



THE AGAWAM ARROW

Summer 2024



AGAWAM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

United Church of Christ, 745 Main Street, Agawam, MA 01001

A church where the Holy Spirit is alive, uniting people with Christ through:
Transforming ministries, vibrant worship, diligent study, and warm fellowship.

“A place to call home – A people to call family”.

*We are gathering together to worship on Sunday morning. Please join us
in person or livestream on Facebook through our website.*

Church Staff:

Pastor: Reverend Dr. Susanne Hayes

Organist/ Choir Director: Ann Tapply

Administrative Assistant: Dawn Stevens office@agawamcong.com

Church Sexton: Dave Christian **Deacon of the Month:** Donna Tapply

Website: www.agawamcongregationalchurch.com

Office phone: 413-786-7111 **Office hours:** Mon-Fri 8am-12pm



The Pastor's Musings

The first thing I want to mention to you is that my time with you has been extended from the end of May - until - well, we're not sure! The church itself is in the midst of putting together the appropriate words that describe who you are and what you see for yourselves in the future. As you may or may not know, you have been working with a wonderful consultant who is bringing you new ideas, hopes, and opinions for your future! Agawam Congregational Church is a wonderful church, full of love, joy, and hope. And I have all the faith in the world that you will define your future with great discernment and sensitivity. I wish you only the best during this time of great promise.

So now we are heading into June. Eastertide has ended. Trinity Sunday has been celebrated. And we have come to what is called, on our liturgical calendar, Ordinary Time. The use of the term Ordinary Time distinguishes it from the other seasons of our church year, those being Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter - times when we focus on particular aspects of Christ's life: his birth, suffering, death and resurrection.

The term Ordinary Time seems rather ... ordinary! But it is indeed a very important time we celebrate Jesus' teaching and ministry. You will hear a great variety of topics from the pulpit, all of which are intended to help you understand just who Jesus is. And you will see green paraments, the liturgical color of Ordinary Time, for quite a long time, as Ordinary Time will last until Advent begins, when we prepare for the birth of the Holy Child. And the church year will begin again.

Maybe we should call Ordinary Time - Extraordinary Time! For we are blessed with a Triune God who looks after us continually, stopping at nothing, and there for us always. How did we deserve such a loving God?

Godspeed,
Susanne

Moderator Notes - June 2024

On May 19 we celebrated Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit descended upon followers of Jesus Christ. During coffee hour that Sunday we had another “special visitor” attempt to enter our church but because the doors were locked she went away into the parking lot where I attempted to welcome her. She seemed harmless enough with her bag and large white Bible so I greeted her with the Peace of Christ but she just babbled about “loving Jesus” for a while then turned and walked away.

A few weeks earlier we had been warned about this person visiting churches in the area and disrupting services which is why we began locking our doors during church. While this person turned out to be harmless, there are people in this world who are not.

Controlling access to our facilities is a good first step in protecting our congregation and staff but there is much to learn about this and more that we should do. For example, the experts would not recommend approaching this particular visitor in the parking lot as I did; it could have turned out very differently. In the next few weeks and months we will be learning about church safety, receive training from experts in this field and implement their recommendations where possible.

We will continue to be a welcoming church but it is important to recognize the realities of today’s world and take prudent steps to keep us as safe as possible.

Faithfully yours,
David Bertagnolli, Moderator

Parish Cupboard

All types of nonperishable food items

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Men's fellowship will meet on **June 8^h** at 7:30 am at **Bobbie J'z**

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Woman's fellowship will be on Wednesday, **June 12th at 12:30pm at Take 5**. Please let Sharon know if you're going so she can make reservations.

PROPERTY COMMITTEE

All concerns should be addressed to the Property Committee first please, not the Executive Board. Tom Mathes is our Property Committee chair and is available to speak with anyone.
Thank you.

Thank you, Marilyn Alexander, for sending cards and bulletins to the shut-ins. It makes a difference in people's lives knowing that they are missed and thought of often as they so truly are.

UpperRoom and Our Daily Bread booklets

are available in the the church office. Feel free to stop by and pick one up and allow the Lord to refresh your soul as you read the word of God on a daily basis.

CHURCH LIGHTING

This is a wonderful way to honor a loved one, a birthday, an anniversary, or any event in your life. Your generous contribution is used to light the lower spotlights in the front of the church.

Suggested Donations:

One week: -\$20.00 & One Month: -\$75.00

JUNK FOR JESUS

We are now collecting scrap metal to raise funds for the church. Please contact Dick (413.786.2430) or Dave (413.854.8416)

Want to earn Free \$\$ for the church?? Bring your used INK CARTRIDGES to the church and we recycle them for money! Leave ink cartridges by the office door. In the past few months, we have earned 50.00 in free \$\$! This has helped pay for color ink. Thanks to Dave Bertagnolli for heading this project up.

Lending Cupboard Ministry:

We have medical equipment for those in need; please call the office for more info. We are accepting donations to this ministry as well. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

LOAVES & FISHES

Volunteers are needed to help **serve!** We meet every 3rd Monday of the month at 4:00 p.m. Sauce and **ELBOW** macaroni are always appreciated! Thank you!

SEARCH COMMITTEE UPDATE

The congregation will be having their last meeting with our consultant on June 8th. After this meeting it will be up to the congregation and executive board to make the necessary decisions on how the church will move forward with regards to a new Pastor. Once this has been established, the search committee will reconvene to rewrite the new church profile. Once this has been accomplished, the profile will once again be placed on the SNEUCC website. Hopefully we shall be able to complete these tasks over the summer months.

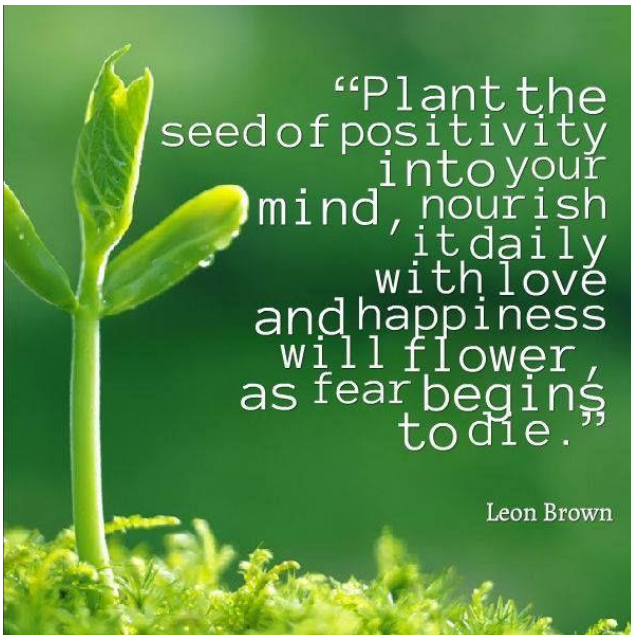
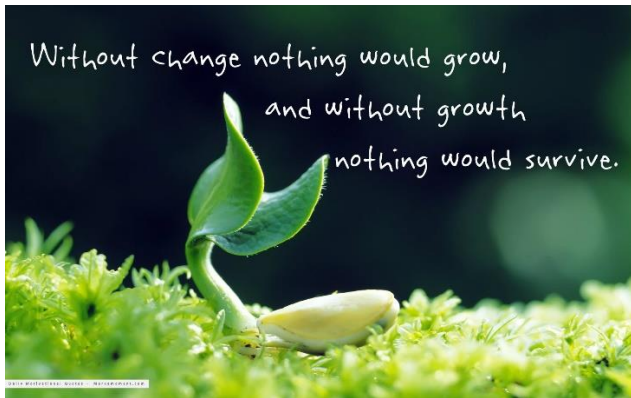
Lesley Young, Chairperson



Deacon of the Month of June: Donna Tapply

June is a big month for gardening. A time for new beginnings.

Things to think about during this time of transition for our church.



JUNE FLOWERS

- 6/2—In loving memory of PATRICK DECOTEAU, loving husband & devoted father, from DONNA DECOTEAU & FAMILY
- 6/9 – In loving memory of HARRY RICHARDS, husband of ELLIE RICHARDS
- 6/16 –In loving memory of PARENTS, BORTHER, SISTER & GRANDSON, from JUDY DAVIS
(2) loving memory of RUDOLPH BERTAGNOLLI, father of DAVE BERTAGNOLLI
- 6/23 –in loving memory of WILLIAM SMITH, from SHIRLEY MURRAY
- 6/30 – In loving memory of ELIZABETH HOLLENGASSER, from ANN WOODARD



SAVE THE DATE

VBS

JULY 15-19

***Volunteers needed!!
see Donna Decoteau***

Planning meeting

June 2nd after church



A note from the Treasurer

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	Total Actual	2024 Budget	Actual vs. Budget %
Income from Pledges	13,550	8,549	10,708	10,626	43,433	115,000	38%
Other Income (rent, fundraising, Groups, etc.)	2,316	4,346	6,114	4,807	17,583	49,675	35%
Income from Invested Funds	-	-	-	-	-	1,388	0%
Total Income	15,866	12,895	16,822	15,433	61,016	166,063	37%
Pastor's Expenses	3,676	3,676	3,676	3,676	14,704	58,753	25%
Other Personnel Salaries	3,851	3,851	3,851	3,851	15,404	46,700	33%
Other Operational Expenses	5,091	6,051	4,019	4,070	19,231	60,610	32%
Total Expenses	12,618	13,578	11,546	11,597	49,339	166,063	30%
<i>April represents 4/12 or 33%</i>							

A REMINDER - from the Financial Secretary

As we approach the half-way point in the year and summer months, this is a reminder to keep your pledges up to date if you may not attend church regularly. There may be special projects undertaken, and your pledge will add to the funds needed for these along with paying regular bills. Have a restful and safe summer.

Ann

JUNE 2024

Agawam Congregational Church
745 Main St., Agawam, Ma 01001 Phone: 786-7111

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2 10am Worship Service Communion	3 7pm Property	4 10am playgroup	5	6 6:30pm Choir	7 	8 7:30am Men's Fellowship@ Bobbie J'z 9:30am Rev. Doug Bixby
9 10am Worship Service 12pm Church Without Walls	10	11 10am playgroup 7pm Deacons	12	13	14	15
16 10am Worship Service *Father's Day	17 1pm Trustees 4pm Loaves & Fishes	18	19 11am Bible study	20 TAG SALE set up 1pm Exec. Board First day of summer	21 9am-2pm TAG SALE	22 9am-2pm TAG SALE
23 10am Worship Service 30 10am Worship Service	24	25 	26 11am Bible study	27	28	29 5pm Strawberry Supper

HUGE

TAG SALE



When: Fri., June 21 & Sat., June 22, 2024

Time: 9 am—2 pm

Where : Agawam Congregational Church

745 Main Street, Agawam

**Clothing and accessories, toys and games, books,
holiday décor, puzzles, sports cards, kitchen &
other household items and MUCH MORE !**



Limited \$35 Vendor Tables Available

Call 413-786-7111 or

email @ office@agawamcong.com for more info.



Agawam Congregational Church

745 Main Street

Invites you to join us for

our

Strawberry Supper

Saturday

June 29, 2024

Sit-Down Time 5 p.m. in Bryan Hall

Delicious Roast Pork, Roasted Fingerling Potatoes,
Green bean Almondine

Homemade Strawberry Shortcake
Baked Biscuits and REAL Whipped cream!

Ticket Price
Adults \$18.00

Tickets available at Coffee Hour Sunday after service &
in the Church Office Monday-Friday 8:00-12:00
Call 413-786-7111 or office@agawamcong.com

Get your tickets early! Deadline for tickets is June 26th



TAKE OUT Available
By Preorder Only