Rev. Rusty Eidmann-Hicks is grateful to be stepping in as Bridge pastor at GRCC this fall, though he is sorry for your loss of Jeff Mansfield’s fine ministry. Rusty has been ordained for 42 years and in the NJ Association for thirty-six years. He is married to Rev. Martha Eidmann-Hicks, who served as Associate Minister at Glen Ridge Cong from 1988 to 1992. (Martha is now in private practice as a Marriage & Family Therapist in Monmouth County. Their daughter, Suzie, is working for PBS and developing an independent film series in Los Angeles CA.)

Rusty served as the Associate (Youth) Minister at Christ Church in Summit for three years. Rusty then pastored Holmdel Community UCC for 27 years and retired from there in 2018. During his tenure, the Holmdel church’s worship attendance tripled in size, an active youth group formed, successful outreach projects developed, and the church completed a major building campaign.

He was a religion & drama major at Trinity College in Hartford, CT and has an MDiv degree from Yale Divinity School. He is also a Dharma Teacher in the Kwan Um School of Zen. He has been the chair of the Pre-Ordination Commission of the NJ Association and is now serving as its President. He has a long association with GRCC and is a fan of its superb ministry, music, and leadership.