

# 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](http://www.edwardschurch.org)

**A thought for reflection**

*America! America! God shed his grace on thee  
Till selfish gain no longer stain the banner of the free.*

—Katherine Lee Bates, from original poem that became “America, The Beautiful” (1893)

*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** “IMMORTAL, INVISIBLE, GOD ONLY WISE”

**NCH 1**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: We are gathered to give witness to the enduring realities of life.

People: **We have come to affirm that life is a gift, that the gift is good, and that it comes from God.**

Leader: We are gathered to renew our hope in Jesus Christ, as we travel life’s long journey.

People: **We find God in the paths of our present and our past, but we also trust in God’s love in our future.**

Leader: The same God guides us all the way, every day of our lives, and beyond life.

People: **Let us praise God with our whole hearts, and entrust our lives to God’s hands. Amen.**

**PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER**

*(Please pray using the words you find most meaningful. There is a prayer card in your pew bible.)*

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

Leader: O sing to God a new song;

People: **Sing praise, all the earth!**

Leader: Sing, and bless God’s name;

People: **Tell of God’s salvation from day to day!**

\* **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)*

Most loving God, we can scarcely comprehend the scope of your forgiveness; we can hardly believe your amazing care for us. We confess that often we close ourselves off from your saving presence; and in our pride, we withhold forgiveness from other people. Through the power of your Holy Spirit, grant us the assurance of your love. May our hearts be filled with gratitude for your grace which overflows with love toward others. Amen.

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\* *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

"AMERICA, THE BEAUTIFUL"

ARR. DAVID R. NAYLOR

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

### THE NEW TESTAMENT LESSON REVELATION 22:1-2

*(Pew Bible, p. 1008)*

### \* HYMN OF PREPARATION "THIS IS MY SONG"

NCH 591

### THE GOSPEL LESSON JOHN 5:1-9

*(Pew Bible, p. 866)*

### THE SERMON "TROUBLED WATERS"

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 "FOR THE HEALING OF THE NATIONS"

NCH 576

### \* 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  
CHRIS LEIGH-MANUELL  
MATT WALKER  
LEEANN FRIEDMAN



**Music Note:** The text of "America, The Beautiful" was inspired by the author's trip through Colorado and the sight of Pike's Peak (the referenced purple mountain). Katharine Lee Bates was a professor at Wellesley College at the time of her journey.

**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](mailto:nicola@edwardschurch.org).

**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 26-June 1, 2019

<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>9:00am</b>	<b>Adult Bible Study</b> .....	<b>Youth Room</b>
	9:00am	Rental .....	Edwards Hall
	<b>10:00am</b>	<b>Worship</b> .....	<b>Sanctuary</b>
	<b>10:15am</b>	<b>Sunday School</b> .....	<b>Education Building</b>
	<b>11:00am</b>	<b>Coffee Hour</b> .....	<b>Susan P. Dickerman Hall</b>
	1:00pm	Rental .....	Sanctuary
	<b>4:30pm</b>	<b>Common Ground</b> .....	<b>Edwards Hall Classroom</b>
	6:00pm	Rental .....	Sanctuary
<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>Memorial Day</b>		
	9:00am	Veterans Coffee .....	Edwards Hall
	<b>9:30am</b>	<b>Chairobics</b> .....	<b>Susan P. Dickerman Hall</b>
	6:15pm	Rental .....	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>9:00am</b>	<b>Qi Gong / Tai Chi</b> .....	<b>Susan P. Dickerman Hall</b>
	<b>10:00am</b>	<b>Gentle Yoga</b> .....	<b>Edwards Hall</b>
	10:30am	Rental .....	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	12:00pm	Rental .....	Youth Room
	<b>5:30pm</b>	<b>Hatha Yoga</b> .....	<b>Susan P. Dickerman Hall</b>
	<b>7:00pm</b>	<b>Buddhist Meditation</b> .....	<b>Susan P. Dickerman Hall</b>
	<b>7:30pm</b>	<b>Yoga of 12-Step Recovery</b> .....	<b>Edwards Hall</b>
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>9:30am</b>	<b>Chairobics</b> .....	<b>Susan P. Dickerman Hall</b>
	<b>12:00pm</b>	<b>Special Lunch Bunch</b> .....	<b>Susan P. Dickerman Hall</b>
	6:00pm	Rental .....	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	<b>6:00pm</b>	<b>Veterans Yoga</b> .....	<b>Edwards Hall</b>
	7:30pm	Rental .....	Edwards Hall
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>9:00am</b>	<b>Gardening Drop-In Hours</b> .....	<b>Throughout Campus</b>
	<b>9:00am</b>	<b>Qi Gong / Tai Chi</b> .....	<b>Susan P. Dickerman Hall</b>
	<b>9:30am</b>	<b>Not-Your-Ordinary Yoga Class</b> .....	<b>Edwards Hall</b>
	4:00pm	Rental .....	Edwards Hall
	<b>6:00pm</b>	<b>Kripalu Yoga</b> .....	<b>Edwards Hall</b>
	<b>7:15pm</b>	<b>Choir Rehearsal</b> .....	<b>Susan P. Dickerman Hall</b>
	7:30pm	AA Meeting .....	Edwards Hall
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>9:30am</b>	<b>Chairobics</b> .....	<b>Susan P. Dickerman Hall</b>
	7:00pm	Rental .....	Edwards Hall Classroom
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>8:00am</b>	<b>Men's Group</b> .....	<b>Susan P. Dickerman Hall</b>
	<b>9:00am</b>	<b>Chair/Mat Yoga</b> .....	<b>Edwards Hall</b>
	10:00am	Rental .....	Edwards Hall
	10:00am	Rental .....	Youth Room

4:30pm Rental ..... Sanctuary

# Edwards Church Announcements

**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!

**Ordination of Nena Radtke:** *Sunday, June 2 at 3:00pm at the Wellesley Hills Congregational Church*  
You are joyfully invited to celebrate the ordination of Nena Davis Radtke, our most recent student pastor and mentored minister. A reception will follow. Wellesley Hills Congregational Church is located at 207 Washington Street in Wellesley. Speak to Debbie if you want to carpool.

**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](mailto:dlbassett46@gmail.com) with any questions or to sign up.

# Open Spirit Announcements

**Pride Shabbat:** *Friday, June 7 at 6:30 pm in Edwards Hall*

This year, Open Spirit invites you to join in our second annual Pride Shabbat dinner for people of all spiritual traditions. We will celebrate the 50th anniversary of the courageous folks who stood up for themselves and each other at Stonewall, marking a key moment in the movement for rights for LGBTQ folks. We will hear stories of what gives people courage today. We will sing, pray, and eat delicious food. Please bring a vegetarian dish to share. RSVP to [debbie@openspiritcenter.org](mailto:debbie@openspiritcenter.org).

**Inspiring Courage: Diego Low:** *Sunday, June 9, at 3:00pm in Edwards Hall*

This is the last conversation in our series, *Inspiring Courage: Stories of Passion and Compassion*. Diego Low is the director of the Metrowest Worker Center, an advocate of worker and immigrant rights, and a member of the Framingham Friends Meeting (Quaker). He will share his story of compassion, community, and justice-seeking. Suggested 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](http://openspiritcenter.org). The cost is \$25 per person.

**NEW CLASS: Yoga of 12 Step Recovery:** *Tuesdays, 7:30-8:45 pm in Edwards Hall (no class 6/18)*

Y12SR is a 12-step based discussion and yoga practice open to anyone dealing with their own addictive behavior or affected by the addictive behavior of others. This is an open and inclusive group. All levels are welcome. No yoga experience is necessary. Led by Chere Jalali. Suggested donation of \$15.



# 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 .

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](mailto: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: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_