

Good Tidings

April 2025



Arnold Mills United Methodist Church

Rev. Heather R. Bailes Baker

Web Page: www.amumc.org

Phone: 401-333-5203

email: office.amumc@gmail.com

A note from our pastor...

Beloved Community,

As our Lenten Journey continues, we continue to reflect on our theme, *Everything [in] Between*. I don't know about you but this series has drawn my attention to just how often we the world is presented as a series of either/or choices. Jesus helps us to walk through and even embrace the messy middle.

As we move into Holy Week on April 13, I hope you will join us for the our special worship experiences. Holy Week begins on Palm Sunday with Jesus triumphant entry into Jerusalem. During the week, Wednesday-Saturday, we will offer an indoor self-guided Prayer Path in Cargill Hall, available from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 5 to 8 p.m. on Wednesday and Friday.

Holy Thursday, on April 17, we will gather with other Rhode Island United Methodists at Shepherd of the Valley UMC. Bishop Cynthia Moore-Koikoi will be preaching. It's well worth the drive to hear her preach. We will also share communion with our siblings in Christ. April 18, we'll observe Good Friday in our sanctuary, and online, with worship at 7pm. Holy Week ends and a new season begins on Sunday, April 20, as we celebrate Easter and the grief and hope of the day, and life itself.

As we move together through the second half of Lent, I pray that you sense God as creator, redeemer and sustainer is at work within you and people around you. I pray that you are sensing God in both familiar and new ways, in faith and in doubt and everything in between. I pray God is broadening and deepening your love for others, self, and God.

Blessings,

Peace,

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

Pastor Heather

Summer Worship

This Summer, where will the people of Arnold Mills United Methodist Church gather for worship: outside on the lawn, inside Cargill Hall, or in our sanctuary? Share your input [here](#) by May 1.

You can also type in this URL in your web browser: <https://amumc.breezechms.com/form/48c3da>.



Coming Soon in Worship— Lent, Holy Week, and Easter!

Our Lenten series, *everything [in] between*, continues, inviting us to notice and navigate the polarities in our lives with more faith, intention, and openness to be transformed. Instead of a world that is just black and white, this Lent, we're trusting that God shows up in shades of gray, rainbow hues, and everywhere in between.

April 6 — The Fifth Sunday in Lent
Righteousness & mercy Luke 19: 1-10

Holy Week

An indoor self-guided prayer path will be available in Cargill Hall April 16-19, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 5 to 8 p.m. Wed and Friday only.

April 13 — Palm Sunday
shouting & silence Luke 19: 29-40

April 17 — Holy Thursday Worship at 7pm
Shepherd of the Valley UMC
Bishop Cynthia Moore-Koikoi preaching.
Shepherd of the Valley UMC
604 Seven Mile Rd, Hope, RI

April 18 — Good Friday Worship at 7pm
acceptance & resistance – Luke 23: 32-49

April 20 — Easter
grief & hope – Luke 24: 1-12

April 27—The first Sunday after Easter
Guest preacher, John Michael Spelman

Pastor Heather's April Off Campus Office Hours

April 2 — 11am, Phantom Farm
April 9 — 11am, Apothica Cafe
April 16 — 11 am, Phantom Farm
April 23 — No Off-Campus Office hours this week
April 30 — 11am, Apothica Café

Meet Pastor Heather for conversation. No agenda. Come and chat.

Phantom Farms, 2920 Diamond Hill Rd, Cumberland
Apothica Cafe, 3 Dexter St, Cumberland

If that time doesn't work for you, call, text, or email, Pastor Heather to set up an appointment for coffee, conversation, prayer or a walk & talk.

Lenten Bible Study — Wednesdays at 7pm — Onsite and Online

Rev. Dr. Adama Brown leads us through the scripture for Sunday, exploring scriptural and historical context, as well as how it applies to our lives in 2025. No previous experience or biblical knowledge is needed. We have Bibles to share. All you need is a sense of curiosity and openness to learning with and from others. Zoom link in the pastor's weekly email, and by messaging the office or pastor.



Aldersgate Camp & Retreat Center

Campfire Connection

3rd Annual Easter Egg Hunt — Sunday April 13th at 1:00 PM

We hope to see you there for an afternoon of fun and festivities.



We've restocked our coffee, cocoa and chocolate! Check it out in the coatroom.

Organic Ground Coffee — \$10/bag

Hot Cocoa — \$7/can

Chocolate — \$3/bar

Make checks payable to AMUMC, Memo: Fair Trade

If you have special requests, questions or suggestions, please contact Pastor Heather or George Jutras, office.amumc@gmail.com.

2025 Margaret Stearns Service Award

Since 1978 the Margaret Stearns Service Award has been presented by the Arnold Mills United Methodist Church to graduating high school seniors continuing their education. Two awards - **\$1,500 each** - will be issued each year. Although academic excellence and financial need are considered by the Selection Committee, **the essential characteristic of an ideal candidate is a "demonstrated concern for others at home, school, church or community". Applicants must be able to demonstrate how their own concern for others has benefited someone else.**

The application submission deadline is April 11, 2025.

Eligibility

The applicant must be a **graduating senior at Cumberland High School, or a Cumberland resident graduating from another high school and/or a contributing member of the Arnold Mills United Methodist Church graduating from any high school with plans for further education at a junior college, college, university, business school, technical school or vocational school.** A contributing member would be a student who attended the AMUMC church school (student or teacher aide), be a member of any of the youth groups, complete the confirmation process, and/or volunteer at one or more of the AMUMC activities and events such as the July 4th food sale, the Holiday Fair, the variety of Missions Committee activities, etc.

Interested AMUMC high school seniors can apply by requesting the application from the Cumberland High School Guidance office or, if they attend other High Schools, they can email their request to: amumcstearnsserviceaward@gmail.com

Charles Thurlow
Chairperson, Margaret Stearns Service Award Committee
Arnold Mills United Methodist Church
690 Nate Whipple Highway
Cumberland, RI 02864
401-333-1235

Arnold Mills Cemetery Trivia

Karl Ikerman

Spring has sprung! April showers bring May flowers! Prices are always going up! Cemetery plots will never be cheaper than they are today! Arnold Mills Cemetery is the least expensive in the state. Prices range from \$360 for one urn, \$600 for two, to a maximum of \$1600 for a green burial. Some cemeteries charge \$5000 for a green burial. Please call 401-374-2972 for more information.

April Trustee Report

The Trustee Committee met on March 13, 2025 at 6:30 in the library with all members in attendance, either in person or on-line. Fran Carr, as moderator, welcomed our new member, Pamela Thurlow and Karen Oswain, as a guest. The following issues were covered:

- Despite a \$20,000 withdrawal to meet operating expenses, the portfolio ended 2024 with a gain of over \$30,000. At a meeting scheduled with Rockland Trust on April 10, 2025 at 6:30, we intend to review the portfolio, discuss the needs for the year ahead, and rebalance the investments in order to remain aligned with our Methodist principles. All church members are welcome to attend this presentation, especially Council and Financial Committee members.
- Repairs to the front door were made by Ray Papineau after what appears to have been damage caused by strong winds.
- The swing set will receive a second staining this spring.
- The pew floors will be painted this summer. Thanks to Ross Hancock all the pew seats have been beautifully painted.
- Eastland Electric is scheduled for work to be done in May. We hope to brighten the lighting in the altar area and get one of the antique post lamps working.
- Pending approval of the state grant for the installation of solar panels, work will commence in May. We expect the grant to provide about \$7200 and a federal rebate of an estimated \$9600.
- Karen Oswain will schedule a date for the spring grounds clean-up. Since the scout troop is down in numbers, we will encourage members of the congregation to turn out to help.
- A request from the Blackstone River National Historical Park to use our parking lot this summer as a starting point for their walk-about tours of Arnold Mills was approved. Chip Thurlow has volunteered to talk

about the importance of AMUMC in the history of the area. These tours will be scheduled on one Thursday night in each of the months of June, July, and August.

- A funeral for Suzanne Farmer, sister of Ruth Daly, was scheduled on March 22, 2025.
- Karen Oswain alerted us to the fact that the New Beginnings Soup Kitchen is changing its location and may need the use of our kitchen on a short term basis. This request was approved.
- The Safety and Security committee is looking into cameras.
- Our insurance committee, Scott and Pam, will be working on updating our property value, which is requested each year on the Conference Statistical Report.
- A neighbor has requested to perform ten hours of community service for AMUMC. Refurbishing our road sign and constructing a reconciling congregation sign was decided to be the project.
- PEG RI TV has offered us the opportunity to learn how to produce and air our own cable television show. If anyone in the congregation is interested in such a project, please contact George in the office for more information.
- Charles White has some historical artifacts to donate and wondered if we had an historian who would value these items. A church historian is needed. Anyone interested?
- Lindsay will be meeting with the crew of Marques Cleaning Service to review our requests and Dave will work on cleaning the sanctuary windows this spring. This is a complex procedure due to the antique storm windows.
- The next trustee meeting will be held on April 10, 2025 at 6:30 in Cargill Hall. Representatives from Rockland Trust will present a portfolio review first.

Respectfully submitted,

Lindsay Gettinger

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

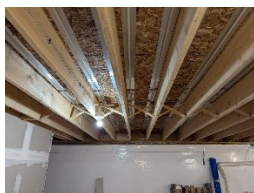
Missions and Social Concerns Committee Church Council Report April 2025

Meals in the Park

On **Sunday March 9th** the meals in the park volunteers made the sauce American Chop Suey. They cooked pounds of bacon and ground beef, cut bags of onions, green and red peppers, opened many cans of tomatoes and mixed the spices. This meal was served **on March 23rd at the Help the Homeless meal site in Pawtucket. Our next meal of sandwich making and lunch bag assembly is May the 4th.** Desserts are needed. Star Wars Cookies encouraged. Chewbacca cookies, Wookiee cookies etc. As always thank you so very much for your continued support of this mission. Any questions, please contact Karen Oswain: 401-749-3609

Habitat for Humanity

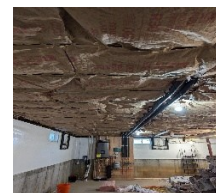
The new duplex project to erect **two** residences for military veteran families at **57 & 59 Oakland School Street in Burrillville, RI** should be completed this Spring! [Volunteers complete a variety of tasks to construct and install new homes for the residents. AMUMC volunteers usually work on the third Saturday of the month.](#) Any questions, contact Chip Thurlow; 401-333-1235.



Rafters with Radiant Heating Ducts



Chip Thurlow Stapling Insulation



Finished Installation of Insulation

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

The Franklin Farm volunteers have begun to plan for next year for a bountiful harvest of vegetables for local soup kitchens and food pantries. The trails and fields are still available for visitors to wander around and enjoy the beautiful open space. Renovations to the 1857 Farm House and the Barn Complex are continuing. Any questions, contact Pam and Chip Thurlow: 401-333-1235.

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 and the Connecting for Children and Families clothing closets, both in Woonsocket. The delivery schedule by our volunteers is posted in the coat room.

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 personal 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.

Chip Thurlow,
Chairperson, AMUMC Missions and Social Concerns Committee



Tips for April 2025

Remember that our creation justice work of restoration, regeneration, and renewal grows from God's gift of the Resurrection, the Easter-faith that sustains us in our lives and **our calling to love both Creator and Creation.**

"Our Power, Our Planet," the theme of [Earth Day 2025](#), invites everyone around the globe to unite behind renewable energy. The gifts of God—sun, wind, oceans, and land—are there for us and with us. Using them rather than continuing with fossil fuels will save our planet. **Join with others and use your power**—your voice, your actions, your advocacy—to love Earth.

Take 10 minutes to watch [Chasing Arrows: The Truth About Recycling](#). The "arrows" are the recycle sign—often a source of great confusion. **Discover the truth about recycling.** What is really recyclable. What happens after it's collected. What solutions we need to pursue. With this knowledge, you'll be better able to love Earth every time you recycle.

When trees live, they absorb carbon dioxide (as a "carbon sink") and produce life-giving oxygen. But when trees burn, they release CO₂ into the atmosphere, adding greenhouse gases that negatively affect our climate. Wildfires devastate land, habitats, and homes. As an expression of your love for Earth, wholeheartedly **support [organizations](#) that replant trees after wildfires.**

Go local. Connect with neighbors and community organizations to understand the environmental challenges and opportunities specific to your area. Then use your united people power to have a heart to heart with local officials to get the change that's needed. Show your love for Earth.

Buy community renewables. Not every home, business, or development can go all solar or put up a wind farm, but more utilities and private companies are offering power from shared renewables for a buy-in. Lower your monthly electricity costs, support the expansion of clean energy sources, and show some love from your heart to Earth.

Follow your heart and invest in the future. Choose what you can: solar and wind, energy-efficient appliances, hybrid or electric vehicles, voting for electric public transit, quality and long-lasting fashion made of natural textiles, insurance and banks that do not support fossil fuels. Let God use your financial resources, your love, and your power to aid the healing of Earth and the righting of injustices.

One youth celebrated his birthday with a litter pick-up party for his "adopted" street. The friends snagged the trash, bagged it, weighed it, photographed it, and spread the story to encourage and challenge others to do better about caring for our home. Cake, music, and fun followed—a joyous celebration of **one person with a heart of gold, showing how to love Earth.**

Take heart this Earth Day—our Creator God has gifted us with an amazing planet, complete with renewable sources of the power that will help all people have access to better health and enough of what is needed. [Uniting](#) and raising our voices, we can **bring about that vision** and show hearts filled with love for Earth.

Green up your closet. Purchase items from brands that make sustainable clothing. Visit local thrift or consignment shops, which often offer unique, gently worn, or even new garments at a lower price than retail. Donate clothes that no longer fit or send your worn-out textiles to [ReTold](#). You'll love the new you and you'll be loving Earth too.

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.



Amplify offers many different options for Lent. You can access stories, studies, and so much more through any device. To see everything Amplify offers, visit the site below.

Our Amplify Website:

<https://my.amplifymedia.com/arnoldmillsumccumberlandri>

Access Code: DTLSGY

SPRC News

Our committee includes Bolaji Campbell, Olivia Carney, Sandy Ferretti, Cindy Mauch, Karen Roeber, Sue Therien, Sue Cardoso and Margaret Waterman. (Updated 1/29/2025)

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>

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.

AMUMC Upcoming Events

April

Sun April 6 - 11:00 AM - Eagle Scout Bake Sale - Cargill Hall
Mon April 7 - 7:00 PM - SPRC Meeting - Library
Thu April 10 - 6:30 PM - Trustees Meeting - Library
Thu April 10 - 7:00 PM - July 4th Parade Committee - Cargill Hall
Sun April 13 - Palm Sunday
Thu April 17 - 7:00 PM - Cemetery Association Meeting - Library
Thu April 17 - 7:00 PM - Holy Thursday Worship - Good Shepard UMC
Fri April 18 - 7:00 PM - Good Friday Worship - On Site & On Line
Sun April 20 - Easter Sunday
Thu April 24 - 7:00 PM - July 4th Parade Committee - Cargill Hall

**Indoor Sunday Worship
is at 10:00 AM!**

**The Church Calendar is available at
amumc.org under Church News.**



Arnold Mills United Methodist Church
690 Nate Whipple Hwy.
Cumberland, RI 02864
Phone: 401-333-5203
E-mail: office.amumc@gmail.com
Rev. Heather R. Bailes Baker



You are welcome. Join us for Worship on Sunday!

Worship and Church School begin at 10am in the sanctuary.

Livestreaming of our worship is available for those who cannot attend in person. After each service the video will be archived for viewing anytime.

Learn more: www.amumc.org