS Open 10-2	28	29 ACTS Open 10-2
30 Worship 10:00 AM	31					