

Good Tidings

August 2023



Arnold Mills United Methodist Church

Rev. Heather R. Bailes Baker

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A note from our pastor...

Beautiful Beloveds,

As our Exodus Worship series continues we, like the Israelites follow Moses into the wilderness. What will we find there? There may be beauty, wonder, and adventure but we don't get to hear too much of that side of the story. If you're familiar with the story, there's a whole lot of wandering, wondering, whining, and willful resistance and looking in the rear view mirror.

I wonder, what if someone else has written the Exodus story. Imagine a child's perspective of God's presence going behind and before them. How might someone who was enslaved as a cook have described gathering manna that fell like dew? How did it feel after years of enslavement to be commanded to rest?

As we continue to emerge and recover from the pandemic, it can feel a little bit like living and wandering in the wilderness. We cannot go back to what was, only forward to what will be. And what, will be? What is the place and role of the church in our community in 2023? What do the communities around us most need, right now? What needs can we address with our particular strengths and resources? How can we both remember and reimagine ourselves in such a time as this?

As the summer draws to a close and the fall begins, our church council will be working with a consultant to listen for God's guidance, wisdom and vision. Who are the people of AMUMC called to be now? To what missions and ministries, familiar and new are we called, now? We can learn from and celebrate all that we have done in almost 200 years of ministry. And, we can ask one another, and our God, what's next? As we prepare to work with the consultant, I invite your prayers, questions and visions. May God's will be made clear. May God's creativity and compassion lead us. May we listen carefully and prayerfully to one another, and to the Spirit.

Peace,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Heather R. Bailes Baker'.

Pastor Heather

Coming This Month in Worship

9:30 am One shared worship experience outdoors. weather permitting. Bring a comfy chair, or use one of our metal folding chairs.

**Pets are welcome to attend outdoor worship. They should be appropriately leashed or restrained at all times. Pet families are responsible for their animals, including clean up. Please be mindful of those who may be afraid or uncomfortable around animals.

August 6 — Quail and Manna: What more do you need?

Exodus 16: 2-15

We will celebrate Holy Communion

August 13—Water and Whining

Text: Exodus 17: 1-2

August 20—Rule of Life

Text: Exodus 20 (selected verses)

August 27—Beware Golden Idols

Text: Exodus 32: 1-14

September 3—Seeing God

Text: Exodus 33: 1-23

UMC Summer Series wraps up in August

New online series, featuring Bishop Johnson, clergy from our District and Conference including Pastor Heather, explores the history of our denomination, and begins to look ahead.

Offered online weekly on Wednesdays, each 20 minute session, led by different clergy, offers a brief exploration of the topic, and ends with opportunity for reflection and action.

Topics include:

- How did Methodism make its way to the US?
- Historically: why are there so many different Methodist Denominations in the US?
- Schisms and Reunions: Why has the church divided, merged, and divided again?
- Currently why are there so many Methodist denominations in the US?
- What's next? How do we move forward from here?

You can watch these videos weekly at your convenience. New content drops on Wednesdays. Stay tuned for opportunities for further conversation.

Arnold Mills Cemetery Trivia

Karl Ikerman

Headstone Tips: Cemeteries must approve your selection and headstones can be expensive. More time consuming than you might think. Often 4 to 6 months before installation.



2023 Holiday Fair

Save the Date!

Our annual Holiday Fair will be held on Saturday, November 11th. Now is a perfect time to begin craft projects for the Craft table and root plant cuttings for the Plant table. Stay tuned for how you can get involved!



Missions Committee Newsletter Report August 2023

Meals in the Park

AMUMC volunteers handed out over 160 servings of grilled hotdogs, homemade pasta salad, fresh fruit salad and our wonderful home baked desserts from Jean Clark, our main baker. Calvin Presbyterian Church made the lunch bags. It was a hot, hot afternoon and Tami Noke handed out freeze pops to folks waiting in the food line. **Our next meal is Sunday September 24th Bouley Park, Social Street, Woonsocket.** Please consider making some homemade desserts or volunteering for this wonderful outreach program. Any questions, please contact Karen Oswain at KKoswain@netscape.net; 401-749-3609



The Franklin Farm Community Garden & the Historic Metcalf-Franklin Farm Preservation Association

During the 16th season of raising farm fresh vegetables for needy families in Rhode Island, the volunteers grew and distributed over **35,000 pounds** of various vegetables to the **RI Community Food Bank** and to local soup kitchens and food pantries in Northern RI. **So far this season, volunteers have donated over 16,500 pounds of summer squash, cucumbers, zucchini and additional vegetables** to the RI Community Food Bank and the Northern RI Food pantry, the Salvation Army of Pawtucket, the Pawtucket Soup Kitchen and - the newest partner - the Connecting for Children and Families Food Pantry in Woonsocket. **The Monday and Thursday volunteer tending nights from 5:30 PM to dusk are wonderful opportunity to share in this valuable effort to provide farm fresh vegetables for needy families.** In addition, the farm fields continue to be open for casual outdoor enjoyment for families and their pets. Restoration work gradually continues on the historic farmhouse and the barn complex. Any questions, please contact Pam or Chip Thurlow; 401-333-1235, thurlowcp@gmail.com

Habitat for Humanity

Habitat for Humanity Northern RI and West Bay Affiliate is celebrating their 30-year anniversary this year! The current project is to erect **two** duplexes at **83 & 85 Oakland School Street in Burrillville, RI.** The first duplex is still waiting for permits to be issued for occupation. The second duplex foundation will be installed in the next few weeks and then the volunteer groups can be assigned the various construction tasks. **We will notify AMUMC volunteers when we can return to the work site as we have done previously.**

Cintas Clothing Donation and the St. James Episcopal Church Clothing Closet

The twice monthly clothing donations continue from the Cintas Warehouse in Woonsocket to the St. James Church clothing closet. The delivery schedule is posted in the coat room. Our volunteer coordinators provide the largest clothing donations to the St. James Clothing Closet!

Dave's Marketplace Day Old Bakery Donations

Since 2016, volunteers from AMUMC have transported day old baked goods three times each week to the Cumberland Senior Center, the Northern RI Food Pantry or the Woonsocket Shelter. The schedule of the three donations each week and the many volunteers making the deliveries is posted on the bulletin board in the coat room.

The Woonsocket Shelter

The Woonsocket Shelter has received donations of persons care items and household items (sheets, towels, quilts, curtains, etc.) for families to relocate into independent living when they leave the shelter. In addition, AMUMC volunteers have been donating day old baked goods from area supermarkets – currently Dave's Marketplace – for over 15 years to the shelter. On Fridays, Elton and Rachel Odom make the weekly deliveries to the Shelter.

Chip Thurlow,
Chairperson, AMUMC Missions and Social Concerns Committee

July Trustee Report

The Trustee Committee met on Thursday, July 13th, at 6:30 PM. The most important items we covered are as follows:

- Our Rockland Trust portfolio is up \$39,516, even after withdrawals for ongoing projects.
- Dave is researching the availability of funds from Interfaith Power and Light to help with paying for our sustainability project of heat pumps and insulation. RISE Energy will be conducting an audit on July 31st.
- An estimate from Lizotte Glass Company for installing glass panels in the office and vestry doors was approved.
- Ocean State Air has sent a corrected statement for servicing the dehumidifier and air conditioning units.
- The second stage of the organ repair has been put on hold.
- Instead of fixing up the playground equipment, the cost of a new unit is being investigated.
- J. Perry Paving has been given a 50% down payment for the repaving, seal-coating, and line-striping project. The small parking lot is scheduled to be done on July 31 and August 1. Hopefully, the large parking lot and driveway work will be completed afterwards. That will depend upon the weather!
- Cargill Hall will be rented on November 4th to a group celebrating Diwali, the Festival of Lights.
- Cargill Hall has been looked at as a possible polling place for the September primary and November elections. We have not heard back from the Town of Cumberland as to whether this will be the case.
- Possible uses of the church's lot next to the fire station were discussed. This discussion will be continued.
- Tom Cabana will be the trustee representative to the Building Security Committee, now forming.
- The White Memorial Family Reunion in Cargill Hall on July 15th was a great event, according to family members. They left the place spotless and will always be welcomed back!
- Stanley Tree Service will be contacted to trim the trees along the driveway and a few other areas.

Respectfully submitted,

Lindsay Gettinger

Fran Carr, Scott Murphy, Tom Cabana, Tom Hetherington, Dave Larson, Mark Farnell



August 2023

Tips for August 2023

You are not alone! Research shows 64% of employees want to know that their company is doing something to contribute to a sustainable future. Through conversations with coworkers, gather ideas of how your workplace can help – even if small steps. With the backing of your colleagues and research, follow these [five ways to get sustainability on the agenda at work](#).

Heat, drought, and lightning are the “perfect storm” to ignite wildfires, which scorch the ground and pollute the air for hundreds of miles. Additionally, the loss of the trees negatively impacts God’s systems that capture carbon for the health of the earth. **Support [organizations](#) that replant trees after wildfires.**

Put your [senators](#) on your “speed dial.” Call them regularly. You don’t have to talk directly to them or for more than a minute or two. The recording or the staff person will add your yay or nay to the tally column to give the lawmaker a sense of support or opposition to an action. Do state that you are both a constituent and a person of faith.

Reuse a plastic bottle to decrease the water wasted in flushing a toilet. Fill the bottle with sand or pebbles, put it in the tank. An average home can save about five gallons of water every day.

Whatever you do to care for God’s creation and for justice is important and needed. But changing big systems is also crucial. Voting season is upon us. **Vet your candidates for their commitments** to address climate-change related issues – especially justice for those most adversely affected.

August 20–24 is World Water Week, the focus of which is accelerating change to create a water-wise world. In the spirit of “**Be the change you want to see in the world,**” look around you: What needs and opportunities do you have? Practice conservation at home. Work for preservation of nearby waterways. Start conversations to encourage others to also be water-wise.

Reap the harvest. **Shop for food locally at farmers markets.** Give thanks for those whose work feeds you and others. Care for the planet by reducing the carbon emissions that come from shipping food long distances. Eat more fruits and veggies and reduce the high cost to your body and the planet from other foods. Compost any food scraps.

Put the sun to work. God provides renewable energy for all. Assess the possibilities you have, including solar for home, garage, business, and church rooftops, as well as and community-shares panels. If those are not available or feasible currently, begin planning for using solar or wind in the next few years. Know that when people see solar panels installed, they are more willing to try them too. **Be an influencer.**

To God’s prophet Jeremiah, it seemed nobody was listening as he warned of impending doom. In the face of climate change, we too may feel ineffectual. **Take heart from Jeremiah**, who was faithful to his call from God to speak up. He trusted God and bought land as a sign of hope. Continue to do all you can and talk about your hopes for a more just and verdant future.

With school starting, pass along clothes children have outgrown to another family. With fall coming, freshen wardrobes by exchanging outfits with friends of the same size. **Reuse clothing to save money – and landfill space** and the consequent global warming. Good for you and good for the earth.

The United Methodist Creation Justice Movement is providing these Tips as a tool to equip church members, families, and individuals to respond to God's call to care for creation and do justice with our neighbors. For more about the UM Creation Justice Movement, go to umcreationjustice.org.

NOW
Available



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[https://my.amplifymedia.com/
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Access Code: DTLSGY

Upcoming Events

August 1: Small Parking Lot Repaving
August 9: Prayer Shawl Ministry
August 10: Board of Trustees Meeting
August 10: July 4th Parade Committee Meeting
August 21: Church Council Meeting
August 23: Prayer Shawl Ministry

SPRC News

Our committee includes Stacey Johnson, Lee Ann Cotta, Cindy Mauch, Sue Therien, and Olivia Carney. (Updated 6/6/23)

If you have any questions, comments or concerns having to do with the staff of the parish feel free to see any member of the committee or you can email us at amumcsprc@gmail.com



Arnold Mills UMC's Social Media

Find us on social media!

We are on Facebook and on Instagram.

Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/Arnold-Mills-United-Methodist-Church-115722435105941>

Twitter at https://twitter.com/ArnoldMills_UMC

Instagram at https://www.instagram.com/arnold_mills_umc

Listen to sermons on our website at <http://www.amumc.org>

Subscribe to sermon podcasts at <http://www.buzzsprout.com/434047>

Prayer Requests

Prayer requests are sent out each week to every address on our email list. We understand that not everyone who asks for prayer in worship during "Sharing Our Joys and Concerns" wishes to have that information shared on the email blast. If you would like to have a prayer request included in the weekly email, please use the "Prayer Request" form on the table in the back of the sanctuary, call the office at 401-333-5203, or email office.amumc@gmail.com. Prayer requests will remain on the prayer list for one month. If you would like a prayer request to remain longer, just let us know.

Today

< > August 2023

Month ▾



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
30 9th Sunday after Pentecost ● 9:30am Outdoor Sunday Service	31 Parking Lot Repaving ● 6pm Reserved for Scouts - Cargill Hc	Aug 1 6:30pm Prayer Meeting - Zoom ● 6:30pm Prayer Meeting - Zoom	2	3	4	5
6 10th Sunday after Pentecost ● 9:30am Communion Service ● 9:30am Outdoor Sunday Service ● 10:30am Coffee Fellowship	7 6pm Reserved for Scouts - Cargill Hc	8 6:30pm Prayer Meeting - Zoom ● 6:30pm Prayer Meeting - Zoom	9 9:30am Prayer Shawl Ministry - Libra ● 9:30am Prayer Shawl Ministry - Libra	10 6:30pm Board of Trustees - Cargill H 7pm July 4th Parade Committee Met ● 6:30pm Board of Trustees - Cargill H ● 7pm July 4th Parade Committee Met	11 George Vacation Day	12
13 11th Sunday after Pentecost ● 9:30am Outdoor Sunday Service	14 6pm Reserved for Scouts - Cargill Hc	15 6:30pm Prayer Meeting - Zoom ● 6:30pm Prayer Meeting - Zoom	16	17	18	19
20 12th Sunday after Pentecost ● 9:30am Outdoor Sunday Service	21 6pm Reserved for Scouts - Cargill Hc 7pm Church Council - Cargill Hall ● 6pm Reserved for Scouts - Cargill Hc ● 7pm Church Council - Cargill Hall	22 6:30pm Prayer Meeting - Zoom ● 6:30pm Prayer Meeting - Zoom	23 9:30am Prayer Shawl Ministry - Libra ● 9:30am Prayer Shawl Ministry - Libra	24	25	26
27 13th Sunday after Pentecost ● 9:30am Outdoor Sunday Service	28 6pm Reserved for Scouts - Cargill Hc ● 6pm Reserved for Scouts - Cargill Hc	29 6:30pm Prayer Meeting - Zoom ● 6:30pm Prayer Meeting - Zoom	30	31	Sep 1	2



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Check out our webpage at www.amumc.org

We invite all to our Outdoor Summer Sunday Services
beginning June 25 at 9:30.

Livestreaming of the 9:30 worship service will be available during the service for those who do not attend the service in person.

After each service the video will be archived for viewing anytime.