

THE AGAWAM ARROW

Summer 2026



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, YouTube @Agawam
Congregational Church, MA or Ch. 15(the following week at 1pm)*

Church Staff:

Pastor: Reverend Daniel Cohen

Organist/ Choir Director: Ann Tapply

Administrative Assistant: Dawn Stevens office@agawamcong.com

Church Sexton: Dave Christian

Deacon of the Month: July: Betty Burrage August: Deb Pond

Website: www.agawamcongregationalchurch.com

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

From the Pastor's Desk



Newsletter for summer

Dear friends,

As we enjoy the summer months, let us be mindful to think about God and to thank Him for all the beauty we see all around us.

The flowers are in bloom.

The animals are out.

People seem more relaxed.

And church is over by 10:30 a.m. so we can enjoy the rest of our Sundays.

While I enjoy all of the seasons, I look forward to summer especially. Yes, it gets hot, but I'm reminded of my childhood summers growing up in Woods Hole, Massachusetts (Yes, I'm a native son as well as you are – at least native to the Cape, if not Agawam itself).

There I would play tennis, chase girls (I was a teenager after all), and go fishing and swimming – not necessarily in that order.

I still remember the smell of the sea, and the excitement I'd get coming to the Cape each year.

In fact, I even spent two years on the Cape year-round back in 1990 and 1991 trying to write a book about avoiding street crime. The book proposal for "Safe and Sound: How to avoid street crime without locking yourself in the john" almost got me a big time agent, but due to forces beyond my control – a poorly thought out personal safety book by a member of the Guardian Angels that didn't sell well, putting a stigma on all personal safety books – it did not come to pass.

Summer is a time to relax and reflect and get ready for the work to do in the Fall.

I wish you all a happy summer! May God bless you in a mighty way!

Much Love,

Pastor Dan



Deacons for the summer : Betty Burrage & Deb Pond

Psalm 118:24

This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Upon waking, take a little time to thank God for the gift of a new day. Every day we have the opportunity to start anew, to acknowledge the blessings that surround us and to decide how to best spend this day that may bring joy to ourselves and to others.

It's easy to lose ourselves in the mundane chores of life, but it's important to include "seek joy" on our to do lists. The possibilities are endless. God created this beautiful world, and He wants us to enjoy it.

In the words of "Pollyanna" in the 1960 Disney movie, "there are 800 glad passages or rejoicing texts in the Bible. If God took the trouble to tell us 800 times to be glad and rejoice, he must have wanted us to do it."

Have a blessed and happy summer.

Betty Burrage, Deacon

FLOWERS

July 5 – in celebrations of America's 250th birthday, from Ray and Deb Pond

July 12 – In loving MEMORY of DEE JAY & TYLER TIMOTHY RICHARD BASSETT, from DICK & CAROLINE BASSETT

July 19 – in loving MEMORY of PARENTS, from LESLEY YOUNG

July 26 – HONOR of KING & NOONEY FAMILIES from JAN NOONEY

August 2 – in loving MEMORY of JOHN TIMMS, husband & father, from JUDY TIMMS

August 9 – in loving MEMORY of FLOYD SESSIONS SR., father & FLOYD SESSIONS JR., brother, from DOUG, JANET, ERIN & KORIE SESSIONS

August 16 – in loving MEMORY of JOHN NAUNDICE HAUSER, parents & JIM HOUSER, brother from CATHIE, JOHN & JOAN

August 23 – in loving MEMORY of JOHN HURLBUTT, brother of DONNA DECOTEAU

August 26 - OPEN



MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Men's fellowship will meet on Saturday,
July 11th & Aug. 8th at 7:30 am at
Bobbie J'z

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Women's fellowship will meet in July at Take 5 and
in August at Bobbie J'z. Times and times will be
announced in service.

**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. **Any and all donated cards
are welcome!!****

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

Parish Cupboard

All types of nonperishable food items.

**Please be sure that items are within "best if
used by date".**

JUNK FOR JESUS

We are now collecting scrap metal to raise funds
for the church. Please call 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

We meet every 3rd Monday of the month at 4:00 p.m.
Sauce and **ELBOW** macaroni are always
appreciated! We are looking for volunteers to be
available if needed. Please see Dave Christian or
Lesley Young if you are interested in volunteering.
Thank you for your support in this outreach ministry!

PROPERTY COMMITTEE

All property related 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.

MEMORIAL DONATIONS

Memorial donations were received in
memory of Alice Orr

Financial update from the Treasurer – Donna Decoteau

Category	Q1	Apr	May	Total Actual	2026 Budget	Actual vs. Budget %
Income from Pledges	42,177	15,597	18,693	76,467	134,900	57%
Bank Balance 12/31/2025	(3,440)			(3,440)	-	0%
Other Income (rent, fundraising, Groups, etc.)	6,387	3,627	1,952	11,966	27,000	44%
Income from Invested Funds	19,000	-	-	19,000	51,510	37%
Total Income	64,124	19,224	20,645	103,993	213,410	49%
Pastor's Expenses	23,369	6,297	10,802	40,468	91,828	44%
Other Personnel Salaries	14,164	4,676	4,676	23,516	56,151	42%
Other Operational Expenses	19,273	6,667	7,041	32,981	65,431	50%
Total Expenses	56,806	17,640	22,519	96,965	213,410	45%

May 2026 represents 5/12 or 42%


MISSIONARY

We shall not be holding meetings during July and August. Any donations received over the Summer will be used for the Loaves and Fishes program.





July 2026

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						
5 9:30am Worship	6	7	8	9	10	11 7:30am Men's Fellowship@ Bobbie J'z
12 9:30am Worship Sandwich in a bag	13	14	15	16	17	18
19 9:30am Worship	20 4pm Loaves & Fishes	21	22	23	24	25
26 9:30am Worship	27	28	29	30	31	

August 2026

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23 9:30am Worship	24	25	26	27	28	29