

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

A thought for reflection

“Bless the food before us, the friends beside us, and the love between us.”

—A Table Grace, Author Unknown

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**

“ENTER, REJOICE, AND COME IN”

NCH 73

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader 1: Listen! Do you hear something?

Leader 2: *There’s a voice calling...*

People: **“If you’re hungry, cast your net on the other side of the boat!”**

Leader 1: Listen! Do you hear something?

Leader 2: *There’s a voice calling...*

People: **It’s Jesus on the shore!**

Leader 1: Listen! Do you hear something?

Leader 2: *There’s a voice calling...*

People: **Let’s go see!**

Leader 1: Listen! Do you hear something?

Leader 2: *There’s a voice calling...*

People: **“Come, bring whatever you’ve got. Come have breakfast!”**

All: **We have come! We’ve brought what we can! Let’s feast on the Living Word!**

PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND SUNG LORD’S PRAYER

FINLANDIA

(You can find the music and lyrics on the back of the prayer card in your pew rack.)

* **SENTENCES OF PRAISE**

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

Leader: Sing praise to God!

People: **We praise God for the gift of life!**

Leader: Sing praise to God!

People: **We praise God for the beauty of creation!**

Leader: Sing praise to God!

People: **We praise God for the wonders of community!**

* **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

(in unison)

God of hope, we confess how hard it is to trust your promise of abundant life. We are tempted to go back to what is familiar, to content ourselves with just barely living. When you call out to us, offering us new life, help us receive your gift. Open us to your promise; inspire us to respond. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GOD’S FORGIVENESS

RESPONSE

FROM NCH 286

Spirit, spirit of gentleness, blow through the wilderness, calling and free,
Spirit, spirit of restlessness, stir me from placidness, wind, wind on the sea.

GOD MEETS US IN THE WORD

THE GOSPEL LESSON

JOHN 21:1-10

(Pew Bible, p. 883)

THE ANTHEM

“FEED MY SHEEP”

CRAIG PETRIE

WORDS WITH THE YOUNG PEOPLE

*** HYMN OF PREPARATION**

“YOU WALK ALONG OUR SHORELINE”

NCH 504

THE SERMON

“BREAKFAST ON THE BEACH”

REV. DR. KAREN NELL SMITH

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**

“CALLED AS PARTNERS IN CHRIST’S SERVICE”

NCH 495

*** CHARGE & BLESSING**

POSTLUDE

Immediately following our worship service, there will be a congregational meeting in the sanctuary. All members and friends are invited to stay, and then to join us for a special fellowship hour afterwards.

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	DEBBIE CLARK & YOUTH
DEACON-IN-CHARGE	CHRIS LEIGH-MANUELL
GREETER	NORMA HART
COMPOST CAPTAIN	JOANIE WHITE
JANIS STEIGMAN OF MOTHER'S HELPERS IS IN CHARGE OF THE NURSERY THIS MORNING.	

Welcome! No matter who you are or where you are on your life's journey, we are glad you are here. Please join us for coffee following the service. We hope you will sign our guestbook or fill out a welcome card.

We extend a special welcome to children and their families. The sound of children's voices is the sound of a living church! We want children to learn and question alongside adults, and we welcome whispers, wiggles, and joyful noises of all kinds.

Next Sunday, our fall Christian Explorers classes begin, following our Words with the Young People. Today we worship as an intergenerational congregation, with a special art project for children. Always, we have a loving, trained nursery staff available for our youngest children. In the entryway to the sanctuary, you will find some quiet activity boxes; please take one and have fun!

Accessibility

Available in the Narthex (front entrance hallway):



Large
Print

- 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

September 8-14, 2019

SUNDAY	9:00am	Rental	Edwards Hall
	10:00am	Worship	Sanctuary
	11:00am	Congregational Meeting	Sanctuary
	11:30am	Coffee Hour	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	1:00pm	Rental	Sanctuary
	4:00pm	<i>A Father's Lullaby</i>	<i>Labyrinth</i>
MONDAY	9:30am	Chairobics	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	10:30am	<i>Strength Without a Gym</i>	<i>Edwards Hall</i>
	6:15pm	Rental	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	7:00pm	Wider Mission	Jonathan House
	7:30pm	<i>Guided Meditation</i>	<i>Susan P. Dickerman Hall</i>
TUESDAY	9:00am	<i>Qi Gong / Tai Chi</i>	<i>Susan P. Dickerman Hall</i>
	10:00am	<i>Gentle Yoga</i>	<i>Edwards Hall</i>
	10:30am	Rental	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	11:15am	<i>OS Steering Committee</i>	<i>Jonathan House</i>
	5:30pm	<i>Hatha Yoga</i>	<i>Susan P. Dickerman Hall</i>
	7:00pm	<i>Buddhist Meditation</i>	<i>Susan P. Dickerman Hall</i>
WEDNESDAY	9:30am	Chairobics	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	12:00pm	Interfaith Clergy Association	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	4:45pm	Soup and Bible Study	Jonathan House
	6:00pm	Rental	Sanctuary
	6:00pm	<i>Veterans Yoga</i>	<i>Edwards Hall</i>
	7:30pm	Rental	Edwards Hall
THURSDAY	9:00am	Gardening Hours	Throughout Campus
	9:00am	<i>Qi Gong / Tai Chi</i>	<i>Susan P. Dickerman Hall</i>
	4:00pm	Rental	Edwards Hall
	6:00pm	<i>Kripalu Yoga</i>	<i>Edwards Hall</i>
	6:00pm	<i>Cancer Support Group</i>	<i>Youth Room</i>
	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	<i>Chair/Mat Yoga</i>	<i>Edwards Hall</i>

4:30pm Rental Sanctuary

Edwards Church Announcements

Blessing of the Animals

Sunday, September 22 at 10:00am outside Edwards Hall

Join us for our annual outdoor service and Blessing of the Animals in and around our Edible Forest Garden. We will enjoy the music of our own bluegrass group, On the Fence. As part of our fall “Jesus the Foodie” theme, the service will center on Luke 12:22-31, in which Jesus evokes the lilies of the fields to challenge our inclination to worry about what we eat and drink. Bring your beloved animal companions for the service. Following the service, we will enjoy a “Picnic with our Pets.” Bring a pet; bring a friend; bring a chair to sit on!

From the Green Team: Seeking Compost Captains | Invitation to our September Meeting

Monday, September 23 at 7:00pm in the Church Office

All are welcome to join the Green Team at our next meeting. Please RSVP to Mary Memmott (email memmottm@gmail.com or call 508-788-1826) if you plan to attend. If you can't make the meeting, or just want a simple way to contribute to sustainability at Edwards Church, sign up to be a “compost captain” and take out the compost after coffee hour (or find a friend to do it when you can't) each Sunday for a month. The compost captain for September is Joanie White. After that all months are open; contact Mary to claim your month!

Open Spirit Announcements

A Father's Lullaby Opening Celebration

TODAY at 4:00pm in Susan P. Dickerman Hall

We have invited Rashin Fehandej, a Baha'i artist who is originally from Iran, to install her multi-media art show, “A Father's Lullaby,” in and around the labyrinth on our campus. Rashin's installation offers an opportunity to reflect on the harm of mass incarceration to families. It raises awareness of the long-term consequences of the high rates at which people of color, especially men, are incarcerated in our nation. You will have the opportunity to walk the labyrinth in a meditative fashion, hearing fathers singing lullabies. When you take a break to sit on a bench, you can hear a personal story of someone who has been incarcerated and struggles to reconnect with children. The installation will continue through and October. Please join us for our opening celebration and meet the artist. This project is supported by Framingham Cultural Council.

NEW YOGA CLASS—Strength Without a Gym

Mondays at 10:30am in Edwards Hall

Do you want to build muscle but don't want to go to the gym? Do you enjoy a light-hearted group with lots of laughter? Then our new “Strength Without a Gym” yoga class is for you! Whatever your age,

whatever your physical abilities, whether or not you've ever done yoga, this class will offer you an opportunity to build on your strengths as you build strength! Taught by Donna Warren, long-time Open Spirit yoga teacher and unofficial comedian. Suggested donation. Suggested donation of \$15-20, more if you can, less if you can't. [Please note: this class will replace the Thursday morning "Not-Your-Ordinary Yoga" Class.]