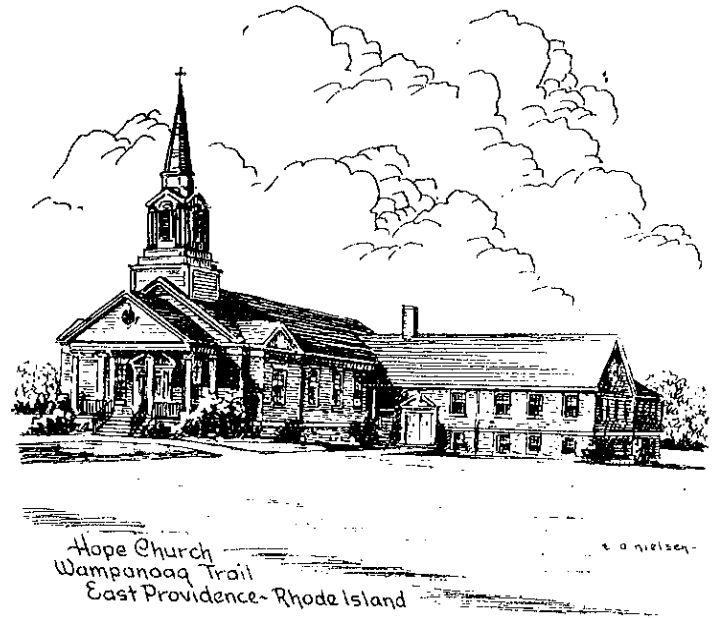


NEWS AND NOTES

1. **Rev. Bob** will have his regular office hours this week on **Tuesday and Thursday**. He would also **like to visit with our members** when they are available in the office or at their home. If you are interested, contact the office or Rev. Bob directly.
2. **Our new Office Administrator, Chris Jaworski**, began her duties this week and new office hours have been established for each week, Tuesday-Thursday, 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.
3. The **“Get Crafty”** group meets on **Thursdays at 6:30 p.m.** Please bring your own crafts to work on as we enjoy fellowship with one another. A time of sharing where everyone is welcome!
4. The churches of Riverside are hosting a **Blood Drive on Monday, June 5**, from **3:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at St. Brendan’s Church**, Riverside - An appointment is needed by calling the RI Blood Center 401-453-8383) or at: customerservice@ribc.org
5. And don’t forget your used clothing for the **St. Pauly shed!**



Hope Congregational Church United Church of Christ

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WORSHIP CELEBRATION
Sixth Sunday of Easter - Blanket Sunday

*“No matter who you are or where you are on life’s journey,
you are welcome here!”*

May 14, 2023

10:30 a.m.

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today, in honor of Mother’s Day, we are celebrating Blanket Sunday, **“Blanket the World in Love”**. We encourage you to express your love and provide warmth to our neighbors by making a special donation, using the envelopes available to support this cause.

INTROIT “Everyone is Welcomed Freely” Insert

*CALL TO WORSHIP .

One: Jesus said, “Just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me:

All: God of love, you created us to love you and to love one another.

One: God of promises, you remind us again and again that you are present with your people.

All: God is good to all and has compassion for all creation.

One: God of warmth, you are with our neighbors who are cold and need comfort.

All: May we bless others in our sacred work by reminding us of your rainbow and your love for all people.

One: God of compassion, renew us in hope and service as we offer our gifts and lives to you.

All: Amen.

*HYMN “Rain Down” No. 444

**If you are able to do so comfortably, please stand.*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One: No one is lost to God. All our welcome to witness and receive God's saving grace. Let us confess our sins before our Savior.

All: Holy God, we are quick to criticize, quick to judge, quick to blame. We fail to offer others the same grace we receive from you. We hold ourselves up as superior and fail to address the patterns of dominance we perpetuate. Forgive us. Help us seek understanding and compassion. Help us accept the love you offer us and share your love with others. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE

One: Let us pray. . . Christ transforms, redeems and renews. Through Christ's death and resurrection, we are a new creation, ready to sing God's glory and testify to God's grace. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Amen.

All: Savior God, your Word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path. Walk with us. Guide us with your wisdom and grace. Open us to discerning your will and your way.

*GLORIA PATRI

No. 734

TIME FOR ALL AGES

PASSING THE PEACE

One: God calls us to create a community which welcomes all:
To care and love unconditionally,
To free us and create a welcome for all.
May the Peace of Christ be with you!

All: And also with you!

One: Let's share that welcome with each other, that Love!

SCRIPTURE READING

John 14:15-21

(The Message)

“If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him because he abides with you, and he will be in you.”

“I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me, and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”

SERMON **“Do you love me?”**

*HYMN “God, You Wrap Your Love Around Us” Insert

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Pastoral Prayer (including prayer concerns)

Time of Silent Prayer

The Lord’s Prayer (using “debts” and “debtors”)

Prayer Response “Let the Church Say Amen”

*Let the church say amen, Let the church say amen,
Altogether, let the church say amen.*

DELIGHTING IN GIVING (Plates are at the back of the sanctuary.)

Invitation to Present Our Offerings

Offertory Music “Christ, Be Our Light” Music Team

*Doxology “Alleluia No. 1”

(Refrain)

Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord,

Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to His name!

Spread the good news o’er all the earth.

Jesus has died and has risen. (Refrain)

*Prayer of Dedication (Unison)

Gracious God, you have given us so many gifts. Bless all the lives who will receive these gifts, including blankets for those in need, as we let them know our love. **Amen.**

*CLOSING HYMN “I Love to Tell the Story “ No. 560

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL BENEDICTION—We invite you to sing with us:

“This Is the Day”

*This is the day that the Lord has made.
Let us rejoice and be glad!*

PASTOR - Rev. Robert Nolan

MINISTER OF MUSIC - Kim Kuda

DEACON & LAY READER - Margaret McKiernan

MUSIC TEAM - Andrew Foster, Dot Leone,
Dale Magnuson, Kim Kuda