

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

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

FEBRUARY 24, 2019

10:00 AM

A thought for reflection

“Of all the paths you take in life,
make sure a few of them are dirt.”

—*John Muir*

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**

“MORNING HAS BROKEN”

INSERT

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Morning has broken, like the first morning.

People: **Praise for the morning!**

Leader: Blackbird has spoken, like the first bird.

People: **Praise for the singing!**

Leader: We gather to sing praise on this beautiful morning.

People: **With elation, we praise God’s recreation of this new day!**

All: **Let us worship God!**

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: Sing for joy to God, all the earth;

People: **Worship with songs and shouts of joy!**

Leader: Sing praise to God! Play music on the harps!

People: **Blow trumpets and horns, and shout for joy to the Holy One of Israel!**

Leader: Roar, sea, and every creature in you;

People: **Sing, earth, and all who live on you!**

Leader: Clap your hands, you rivers;

People: **You hills, sing together before God!**

* **GLORIA**

(Sing twice.)

NCH 756

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

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

* *Stand as you are able.*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Dear God, for the day you have given us, with all its possibilities, we thank you. For your gifts of life and love, of labor and rest, we praise your holy name. Forgive us that too often we are unappreciative while your goodness surrounds us; we feel alone when there are many who love us; we despair when your strength is near at hand. Tear down the walls that isolate us, make strong the ties that bind us, and help us to walk together with joy in all your ways, through the grace of Jesus Christ and the power of your Spirit. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

RESPONSE

NCH 492, v.3

I would be prayerful through each busy moment;
I would be constantly in touch with God;
I would be tuned to sense God's slightest whisper;
I would have faith to keep the path Christ trod;
I would have faith to keep the path Christ trod.

GOD MEETS US IN THE WORD

WORDS WITH THE YOUNG PEOPLE

DAWN SORENSEN

* **HYMN OF PREPARATION** "MY FAITH, IT IS AN OAKEN STAFF"

NCH 418

(Children may go to church school during the hymn.)

THE HEBREW BIBLE LESSON PSALM 121

(Pew Bible, p. 498)

THE ANTHEM "LET US WALK THIS ROAD TOGETHER"

ARR. JOHN CARTER

THE GOSPEL LESSON MATTHEW 14:13A

(Pew Bible, p. 796)

THE SERMON "JUST BE"

CHRIS HENDRICK

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** "STARS AND PLANETS FLUNG IN ORBIT"

NCH 567

* **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

DEBBIE CLARK

RIC CARL

BRANDON JONES

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

February 24-March 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
	11:30am	Appalachian Trail Talk	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	1:00pm	Rental	Sanctuary
	4:30pm	Common Ground	Edwards Hall Classroom
MONDAY	9:30am	Chairobics	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	6:15pm	Rental	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
TUESDAY	9:00am	Qi Gong / Tai Chi	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	10:00am	Gentle Yoga	Edwards Hall
	10:30am	Rental	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	1:30pm	Rental	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	5:00pm	Rental	Edwards Hall
	7:00pm	Buddhist Meditation	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
WEDNESDAY	9:30am	Chairobics	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	10:30am	Steeple Mailing	Jonathan House
	4:45pm	Soup and Bible Study	Jonathan House
	6:00pm	Rental	Sanctuary
	6:00pm	Veterans Yoga	Edwards Hall
	6:45 pm	Associate Pastor Search Committee	Jonathan House
	7:30pm	Multifaith Collaborative	Jonathan House
	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
	1:30pm	Rental	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	6:00pm	Kripalu Yoga	Edwards Hall
	6:00pm	Cancer Support Group	Youth Room
	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
4:30pm Rental Sanctuary

Edwards Church

Announcements

Music Note

For the second week in a row, our anthem adapts the familiar American folk tune named for Connecticut theologian Asahel Nettleton. This morning's setting by Mary Kay Beall and John Carter was the first anthem sung by our newly combined church's full choir in the fall of 2016.

Appalachian Trail Slide Show and Talk

TODAY after worship 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.

Men's Group

Saturday, March 2 at 8:00am in Sue Dickerman Hall

All men of the church (and your friends whatever their church background) are invited to gather for coffee and great conversation on the first Saturday of the month.

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

Tuesday, March 5 from 5:30-7:00pm in Edwards Hall

Please join us for an all-you-can-eat pancake supper for all ages! Bring your favorite fruit topping, bacon, or sausage to share. We hope to see you there!

Lenten Devotional

We will offer a daily devotional during the season of Lent on our theme, "Connecting Generations: Nurturing a Spirituality of Intergenerational Relationships." We welcome you to share a story or send a photo of a moment of connection with someone who is older or younger than you. If you are interested in doing one (or more), please contact Debbie.

Caught in Family Homelessness: Parents Tell Their Stories

Sunday, March 24 at 2:00pm

Trinitarian Congregational Church, 54 Walden Street in Concord

Join the Advocacy Network to End Family Homelessness for their fourteenth annual forum. In Massachusetts, 200,000 families spend more than fifty percent of their income on housing. One event can propel them on a course toward eviction. Come hear stories of three mothers who experienced homelessness with their families. You have a role to play in preventing future stories. It starts with hearing from housing advocates about the programs that work and the importance of advocacy. Reverend June Cooper from City Mission-Boston and Kelly Turley, Associate Director

of Mass Coalition for the Homeless, will lead the charge. Our legislators will be there to hear us. All are welcome to this free forum. A reception will follow. Learn more at endfamilyhomelessness.net.



Inspiring Courage: Rashin Fahandej, Artist and Film Maker

Sunday, March 3 at 3:00pm in Edwards Hall

Join us for an afternoon of art and discussion. Rashin's work centers on personal histories, marginalized voices, and the role of media, technology and public collaboration in generating social change. *A Father's Lullaby* considers the absence of fathers in communities of color as a direct result of mass incarceration, its life-long impact on children and its weight on women and families.

Tapping the Maple Trees

Rabbi Katy Allen will be tapping maple our Open Spirit community sugar bush again this year. If you would like to help, please email her at oneearth@openspiritcenter.org to arrange a time. It will take about 35-40 minutes.

Maple Syrup Making

Monday March 11, 3:30-7:00pm in the playground

Help make maple syrup! Come to the playground, Open Spirit's "sugar bush," and learn how to make maple syrup from maple sap. Help boil down the sap, share tree stories, feed the fire, roast marshmallows, and at dinner time enjoy a slice of pizza. All ages are welcome to drop in for fifteen minutes or stay the whole afternoon. Please visit openspiritcenter.org to register. The cost is \$5 if you stay for pizza. Co-sponsored by AMC Outdoor Rx.

Passover at Open Spirit

Friday evening, April 19 in Edwards Hall; watch for more details

Open Spirit will again be hosting a seder on the first night of Passover. More information and a registration form will be coming soon. If you have any questions, please email Rabbi Katy Allen at rabbi@mayantikvah.org.

More Mushrooms!

Thursday evening, June 13 in Susan P. Dickerman Hall; watch for more details

Ryan and Emily of the Mushroom Hunting Foundation will return to teach us about summer mushrooms. Hold the date! More information and registration will be coming.

Save the Date! Sense of Wonder Forest Adventure

The Sense of Wonder Forest Adventure children's program will be held this year the week of July 8, from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. each day. More information and a registration form will be coming soon. To save a spot, please email Rabbi Katy Allen at rabbi@mayantikvah.org.

Morning Has Broken

38

Eleanor Farjeon, 1881-

BUNESSAN 5.5.5.4.D.

Gaelic Melody

Harm. by David Evans, 1874-1948

In unison

1 Morn-ing has bro - ken Like the first morn - ing, Black-bird has
2 Sweet the rain's new fall Sun - lit from heav - en, Like the first
3 Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing Born of the

spo - ken Like the first bird. Praise for the sing - ing!
dew - fall On the first grass. Praise for the sweet - ness
one light E - den saw play! Praise with e - la - tion,

Praise for the morn - ing! Praise for them, spring - ing Fresh from the Word!
Of the wet gar - den, Sprung in com-plete - ness Where his feet pass.
Praise ev - ery morn - ing, God's re - cre - a - tion Of the new day!