

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

“Children must early learn the beauty of generosity.
They are taught to give what they prize most, that they may taste the happiness of giving.”
— Charles Alexander Eastman (*Ohiyesa*)

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**

“LET ME ENTER GOD’S OWN DWELLING”

NCH 67

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Bless God for the good we have been given.

People: **We are thankful for the bounty we have enjoyed.**

Leader: Praise God, the Creator, from whom all blessings flow.

People: **God has been good to us through another year.**

Leader: God chooses to love us and draw us near.

People: **We are grateful for food, shelter and family.**

Leader: God invites us to enjoy the good all around us.

People: **God enriches our lives with many opportunities.**

Leader: Let us renew our vows to God in this hour.

People: **As we gather to rejoice and find renewal.**

Leader: We have come to listen to God’s word.

All: **May our thanksgiving overflow in acts of generosity and kindness.**

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**

(From last Sunday’s congregational meeting)

Leader: For connections made while cleaning and working,

People: **We praise you, God, for the miracle of giving.**

Leader: For Veterans Yoga teachers who drive long distances,

People: **We praise you, God, for the miracle of giving.**

Leader: For stories of courage that help us get through a tough diagnosis,

People: **We praise you, God, for the miracle of giving.**

Leader: For surprise knocks on the door, surprise scholarships that arrive in the mail,
surprising strangers who help pay the water bill,

People: **We praise you, God, for the miracle of giving.**

* Stand as you are able.

* **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)
O God, to whom each of us can come and find acceptance, today we bring our faults and failings, seeking to renew our awareness of you in every moment of every day. We confess that we have moments when we are unfair, forgetful of your love, and unkind to your children. We misuse your gifts to us, despite your generosity, sometimes sowing sparingly for the sake of others. O God, forgive us, we pray, and awaken our thankfulness as we learn more deeply to appreciate all you have provided. 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

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT MATT WALKER

WORDS WITH THE YOUNG PEOPLE

THE ANTHEM "BLESSINGS" MARK BURROWS
(Children may go to church school after the anthem.)

* **HYMN OF PREPARATION** "GOD, WHOSE GIVING KNOWS NO ENDING" **NCH 565**

THE GOSPEL LESSON 2 CORINTHIANS 9:7-15 (Pew Bible, p. 942)

THE SERMON "LEFTOVERS"

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** "TAKE MY LIFE, GOD, LET IT BE"

NCH 448

* **CHARGE & BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE *(Please feel free to remain and listen, or to greet one another in the narthex and at coffee hour.)*

Today's liturgy is adapted from *Taught By Love*, by Lavon Baylor.

OUR WORSHIP HAS ENDED...

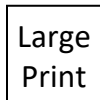
LET OUR SERVICE BEGIN!

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
ORGANIST	CHERYL ELKINS
PIANIST	SUSAN MINOR
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT	NICOLA SEAHOLM
SEXTON	LORI WILSON
LITURGIST	DEBBIE CLARK
DEACON-IN-CHARGE	CLAIR BALL
GREETER	NORMA HART
COMPOST CAPTAIN	PEGGY HARRISON
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. 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



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

November 10-16, 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
	5:00pm	Veterans Appreciation Dinner	Plymouth Church
MONDAY	Veterans Day, OFFICE CLOSED		
	9:30am	Chairobics	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	10:30am	Strength Without a Gym	Edwards 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
	11:15am	OS Steering Committee	Jonathan House
	5:30pm	Hatha Yoga	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	7:00pm	Buddhist Meditation	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
WEDNESDAY	9:30am	Chairobics	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	11:30am	Trauma-Sensitive Yoga	Edwards Hall
	4:30pm	Soup and Bible Study	Jonathan House
	6:00pm	Rental	Sanctuary
	6:00pm	Veterans Yoga	Edwards Hall
	7:30pm	Rental	Edwards Hall
THURSDAY	9:00am	Qi Gong / Tai Chi	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	6:00pm	Cancer Support Group	Youth Room
	6:00pm	Kripalu Yoga	Edwards Hall
	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	Rental	Edwards Hall Classrooms
SATURDAY	9:00am	Chair/Mat Yoga	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	11:00am	Mistletoe Market (St. Luke Fundraiser)	Edwards Hall
	10:30am	Rental	Choir Room
	4:30pm	Rental	Sanctuary

Edwards Church

Announcements

Veterans Appreciation Dinner

TODAY at 5:00pm at Plymouth Church

Edwards and Plymouth Churches will offer a dinner for area veterans in appreciation of their service. Speak to Debbie today if you wish to attend or help out.

Seeds of Grace Worship

Sunday, November 17 in Susan P. Dickerman Hall, 5:00pm for supper, 5:30pm for worship

Come join the Seeds of Grace worship team on an autumn evening for a warm meal, deep reflection and creative worship as we are spiritually fed through song and prayer, sharing and silence. November's theme is "How do we give thanks?" We hope to see you there!

Reception of New Members

Sunday, November 17 during worship

During our worship service on November 17, we will joyously receive new members. If you are interested in joining Edwards Church, please email pastor@edwardschurch.org or speak with Debbie today.

Singing in Solidarity with our Immigrant Neighbors

Sunday, November 17 at 4:00pm at Greater Framingham Community Church

Edwards Church's Board of Wider Mission is a co-sponsor of this multi-faith, multi-cultural concert featuring groups from area churches and synagogues. The concert will be held at Greater Framingham Community Church, 44 Franklin Street. There is no entry fee; come make a donation to the Neighbor's Fund, which helps immigrant neighbors in crisis.

Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

Tuesday, November 26 at 7:00pm at First Parish Unitarian Universalist Church

This year our Interfaith, Intergenerational Thanksgiving Service will be held at First Parish Unitarian Universalist Church, located at 24 Vernon Street.

Family Fun Friday

Friday, December 6 at 6:00pm in Susan P. Dickerman Hall

We hope that everyone, especially families and youth, will join us for a special evening gathering. We will work on holiday crafts and share pizza, salad, dessert, and hot chocolate. Look for the sign-up sheet at church or RSVP to Karen Nell. Be there or be square!

Save the Date! Gifts that Give Fair

Saturday, December 7, 1:00-4:00pm in Edwards Hall

Our Board of Wider Mission invites you to start your holiday shopping at church. You can purchase fair-trade gifts to support many causes that are important in our community and our world. Stay tuned for more details!

Compost Captains Needed

We are still recruiting Compost Captains for December onward. If you would like to sign up for a month or a week at a time, please contact Mary Memmott at memmottm@gmail.com or call 508-788-1286.

Open Spirit Announcements

Trauma-Sensitive Yoga for Women

Wednesdays, November 13 and 20 at 11:30am in Edwards Hall

This healing Trauma Center Trauma-Sensitive Yoga (TCTSY) class series is for any woman who has experienced trauma, PTSD symptoms, or grief. We will safely experiment with breathing, moving, stretching, and resting. Students may opt in or out of any portion of the class at any time. There will be no physical hands-on adjustments. TCTSY complements and supports a person's work in therapy. No yoga experience necessary, beginners welcome. Led by Sue Stevens, E-RYT 500, TCTSY-F, YACEP. For more information, please visit openspiritcenter.org. Cost: \$15 drop-in.

Yoga for Grief: Help to Manage Your Grief During the Holidays

Sunday, November 17 at 3:00pm in Edwards Hall

Yoga for Grief offers a safe place for those who have experienced the loss of a loved one. This workshop gives participants the opportunity to feel relief from grief symptoms and to sense some peace through the practice of yoga. Participants will gently be introduced to the basics of mindful yoga, including stretching, breathing, relaxation, and optional sharing. You will learn helpful techniques and tools to bring home with you to help manage your grief during the holidays and throughout the new year. This gentle yoga will accommodate any fitness level and can be done on a yoga mat or sitting in a chair. Please bring a picture of your loved one if you would like to share with the group. For more information or to register, please visit our website. Led by Sue Stevens, E-RYT 500, TCTSY-F, YACEP. Cost: \$40 (Scholarships are available).

Journey of the Spirit: Learning about the Faith of Our Neighbors

Sunday, December 1 at 2:00pm at Fatima Shrine

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. After our tour and discussion, stay to view the beautiful Christmas Lights. Our Lady of Fatima Shrine is located at 101 Summer Street in Holliston. Register by November 25 at openspiritcenter.org. For more information or questions, please contact Karen Nell Smith at choresis@comcast.net. Suggested donation of \$15.

Interfaith Multi-Narrative Listening Tour to Israel/Palestine

Summer, 2020 (Register by December, 2019)

Travel with a group of Jews, Christians and Muslims on an eight-day journey to the Holy Land and its people that will engage your mind, body and spirit. At the heart of this trip is listening with an open heart and mind to the life stories representing many different perspectives and experiences, lead by Israeli and Palestinian Mejdi Tour™ guides who will model respectful dialogue and

disagreement as they offer their respective points of view. Visit openspiritcenter.org/interfaith-multinarrative-tour for more information.

Christmas Wreath Fundraiser



Save time! Avoid the stores! Help our church youth!

Pick up your wreaths right here.

Order two or more for your friends and family.

These 12-inch wreaths come with a classic red or cranberry bow.

The donation is \$15 per wreath.

Proceeds benefit Edwards Church and Plymouth Church youth programs.

Order your wreaths on Sundays, November 10, 17, 24
You can pick-up your wreath following worship on December 1.

The Christmas Wreath Sale is sponsored by the youth of Edwards and Plymouth Churches.

Christmas Wreath Order Form

Name:
Email or Phone:
Number of Wreaths:
Bow Color: <input type="checkbox"/> Red <input type="checkbox"/> Cranberry
Amount Enclosed:

Checks should be made out to Edwards Church with "Wreath Sale" on the memo line