

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

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER—COMMUNION

MAY 5, 2019

10:00 AM

A thought for reflection

“Talk to strangers. They’re never who you think they are at first.”

—*Jen Sincero*

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**

“BECAUSE YOU LIVE, O CHRIST”

NCH 231

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The garden of the world has come to flower!

People: **May we be a garden of love and compassion.**

Leader: The spirit bird of hope is freed for flying!

People: **May our spirits soar as we worship today.**

Leader: The rainbow of God’s peace will span creation!

People: **May we radiate the beauty of God’s peace.**

All: **Let us worship God.**

PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND SUNG LORD’S PRAYER

FINLANDIA

(The FINLANDIA version of the Lord’s Prayer can be found on the prayer card in your pew rack.)

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

Leader: Rejoice in our God always!

People: **Again I say rejoice!**

* **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

(in unison)

God of resurrection, even as we celebrate Easter, we confess how hard it is to trust the good news. We hear the story, but we wonder whether it changes anything. We become lost in our own worries, and do not recognize the Risen Christ in our midst. Forgive us. Open our eyes to your presence among us; attune our hearts to the fire of your Spirit. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GOD’S FORGIVENESS

RESPONSE

(in unison)

NCH 775

And God will raise you up on eagle’s wings, bear you on the breath of dawn,

Make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of God’s hand.

* *Stand as you are able.*

GOD MEETS US IN THE WORD

THE GOSPEL LESSON LUKE 24:13-32 *(Pew Bible, p. 860)*

THE ANTHEM "LET US BREAK BREAD TOGETHER" ARR. JAY ALTHOUSE

THE NEW TESTAMENT LESSON ACTS 9:1-9 *(Pew Bible, p. 893)*

THE SERMON "ON THE ROAD" REV. DR. DEBORAH CLARK

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 CALLS US TO THE TABLE

THE LORD'S SUPPER

HYMN OF COMMUNION "SOMOS PUEBLO QUE CAMINA" **NCH 340**

THE INVITATION TO THE TABLE

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

THE GIVING OF THE BREAD AND THE CUP AT THE TABLE

THE THANKSGIVING *(in unison)*

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Jesus Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

GOD SENDS US INTO THE WORLD

* **HYMN OF DEDICATION** "AT THE FONT WE START OUR JOURNEY" **NCH 308**

* **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	ALL THE PEOPLE OF EDWARDS CHURCH
PASTOR	THE REV. DR. DEBORAH CLARK
COMMISSIONED MINISTER OF MUSIC	RICK SEAHOLM
INTERIM DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION	DAWN SORENSEN
ORGANIST	CHERYL ELKINS
PIANIST	SUSAN MINOR
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT	NICOLA SEAHOLM
SEXTON	LORI WILSON
LITURGIST	TERRI TAYLOR
DEACON-IN-CHARGE	LEEANN FRIEDMAN
COMMUNION SERVERS	ELLIE KELL & DAWN SORENSEN
GREETER	RIC CARL
JANIS STEIGMAN OF MOTHER'S HELPERS IS IN CHARGE OF THE NURSERY THIS MORNING.	

Communion Note: You are invited to come to the communion table to partake of the Lord's Feast. Come forward row by row from the back to be served. Dip the bread in the **grape juice** in the chalice on your **left** or in the **wine** in the chalice on your **right**. Proceed back to your seats by the side aisles. If you prefer to be served at your seat, we will come to you.

The **Communion Offering** is used for confidential emergency needs. If you or someone you know has a need, bring this to the attention of the minister or a member of the Diaconate. The offering envelopes are in the pew racks. Put your name on the envelope for tax credit purposes. Please consider this offering thoughtfully.

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

May 5-11, 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	Dessert Auction	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	12:15pm	Confirmation	Plymouth Church
	1:00pm	Rental	Sanctuary
	5:00pm	Gathering of Remembrance	Edwards Hall
MONDAY	9:30am	Chairobics	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	11:00am	Richard Whitmore Memorial	Sanctuary
	12:00pm	Memorial Reception	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	6:30pm	Knotweed Foraging	Edwards Hall
	7:30pm	Rental	Edwards Hall Classroom
	7:30pm	Board of Trustees	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
	12:00pm	Rental	Youth Room
	1:00pm	Nursing Home Services	Heritage and Oak Knoll
	5:30pm	Hatha Yoga	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	7:00pm	OS Donor Tea	Edwards Hall
WEDNESDAY	9:30am	Chairobics	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	1:00pm	OS Donor Tea	Edwards Hall
	4:45pm	Soup and Bible Study	Jonathan House
	6:00pm	Veterans Yoga	Edwards Hall
	6:45pm	Search Committee	Jonathan House
	7:30pm	Rental	Edwards Hall
THURSDAY	9:00am	Gardening Drop-In	Throughout Campus
	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
	7:00pm	Rental	Edwards Hall Classrooms
SATURDAY	9:00am	Chair/Mat Yoga	Edwards Hall
	4:30pm	Rental	Sanctuary

Nicola will be away from May 6-8 and will return to the office on May 9.

EDWARDS CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Music Note

This interpretation of the familiar “Let Us Break Bread Together” is by Jay Althouse, a contemporary composer whose music is sung here frequently, which such anthems as “Come to the Table,” “Put Peace Into Each Other’s Hands,” and “Soar Like an Eagle.”

Dessert Auction to Support Our Youth Trip to Synod in Milwaukee

TODAY during Coffee Hour in Susan P. Dickerman Hall

Please join us after worship this morning for our annual Dessert Auction! Bring your appetite and your donations. Every dollar made will help support our youth as they travel to Youth@Synod in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Memorial Service for Richard Whitmore

Monday, May 6 at 11:00am

We invite you to join us tomorrow morning in the sanctuary as we celebrate the life of our friend Richard Whitmore.

Mothers Day Collection

Sunday, May 12 during worship

Spread the love on Mother’s Day by bringing in hand and body lotions (all types) and size 6 diapers for A Place to Turn food pantry. They have requested these specific items which are in especially high demand.

Framingham Community Farm Update

Gardening drop-in hours: Every Thursday from 9:00-11:00am

Have you noticed the changes this month at Framingham Community Farm? Fencing is complete, the irrigation system is installed, and planting is underway with peas, carrots, greens and spinach! Please join us for volunteer hours on Thursday mornings. We also need volunteers to sign up to gently hand-water newly seeded beds each day as they germinate. We welcome your involvement in our efforts to fight hunger locally. Email Diane Bassett at dlbassett46@gmail.com with any questions or to sign up.

SAVE THE DATE! Special Lunch Bunch

Wednesday, May 29 at noon in Sue Dickerman Hall

Please join us for a special take-out lunch bunch. We haven’t selected the restaurant yet, so watch for more details in the coming weeks. Please let us know if you have any local international favorites that we should try.

Seeds of Grace Mission Fund Grant Program

Applications due June 15

The Board of Wider Mission announces its second round of grant-making. This fund was created as part of our merger to support partner organizations that are actively working to make the world a more just, loving, welcoming, and sustainable place. Please spread the word to organizations that you believe are living out our values. You can download an application at edwardschurch.org.

COMING UP AT OPEN SPIRIT

A Gathering of Remembrance and Unity: *TODAY at 5:00pm in Edwards Hall*

In a time of grief, distrust, and violence, as we struggle to work for peace and find peace, join us for a Gathering for Remembrance and Unity. We will remember the lives lost in acts of hate and terror in mosques, synagogues and churches. We will share our grief and our hopes. We will claim our unity of purpose as we seek healing and transformation. Led by Rev. Dr. Deborah Clark and Bhante Pannasiri of New England Buddhist Vihara.

Japanese Knotweed Foraging and Tasting Workshop: *Monday, May 6 at 6:30pm in Edwards Hall*

Japanese Knotweed is a highly invasive plant, but truly delicious to eat and extremely healthy. Come learn to identify knotweed in the wild and make light, delicious recipes from our harvest. You'll go home inspired about how to use this invasive species in place of rhubarb and in other inventive ways and dishes. Led by Rabbi Katy Allen. Donation of \$5-\$15, children 12 and under are free. Register at openspiritcenter.org.

Breaking the Fast of Ramadan—Celebrating Multi-Faith Friendship: *Tuesday, May 14 at 7:15pm*

During the month of Ramadan, our Muslim neighbors fast from sun-up to sun-down. Each night, at sundown, they gather with family and friends for an Iftar, a time of prayers and breaking the fast with favorite holiday foods. The event is for people of all faiths and backgrounds, and is an opportunity to support our Muslim neighbors, build deeper relationships, and learn from one another. Please join us! We invite you to bring a vegetarian dish to share. Please RSVP to debbie@openspiritcenter.org.

Journey of the Spirit: *Sunday, May 19 at 2:00pm at Congregation Beth El in Sudbury*

Join us as we continue our journey of discovery to gain greater understanding and appreciation of faith and traditions of our neighbors, deepen relationships among fellow travelers, and strengthen our shared commitment to this community. Our journeys take us to area congregations, where we learn from our hosts about their faith and practice, experience their sacred space and shared sense of culture and traditions, and interact in spirited conversation. Congregation Beth El is located at 105 Hudson Road in Sudbury. Register at openspiritcenter.org by May 13. Donation of \$15.

Mushroom Hunt & Workshop: *Thursday, June 13 at 6:00pm in Sue Dickerman Hall*

Have you ever wanted to learn more about fungi and whether you could safely forage and eat your own local, wild mushrooms? Here's your chance! Ryan Bouchard and Emily Schmidt, co-creators of The Mushroom Hunting Foundation, will join One Earth Collaborative once again for this informative workshop. It's great for beginners and enthusiasts alike! Register at openspiritcenter.org. The cost is \$25 per person.

REGISTRATION OPEN: Sense of Wonder Forest Adventure: *July 8 - 12 at various nature sites*

We welcome children entering second through fifth grade to explore the wonders of the woods, fields, and streams; explore trails, rivers, brooks, and ponds; and create nature crafts. Early Bird tuition price (payment due by May 17) is \$190.00. Full and partial scholarships are available. Visit openspiritcenter.org for more information and to register.

2019 DIRECTORY UPDATES

We are working on the latest edition of the Edwards Church Directory.

If your contact information has changed in the last year, or if you are new to our community and would like to be added to the directory, please fill out this form and leave it in the offering plate or send it to the church office by Sunday, May 26.

There are several copies of the 2018 directory available to review on the table on the way to coffee hour. Please check for any errors or updates. If you prefer, you can email any updates to nicola@edwardschurch.org.

If there are no changes in your directory entry, please do not submit a form.

Your Name(s):

Children in Your Household:

Address:

Town:

Zip Code:

Home Phone:

Other Phone:

Cell:

Cell:

Email:

Email:

Email:

Notes or other information: