

EDWARDS CHURCH

A UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING CONGREGATION



In the name of God and Jesus Christ, Edwards Church, a congregation of the United Church of Christ, welcomes all who seek to know and worship God. We invite everyone to join in our faith journey and participate in our congregational life.

As a community of faith we take seriously the Biblical call to love God and our neighbors as ourselves, and recognize that although we are many members we are one. We celebrate the uniqueness of everyone. We rejoice in our diversity of views and understanding of our shared faith. We commit ourselves to work diligently to help end oppression and discrimination. We affirm all relationships founded on the principle of God's love and justice.

We declare ourselves to be an Open and Affirming congregation.

Seeking to be the Body of Christ, we welcome into full fellowship and membership all persons of every race, language, age, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, physical or cognitive ability, and economic status.

39 Edwards Street
Framingham, MA 01701
508-877-2050
www.edwardschurch.org

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

OCTOBER 14, 2018

10:00 AM

A thought for reflection

“When the power of love will replace the love of power, then will our world know the blessings of peace.”
—William Gladstone

GOD GATHERS US

PRELUDE

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

(We invite you to turn to your neighbors and greet them.)

* **HYMN OF PRAISE**

“ENTER, REJOICE AND COME IN”

NCH 73

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Enter, rejoice, come in!

People: **Today will be a joyful day!**

Leader: Open yourselves to the song!

People: **We will open our hearts!**

Leader: Don't be afraid of some change!

People: **We are not afraid, for God is with us!**

All: **Today will be a joyful day!**

PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND SUNG LORD'S PRAYER

(Please join in singing the FINLANDIA version found on the prayer card in your pew rack.)

* **SENTENCES OF PRAISE**

(Please stand for the Sentences of Praise and Gloria.)

(from Psalm 147)

Leader: Praise God! How good it is to sing praises to our God;

People: **For God is gracious, and a song of praise is fitting.**

Leader: God builds up Jerusalem; God gathers the outcasts of Israel.

People: **God heals the brokenhearted, and binds up their wounds.**

Leader: God lifts up the downtrodden.

People: **Sing to God with thanksgiving; make melody to our God on the lyre.**

* **GLORIA**

(Sing twice.)

NCH 756

Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest!

Glory to God, glory to God, alleluia, alleluia!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Righteous God, we live in a world where human life is exploited and abused. Violence is taken lightly, and people are too often viewed as objects. Images of hunger and war flash before us until we become nearly hardened. If we have taken on these values of the world, forgive us. Give us tender hearts, help us to reflect your righteousness, and give us courage to challenge the wrongs we see; through the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

* *Stand as you are able.*

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

RESPONSE

(in unison)

NCH 286

Spirit, spirit of gentleness, blow through the wilderness, calling and free,
Spirit, spirit of restlessness, stir me from placidness, wind, wind on the sea.

GOD MEETS US IN THE WORD

BLESSING OF THE BIKE RACK

WORDS WITH THE YOUNG PEOPLE

DAWN SORENSEN

* **HYMN OF PREPARATION**

"DREAM GOD'S DREAM"

(See insert.)

(Young people may go to Church School during the hymn.)

THE HEBREW BIBLE LESSON

ISAIAH 65:17-25

(Pew Bible, p. 607)

THE ANTHEM

"WE'LL ALL STAND TOGETHER"

BY AMY SENS

THE GOSPEL LESSON

MATTHEW 23:37

(Pew Bible, p. 805)

THE SERMON

"STANDING TOGETHER"

REV. DR. DEBORAH CLARK

CELEBRATIONS AND CONCERNS

SILENT PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING, INTERCESSION AND PETITION

"LEANING IN" *(Please join in the chorus.)*

(See insert.)

GOD CALLS FOR OUR GIFTS

OUR OFFERING TO GOD

OFFERTORY

* **DOXOLOGY**

(Lasst uns erfreuen)

NCH 17

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Alleluia, Alleluia.

Praise God for all that love has done; Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

* **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

GOD SENDS US INTO THE WORLD

* **HYMN OF DEDICATION**

"I WILL SING OF YOUR LOVE, LOVE, LOVE"

(See insert.)

* **CHARGE & BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

(Please feel free to remain and listen, or to greet one another in the narthex and at coffee hour.)

OUR WORSHIP HAS ENDED...

LET OUR SERVICE BEGIN!

MINISTERS
PASTOR
COMMISSIONED MINISTER OF MUSIC
INTERIM DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
ORGANIST
PIANIST
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
SEXTON
LITURGIST
DEACON-IN-CHARGE
JANIS STEIGMAN OF MOTHER'S HELPERS IS IN CHARGE OF THE NURSERY THIS MORNING.

ALL THE PEOPLE OF EDWARDS CHURCH
THE REV. DR. DEBORAH CLARK
RICK SEAHOLM
DAWN SORENSEN
CHERYL ELKINS
SUSAN MINOR
NICOLA SEAHOLM
LORI WILSON
CINDY SWEENEY
LEEANN FRIEDMAN

Music Note



Today's less familiar music comes to us from the contemporary traditions of the Convergence Music Project, an open source platform for the sharing and distribution of music with a progressive Christian viewpoint.

New Members Joining this Month

On Sunday, October 21, we will welcome new members during our worship service. If you have been considering joining, please speak with Debbie.

Welcome Visitors! We are glad you are here. Please join us for coffee and fellowship, following the service. Sign our guestbook too! In the Education Building (out the side door follow hallway) are the restrooms and where coffee hour is held. The nursery and Sunday school classes are on the lower level. If you have questions, or suggestions, feel free to talk with the greeter or Deacon-in-Charge.

Accessibility



Large
Print

Available in the Narthex (front entrance hallway):

- Sound-enhancing assistive listening devices
- Large print edition of the church bulletin



- **Accessible parking** spots are marked and located near the Education Building entrance.
- **Accessible entrance** is located on the lower level of the Education Building (to the left of the Church main entrance).
- **Elevator** is located in the Education Building next to the stairs.
- **Accessible restroom** is located on the upper level of the Education Building.

This Week at Edwards Church

October 14-20, 2018

SUNDAY	9:00am	Adult Bible Study	Youth Room
	9:00am	Rental	Edwards Hall
	10:00am	Worship	Sanctuary
	10:15am	Sunday School	Education Building
	11:00am	Coffee Hour	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	1:00pm	Rental	Sanctuary
	3:00pm	One Woman, One Cello	Edwards Hall
MONDAY	9:30am	Chairobics	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	12:00pm	Stewardship Team	Jonathan House
	5:00pm	Rental	Edwards Hall
	6:15pm	Rental	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	7:00pm	Board of Wider Mission	Jonathan House
	7:30pm	Rental	Edwards Hall Classroom
	7:30pm	Guided Meditation	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
TUESDAY	9:00am	Qi Gong / Tai Chi	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	10:00am	Gentle Yoga	Edwards Hall
	1:30pm	Rental	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	5:00pm	Rental	Edwards Hall
	5:30pm	Hatha Yoga	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	7:30pm	Council Meeting	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
WEDNESDAY	9:00am	Steeple Articles Due	nicola@edwardschurch.org
	9:30am	Move with Ease	Edwards Hall
	9:30am	Chairobics	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	12:00pm	Lunch Bunch	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	6:00pm	Rental	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	6:00pm	Veterans Yoga	Edwards Hall
	7:30pm	Rental	Edwards Hall
THURSDAY	9:00am	Qi Gong / Tai Chi	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	9:30am	Not-Your-Ordinary Yoga Class	Edwards Hall
	6:00pm	Kripalu Yoga	Edwards Hall
	6:00pm	Cancer Support Group	Youth Room
	7:15pm	Choir Rehearsal	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	7:30pm	AA Meeting	Edwards Hall
FRIDAY	9:30am	Chairobics	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	10:00am	Soup Making	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	6:00pm	Shabbat Dinner	Edwards Hall
SATURDAY	9:00am	Weekend of Spirit	Throughout Campus
	4:30pm	Rental	Sanctuary

Important Announcements

One Cellist, One Planet...A Solo Benefit Recital: *TODAY at 3:00pm in Edwards Hall*

This program is cellist Judith Glixon's response to climate change and environmental destruction. The program includes the music of J. S. Bach, Benjamin Britten, and Ravel. Suggested donation of \$25. Partial proceeds will be donated to the Jewish Climate Action Network and the gardens on our campus. Visit openspiritcenter.org to RSVP.

Weekend of Spirit: Inspiring Courage: *Interfaith Shabbat on Fri., Oct. 19; Workshops on Sat., Oct. 20.*

Enjoy music, conversation, art, healing treatments, experiential workshops and delicious food as we uncover and share ways to help inspire courage in our selves and in our communities. Workshops include laughing your way through fear; reducing stress in the body and mind; facing and fighting racism; courage to dance; compassion meditation; and much more. Visit openspiritcenter.org to register.

Seeds of Grace Worship: *Sunday, October 21 at 5:30pm in Susan P. Dickerman Hall*

Join us for a relaxed, creative, participatory worship service, led by Rev. Isaac Everett and members of the Seeds of Grace Worship Team. It's a great opportunity to invite a friend, or to come to church if you have sports commitments in the morning. In October, we will use drama to delve into the fascinating story of Jonah and the whale. Please join us!

¡Olé Namaste! Expressive Movement for Every/Body: *Sunday, October 28, at 2:30pm in Edwards Hall*

Release Your Inner Dancer! ¡Olé Namaste! infuses the movements, breathwork and meditation of yoga with the music and dance of flamenco. This workshop is fully accessible and no experience with dance or yoga is necessary. To register, contact info@openspiritcenter.org. Participants may wear hard bottomed shoes or sneakers for the dancing. Pre-registration encouraged. \$20 pre-registered or \$25 at the door.

Beyond the Ads and the Arguments: A Conversation about Question 1: *Sunday October 28 at 5:00pm*

Join us in Susan P. Dickerman Hall where we will hear from nurses with differing perspectives on Question 1. This is not a debate but a respectful discussion among people who care about patients and nurses. We will ask questions and learn from each other. Soup and dessert will be provided.

Greek Lunch—Beyond Baklava! *Wednesday, October 31 at noon in Susan P. Dickerman Hall*

When most people think of Greek food, they think of lamb and baklava. However, we won't be eating lamb or baklava at our next special lunch bunch. Our meal will be similar to what many Greek-Americans eat in their homes. Some of the food will be vegetarian, and the only meat will be ground beef in a pasta dish. So come sample dolmas imported from Greece, Tiropita (it's a pie) and Kataifi (it's pretty sweet)! Sign up on the way to Coffee Hour or contact the office by Thursday, October 25. Suggested donation of \$7.

A Celebration of Music at Edwards Church: *Saturday, November 3 at 6:00pm in the Sanctuary*

Please join us as we celebrate the restoration of our historic organ with a concert highlighting a joyous diversity of musical gifts. Of course, this concert will feature organist Cheryl Elkins, as she gives our beautiful instrument the star treatment. You will also hear special selections from the Edwards Church Choir, On the Fence (our own favorite bluegrass band), pianist Susan Minor, organist Cheryl Elkins, and the Ballad Project featuring Willie Sordillo and Doug Rich. We'd love to see everyone there, so please let us know if you need a ride or can offer a ride. The concert is free and open to the public; donations accepted.

Stories of Passion & Compassion—Sylvia Ruth Gutmann: *Sunday, November 4 at 3:00pm in Edwards Hall*

As part of our speaker series, Sylvia will share her courageous story of overcoming the tragedy of her childhood and finding an identity that was lost, leading to a life of advocacy and educating. Sylvia is the author of *A Life Rebuilt: The Remarkable Transformation of a War Orphan*. Donations appreciated.