

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

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY 12, 2019

10:00 AM

A thought for reflection

“Having courage does not mean we are unafraid. Having courage and showing courage mean we face our fears. We are able to say, I have fallen, but I will get up.”

— Maya Angelou

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

“LOVE DIVINE, ALL LOVES EXCELLING”

NCH 43

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: See what love has been given to us, that we should be called children of God.

People: **By this we know love, that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh, and lived and died, that God’s love might be made plain among us.**

Leader: Therefore, beloved, let us love not in word or in speech but in deed and in truth.

People: **Because we love one another, we know that we have passed from death into life.**

All: **This is the victory that overcomes the world, through Jesus our risen Christ. Amen.**

PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND SUNG LORD’S PRAYER

(Please join in singing the Lord’s Prayer, using the “Finlandia” version found in your pew card.)

* SENTENCES OF PRAISE

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

Leader: Praise God for love!

People: **Praise God for mothers and grandmothers, aunts and teachers!**

* 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)

We come into your presence with thanks, Creator God, for all that fills our lives with joy: the love of family and friends, the comfort of our homes, the challenge of work, and the delight of leisure. Forgive us that too often we have taken all these for granted, failing to see them as your gifts. In this time of worship, stretch our understanding, that we may know our lives in the perspective of your love. Teach us to live in the world with faithfulness to your intention, and to be at home wherever your spirit leads us; through Jesus Christ your faithful witness. Amen.

* Stand as you are able.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

RESPONSE

(in unison)

NCH 492, v.3

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.

GOD MEETS US IN THE WORD

WORDS WITH THE YOUNG PEOPLE

DAWN SORENSEN

THE ANTHEM

"ALL THINGS BRIGHT AND BEAUTIFUL"

JOHN RUTTER

(Children may go to church school after the anthem.)

THE HEBREW BIBLE LESSON

PSALM 23

(Pew Bible, p. 435)

* **HYMN OF PREPARATION** "MY SHEPHERD IS THE LIVING GOD"

NCH 247

THE GOSPEL LESSON

JOHN 10:22-30

(Pew Bible, p. 873)

THE SERMON

"I WILL FEAR NO EVIL"

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 SENDS US INTO THE WORLD

* **HYMN OF DEDICATION** "GOD OF GRACE AND GOD OF GLORY"

NCH 436

* **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...

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.

LET OUR SERVICE BEGIN!

ALL THE PEOPLE OF EDWARDS CHURCH
THE REV. DR. DEBORAH CLARK
RICK SEAHOLM
DAWN SORENSEN
CHERYL ELKINS
SUSAN MINOR
NICOLA SEAHOLM
LORI WILSON
RICK SEAHOLM
MATT WALKER
BRANDON JONES



Music Note: One of our most frequent anthem composers, John Rutter is a contemporary English composer and clinician.

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 12-18, 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
	1:00pm	Rental	Edwards Hall
MONDAY	9:30am	Chairobics	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	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	OS Steering Committee	Jonathan House
	12:00pm	Rental	Youth Room
	5:30pm	Hatha Yoga	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
7:15pm	Iftar	Edwards Hall	
WEDNESDAY	9:00am	Steeple Articles Due	nicola@edwardschurch.org
	9:30am	Chairobics	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	12:00pm	Lunch Bunch	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	6:00pm	Veterans Yoga	Edwards Hall
	7:00pm	Search Committee	Jonathan House
	7:30pm	Rental	Edwards Hall
THURSDAY	9:00am	Gardening Drop-In Hours	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
	3:00pm	Rental	Edwards Hall

4:30pm Rental Sanctuary

EDWARDS CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Gardening Drop-In Hours: *Every Thursday from 9:00-11:00am*

Please join us for our regular gardening hours on Thursday mornings. We also need volunteers to sign up to gently hand-water newly seeded beds each day as they germinate. Email Diane Bassett at dlbassett46@gmail.com with any questions or to sign up.

Special Lunch Bunch from Our Local Café: *Wednesday, May 29 at noon in Susan P. Dickerman Hall*

Please join us for a special take-out lunch bunch. Saxonville Mill Café and Roastery will provide us with empanadas, coffee, and other Colombian treats. Sign up on the way to coffee hour!

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

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 Susan P. 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.

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: