

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

“All around you people hunger for the covenant of God to include them.”

— *Rosaria Champagne Butterfield*

*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** “O CHRIST JESUS, SENT FROM HEAVEN”

NCH 47

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: O Christ Jesus, you are Love Eternal.

People: **May we open ourselves to the gift of love.**

Leader: O Christ Jesus, you are Living Water.

People: **May we drink deep from the well.**

Leader: O Christ Jesus, you are Truth Incarnate.

People: **May we awaken to truth.**

Leader: O Christ Jesus, you are Life for Others.

People: **May we be inspired to live for others.**

All: **Let us worship God!**

PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

(Please pray the Lord’s Prayer using the words you find most meaningful.

You can find several printed versions on the prayer card in your pew rack.)

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

(from Psalm 147)

Leader: Praise God! How good it is to sing praises to our God;

People: **For God is gracious, and a song of praise is fitting.**

Leader: God builds up Jerusalem; God gathers the outcasts of Israel.

People: **God heals the brokenhearted, and binds up their wounds.**

Leader: God lifts up the downtrodden.

People: **Sing to God with thanksgiving; make melody to our God on the lyre.**

* **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)*

Author of life, we confess that too often we fall short of your intentions for us and of our expectations of our selves. We would touch the world with goodness, but often we withdraw in anxiety and self-concern. We would live with integrity and stand for truth, but we are torn with

* *Stand as you are able.*

uncertainties. We would warm the lives of others with our love, but we hesitate, wondering if they will love us in return. We would go about our daily tasks with confidence and joy, but find ourselves struggling with self-doubt.

We need your presence, O God, if we are to be what we could be and want to be. Let our worship heal us, renew us, strengthen us, that we may go out in joy and be led forth in peace. 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

WORDS WITH THE YOUNG PEOPLE

THE ANTHEM

"I WANT JESUS TO WALK WITH ME"
(Children may go to church school after the anthem.)

ARR. DAVID NINO

THE EPISTLE LESSON

ROMANS 12:9-13

(Pew Bible, p. 922)

* **HYMN OF PREPARATION**

"I LOVE TO TELL THE STORY"

NCH 522

THE GOSPEL LESSON

LUKE 19:1-10

(Pew Bible, p. 854)

THE SERMON

"WHAT? MYHOUSE?"

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**

"BORN OF GOD, ETERNAL SAVIOR"

NCH 542

* **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

REV. DR. DEBORAH CLARK

ASSOCIATE PASTOR FOR FAITH FORMATION & OUTREACH

REV. DR. KAREN NELL SMITH

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

RUTH CARNEY

DEACON-IN-CHARGE

LEEANN FRIEDMAN

GREETER

EVIE MCGUIRK

COMPOST CAPTAIN

MARY MEMMOTT

JANIS STEIGMAN OF MOTHER'S HELPERS IS IN CHARGE OF THE NURSERY THIS MORNING.

A Father's Lullaby Art Installation: *Daily from 3:00-7:00pm in our labyrinth (through October)*

Artist Rashin Fehandej has installed her outdoor multi-media art work, "A Father's Lullaby," in and around the labyrinth on our campus. The work offers an opportunity to reflect on the harm of mass incarceration to families. As you walk the labyrinth or sit on a bench, you will hear fathers singing lullabies and telling stories of their experiences with parenting and incarceration. Supported by the Framingham Cultural Council.

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. Please 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. In the entryway to the sanctuary, you will find some quiet activity boxes; please take one and have fun! Following the anthem, we invite all children to attend a Christian Explorers class downstairs in the Susan P. Dickerman Education Building. We have a loving, trained nursery staff available for our youngest children.

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

October 13-19, 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
	3:00pm	Coming Out Day Celebration	Edwards Hall
MONDAY	Indigenous Peoples Day: OFFICE CLOSED		
	9:30am	Chairobics	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	6:15pm	Rental	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	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
	5:00pm	Rental	Edwards Hall
	5:30pm	Hatha Yoga	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	7:00pm	Energy Infusion	Susan P. Dickerman 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	Rental	Sanctuary
	6:00pm	Veterans Yoga	Edwards Hall
	7:30pm	Rental	Edwards Hall
	THURSDAY	9:00am	Qi Gong / Tai Chi
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	8:00am	Rental	Edwards Hall
	9:30am	Chairobics	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	7:00pm	Yoga of 12-Step Recovery	Edwards Hall
	7:00pm	Rental	Edwards Hall Classrooms
SATURDAY	9:00am	Chair/Mat Yoga	Edwards Hall
	4:30pm	Rental	Sanctuary

EDWARDS CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Christian Explorers Open House

Sunday, October 20 after worship

Join us and see all of the great things that our leaders and kids are doing. Tour the classrooms, hear about the projects, interact with the board members, and have a good time!

Seeds of Grace Worship

Sunday, October 20 at 5:00pm for a simple soup supper, 5:30pm worship in Susan P. Dickerman Hall.

Rev. Dr. Karen Nell Smith and members of the Seeds of Grace worship team will lead us in a time of warm community and creative worship with the theme "How are you fed?" Come as we gather for a cup of soup followed by a time of sharing scripture and song, conversation and prayer. We hope to see you there!

Vietnamese Takeout Lunch Bunch: Wednesday, October 30 at noon in Susan P. Dickerman Hall

We will continue our tradition of trying international cuisine prepared at local restaurants with a trip to Vietnam. Please join us whether or not you are a Lunch Bunch regular. Sign up on the way to coffee hour or email nicola@edwardschurch.org. Suggested donation of \$7, more if you can, less if you can't.

New Edwards Church Photo Directory: Sign Up at Coffee Hour!

Photography Sessions on Monday and Tuesday, November 4 and 5, 2:00-9:00pm in Edwards Hall

Do you ever look at someone in church and think, "I know that person, but I can't think of their name." Soon you will be able to sneak a peek on your phone or in a booklet and find the person's picture and name! Sign up at coffee hour or visit edwardschurch.org to select a time slot for an individual or family portrait.

Veterans Appreciation Dinner

Sunday, November 10 at 5:00pm at Plymouth Church

Edwards and Plymouth Churches will offer a dinner for area veterans in appreciation of their service. If you are a veteran, we hope you will sign up to attend. If you are not a veteran, we hope you will prepare a homemade dessert or sign up to help out on that day. RSVP to 508-875-1364.

OPEN SPIRIT ANNOUNCEMENTS

National Coming Out Weekend: Celebrating Our Stories

TODAY at 3:00pm in Edwards Hall

Please join us as the Just Peace Players perform true stories of courageous LGBTQ people of spirit. The performance will be followed by conversation and refreshments.

Particles of Light Energy Infusion & Meditation

Tuesday, October 15 from 7:00-9:00pm in Susan P. Dickerman Hall

The evening will begin with a forty-five minute guided meditation, infusing "Particles of Light" into the energy body of each person. After the meditation, there will be time for four individual fifteen-minute healing sessions for those people who are interested. Led by Maria Dios. Suggested donation of \$15-20.

Weekend of Spirit—"Deepening Connections"

Friday and Saturday, October 25 and 26

Weekend of Spirit begins on Friday evening with a concert by our own Willie Sordillo, along with his colleagues and friends Doug Rich, Zoë Krohne and Erez Dissel. On Saturday morning, the program opens with a keynote presentation centering on deep-rooted connections in the plant world. We will have morning and afternoon workshops, a Healing Spa, a delicious vegetarian/vegan lunch, and much more. A free-will offering will be received on Friday evening; the cost for Saturday is \$35.