

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

A thought for reflection

“When our days become dreary with low-hovering clouds of despair, and when our nights become darker than a thousand midnights, let us remember that there is a creative force in this universe, working to pull down the gigantic mountains of evil, a power that is able to make a way out of no way and transform dark yesterdays into bright tomorrows.”

—Martin Luther King, Jr.

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**

“GOD OF ABRAHAM AND SARAH”

NCH 20

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: In the days of Noah, God placed a rainbow in the sky as the sign of a covenant of God’s love for all the earth.

People: **In the colors of the rainbow, we see the sign of God’s grace for all creation.**

Leader: In the days of Moses, the words of God were written on tablets of stone, as the sign of a covenant between God and all of God’s people.

People: **In the tablets of stone, we see the sign of God’s hope for each one of us to live in peace with God and our neighbor.**

Leader: In the days of the prophets, God promised to place a new covenant in our hearts.

People: **In the words of the prophets, we hear a message of hope, healing, and reconciliation.**

Leader: In the coming of Jesus, God broke down the divisions and barriers between us and reoriented us to the ways of compassion, hope, and love.

People: **As members of the living Body of Christ, we see the light of God’s love shining on us and illuminating our pathways with hope as we share God’s love with all whom we meet.**

PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

(Please pray the Lord’s Prayer using the words you find most meaningful. There is a prayer card in your pew rack.)

*** SENTENCES OF PRAISE**

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

Leader: Praise the Lord! Praise God in his sanctuary;

People: **Praise God in God’s mighty firmament!**

Leader: Praise God for God’s mighty deeds;

People: **Praise God according to God’s surpassing greatness!**

Leader: Praise God with trumpet sound;

People: **Praise God with lute and harp!**

Leader: Praise God with tambourine and dance;

People: Praise God with strings and pipe!
Leader: Praise God with clanging cymbals;
People: Praise God with loud clashing cymbals!
Leader: Let everything that breathes praise God!
People: Praise the Lord!

* **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

O God, who blesses each day, how is it that we have become so inharmonious with your divine creation. How is it that we have let judgment take the place of deep listening? How is it that we have failed to trust your divine guidance in healing a broken world? Allow us to wake to the pain of others and feel the ache in our own hearts for something more. Let us be mindful that salvation is about being wakeful to possibility and the hope of redemption. Let us remember that your love is abundant and grows in our sharing and caring. Forgive us and nurture us into new growth, pruning that which inhibits life. Allow us to be beacons of hope in sharing the light. In your name we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

RESPONSE

FROM NCH 159

As they offered gifts most rare at that manger plain and bare,
So may we with holy joy, pure and free from sin's alloy,
All our costliest treasures bring, Christ, to you from whom they spring.

GOD MEETS US IN THE WORD

WORDS WITH THE YOUNG PEOPLE

DAWN SORENSEN

* **HYMN OF PREPARATION** "GOD OF CHANGE AND GLORY"
(Young people may go to Church School during the hymn.)

NCH 177

THE HEBREW BIBLE LESSON ISAIAH 61:1-4 *(Pew Bible, p. 603)*

THE ANTHEM "SAVIOR, GUIDE US" W.A. MOZART

THE GOSPEL LESSON LUKE 4:14-21 *(Pew Bible, p. 835)*

THE SERMON "UNPACKING" CHRIS LEIGH-MANUELL

CALL TO PRAYER

CELEBRATIONS AND CONCERNS

SILENT PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING, INTERCESSION AND PETITION

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**

“WE YEARN, O CHRIST, FOR WHOLENESS”

NCH 179

* **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

GREETER

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

KIM LEIGH-MANUELL

NORMA HART

ELLIE KELL

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

January 27-February 2, 2019

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
	2:00pm	Rental	Edwards Hall
	4:00pm	Wild Herbal Tea Making	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	4:30pm	Common Ground	Edwards Hall Classroom
MONDAY	9:30am	Chairobics	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	6:15pm	Rental	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	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
WEDNESDAY	9:30am	Move with Ease	Edwards Hall
	9:30am	Chairobics	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	4:00pm	Rental	Youth Room
	6:00pm	Rental	Sanctuary
	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
	9:30am	Rental	Youth Room
	6:00pm	Kripalu Yoga	Edwards Hall
	7:15pm	Choir Rehearsal	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	7:30pm	AA Meeting	Edwards Hall
FRIDAY	9:30am	Chairobics	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	7:00pm	Rental	Edwards Hall Classrooms
SATURDAY	8:00am	Men's Group	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	9:00am	Chair/Mat Yoga	Edwards Hall
	10:00am	Rental	Youth Room
	2:00pm	Film: Living the Change	Edwards Hall
	4:30pm	Rental	Sanctuary

Debbie will be away through February 2. If you have a pastoral concern during that time, please contact deacon Shelly Cichowlas at 508-904-6123.

Edwards Church Announcements

Music Note: Many of you know of my passion for the music of Mozart. Today is his 263rd birthday and the anthem is an adaptation of one of his works. However, our score doesn't elaborate on which one. Let me know if you recognize it!

Annual Meeting: *Sunday, February 10 after worship*

Please join us for this important gathering where we will approve our budget and annual report. The Associate Pastor Search Committee will present an update on their progress. Dawn Sorensen and Debbie Clark will lead a brief discussion on trends in faith formation and how they may influence the evolution of our Christian education programming. Childcare has been arranged and "enhanced coffee hour refreshments" will be provided to tide you over until lunch. Don't miss it!

Lenten Planning Pizza Party: *Sunday, February 10 at 5:30pm at Nikos*

Like pizza? Like hanging out with creative people? Like strengthening intergenerational connections? Then join us for pizza at Nikos! We will plan our Lenten theme, "Connections: Strengthening Intergenerational Relationships." Musicians, educators, writers, deacons, folks who like pizza—all are welcome!

Appalachian Trail Slide Show and Talk: *Sunday February 24 at 11:30am in Susan P. Dickerman Hall*

Join us following worship for a slide show offered by Chris Hendrick, who grew up at Edwards Church and was our Church School superintendent and youth leader for many years. Chris walked part of the Appalachian Trail last year, and will share photos and stories.

Open Spirit Announcements

Wild Herbal Tea Making: *TODAY at 4:00pm in Susan P. Dickerman Hall*

Make your own signature blend of tea! Ages 12 and up are welcome to join Rachel Goclowski (Mrs. G) and Rabbi Katy Allen in an herbal tea making class and lecture. Learn how to identify and prepare local wild medicinal herbs and make some into a personalized and healthful, herbal tea blend! The cost is \$25 (senior discount available). Space is limited, please email Rabbi Katy (oneearth@openspiritcenter.org) to register.

Transition Framingham Film Screening: *Saturday, February 2 at 2:00pm in Edwards Hall*

Living the Change: Inspiring Stories For a Sustainable Future explores solutions to the global crises we face today – solutions any one of us can be part of – through the inspiring stories of people pioneering change in their own lives and in their communities. Suggested donation of \$5. This event is part of Transition Framingham's annual positive progress film series. Food and beverages will be served. A collaborative discussion will follow the film.

Framingham Interfaith Book Club: *Tuesday, February 5 at 7:30pm in the church office*

Open Spirit and the Framingham Interfaith Clergy Association invite you to attend our monthly Interfaith Book Club right here on our campus. Our mission is to foster greater understanding and respect among people of all faiths and traditions. Reading the book is not a requirement to join the discussion. The current selection is *My Neighbor's Faith*, by Jennifer H. Peace, Or N. Rose, and Gregory Mobley. For more information, please contact bookclub@icbwayland.org.