

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

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT — INTERGENERATIONAL WORSHIP

MARCH 10, 2019

10:00 AM

A thought for reflection

It is easy to make promises—it is hard work to keep them.

—Boris Johnson

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**

“THIS IS THE DAY”

NCH 84

CALL TO WORSHIP

MYKA & ASHER LEWIS

Leader: Promises, promises, promises...

People: **We gather to remember the promise God makes in our baptism and blessing ceremonies.**

Leader: Promises, promises, promises...

People: **We hear anew God’s promise to us: “You are my child, my beloved.”**

Leader: Promises, promises, promises...

People: **We gather to renew the promises we make to each other in our baptism and blessing ceremonies.**

Leader: Promises, promises, promises...

People: **We promise to nurture and support one another, to walk together on this faith journey.**

All: **Let us worship God.**

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

KATE MUHS

Leader: Awaken us, God, to your presence among us:

People: **May we see your face in the person beside us and the person across the room.**

Leader: Awaken us, God, to your presence among us:

People: **May we hear your voice in the words of scripture and in the music we sing.**

Leader: Awaken us, God, to your presence among us:

People: **May we feel your love through the caring of this community.**

Leader: Awaken us, God, to your presence among us:

People: **May we be open to your presence all week long. Amen.**

* **SENTENCES OF PRAISE** (*Please stand for the Sentences of Praise and Gloria.*) JACOB MUHS-CORBISIER

Leader: O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder,

People: **Consider all the worlds thy hands have made.**

Leader: I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,

People: **Thy power throughout the universe displayed!**

* **GLORIA**

(Sing twice.)

FROM “HOW GREAT THOU ART”

Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee;

How great Thou art, how great Thou art!

* *Stand as you are able.*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God, we hear the promise you make to us, that we are your beloved. We confess we don't always believe it. We don't always treat ourselves and each other as your beloved. Forgive us. Help us to believe and to live our belief.

God, you hear the promises we make to one another, our promises of love, support and care. We confess we don't always remember them. Forgive us. Renew our commitment to walk together on this journey. 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

THE GOSPEL LESSON

MARK 1:1-11

(Pew Bible, p. 812)

REMEMBERING OUR BAPTISMS AND BLESSINGS

* **HYMN OF PREPARATION** "I'VE GOT PEACE LIKE A RIVER"

NCH 478

COMMISSIONING OF PEW PARTNERS

REMEMBERING AND RENEWING OUR PROMISES

THE ANTHEM

"YES, MY JESUS LOVES ME"

MARY McDONALD

CELEBRATIONS AND CONCERNS

PRAYING AS JESUS TAUGHT

SONG OF SUSTENANCE

1. May we know our bread comes from you. You are the Source of life and Spirit too...
2. You give us our daily bread, you give us our daily bread...

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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** "NOT MY BROTHER, NOR MY SISTER"

NCH 519

* **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
LITURGISTS
DEACON-IN-CHARGE
GREETER
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
CHILDREN AND YOUTH
CLAIR BALL
SANDY THOMPSON



Music Note: This morning's anthem shows off contemporary composer Mary McDonald's talent for adapting familiar gospel tunes with an approachable, modern flair, as she does in our Epiphany favorite "Amen! Tell It on the Mountain."

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

March 10-16, 2019

SUNDAY	Daylight Saving Time Begins	
	9:00am	Adult Bible Study Youth Room
	9:00am	Rental Edwards Hall
	10:00am	Worship Sanctuary
	11:00am	Coffee Hour Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	1:00pm	Rental Sanctuary
	2:00pm	Rental Edwards Hall
MONDAY	9:30am	Chairobics Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	3:30pm	Maple Syrup Event Playground
	6:15pm	Rental Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	7:00pm	Wider Mission Jonathan House
	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
	10:30am	Rental Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	11:15am	Steering Committee Jonathan House
	1:30pm	Rental Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	5:30pm	Hatha Yoga Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	7:00pm	Buddhist Meditation Susan P. Dickerman Hall
WEDNESDAY	9:30am	Chairobics Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	4:45pm	Soup & Bible Study Jonathan House
	6:00pm	Rental Sanctuary
	6:00pm	Veterans Yoga Edwards Hall
	6:45pm	Search Committee 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
	6:00pm	Be Brave, Make Art Art Room
	6:00pm	Kripalu Yoga Edwards Hall
	6:00pm	Cancer Support Group Youth Room
	7:15pm	Choir Rehearsal Susan P. Dickerman Hall
FRIDAY	7:30pm	AA Meeting Edwards Hall
	9:30am	Chairobics Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	6:30pm	Rental Sanctuary
SATURDAY	7:00pm	Rental Edwards Hall Classrooms
	9:00am	Chair/Mat Yoga Edwards Hall
	4:30pm	Rental Sanctuary

Edwards Church

Announcements

Easter Flowers: *Place your order TODAY!*

There will be a signup sheet for Easter flowers on the glass case on the way to coffee hour. You can order Easter lilies, daffodils, hyacinths, or tulips at \$7.00 per plant. You can dedicate them in honor or in memory of someone. The flowers will be displayed on Easter Sunday April 21.

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.

Seeds of Grace: *Sunday, March 17 at 5:30pm in Susan P. Dickerman Hall*

Join Rev. Isaac Everett and the Seeds of Grace Worship Team for a service honoring the legacy of St. Patrick.

Intergenerational Mission Project — Backpacks for Syrian Refugees: *Donate supplies throughout March*

During the month of March, you are invited to take a tag from our mission board and bring in requested school supplies. On March 31 during coffee hour, we will form intergenerational teams to pack the supplies into backpacks. The backpacks will go to Syrian refugees who are displaced in their own nation. This project is sponsored by Jewish Family Service and the Multi-Faith Alliance.

Open Spirit Announcements

Maple Sap Collection and Syrup Making: *Make Syrup Monday, March 11, 3:30-7:00pm in the playground*

Learn how to make maple syrup from maple sap. Help boil down the sap, feed the fire, roast marshmallows, and enjoy a slice of pizza. Drop in for fifteen minutes or stay the whole afternoon! The cost is \$5 if you stay for pizza. Co-sponsored by AMC Outdoor Rx. **The Open Spirit Community Sugar Bush** is up and running. Everyone is invited to collect the sap. The sap will run on days when the temperatures are above freezing, especially if it is sunny, and especially when the nights are below freezing. Registration is required to collect sap; visit the “Upcoming Events” page at openspiritcenter.org to reserve a spot.

Be Brave: Make Art—Tree of Life: *Thursday, March 14 at 6:00pm, downstairs in Edwards Hall**

We will use printmaking and painting techniques to create a spring-themed tree of life. This workshop is for all artists from entry-level to experienced. Even if you have never made art before, this workshop will give you the confidence to create something beautiful of your own. Led by artist Roger Cupertino, founder of Art Au Pair. Cost: \$25 all materials are included. Space is limited. Register early to reserve your spot. *ACCESSIBILITY NOTE: If you would like to attend the class and you have accessibility concerns with stairs, please let us know.

The Interfaith Lord’s Prayer Experience: *Sunday, March 31 at 5:00 pm*

Each Sunday in worship, we join together in the prayer Jesus taught his disciples, commonly called the Lord’s Prayer. It has become a Christian prayer; in its original context, it was a Jewish prayer, taught by a rabbi (Jesus) who was steeped in the prayer traditions of his faith community. Josef Kottler, a member of Congregation Beth El in Sudbury, has created a joyous, meditative musical experience based on the words of this ancient prayer.

If you would like to sing in the choir, please speak to Debbie. Everyone is encouraged to come and share in this moving experience of a familiar, holy prayer. Suggested donation of \$10.