

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
edwardschurch.org

A Thought for Reflection

“If the scandal of Jesus was that He was always touching the wrong people and inviting the wrong people to the table—how on earth can we think the Communion meal now is for the extra holy or the super spiritual?”

—Jonathan Martin

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**

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: God says, “Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters.”

People: **“Come, you who have no money. Come, buy, and eat!”**

Leader: We have come to feast on the living bread, that we might minister to the world’s hungers.

People: **We have come to drink from the waters of life, that we might minister to the world’s thirst.**

All: **Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be filled. Let us worship God, the source of every blessing. Amen.**

PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

(You can find several printed versions of the Lord’s Prayer on the prayer card in your pew rack.)

***SENTENCES OF PRAISE**

Leader: Rejoice in our God always!

People: **Again I say rejoice!**

***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)*

God of creation, we celebrate your presence in the wonders of the world and give you thanks for our sisters and brothers in Christ around the world. Forgive us for times we have turned away from you and our neighbors. We confess that we have not always appreciated our resources or used them to make this world a place of peace and love. Touch our hearts with your love so that we may sing your praises every day of our lives. 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 SCRIPTURE LESSONS

COMMUNION MEDITATION

CALL TO PRAYER

NCH 774

Shepherd, lead, lead me in your righteousness,
Make your way plain before my face.
For it is you, God, you God only,
Who makes me to lie down in safety.

CELEBRATIONS AND CONCERNS

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 CALLS US TO THE TABLE

THE LORD'S SUPPER

HYMN OF COMMUNION

THE INVITATION TO THE TABLE

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

THE GIVING OF THE BREAD AND THE CUP AT THE TABLE

THE THANKSGIVING *(in unison)*

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us at your table by
granting us the presence of Jesus Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our
love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace,
rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

GOD SENDS US INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN OF DEDICATION

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *(Feel free to remain and listen, or to greet one another at coffee hour.)*

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

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

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO VOLUNTEERED TO PARTICIPATE
IN THE WORSHIP SERVICE 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.

This summer we will worship together with all ages on several Sundays. On other Sundays, we have projects for children after our Words with the Young People. 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



Large
Print

Available in the Narthex (front entrance):

- 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 MORNING'S WORSHIP

August 4, 2019

Hymn of Praise	"This is the Day"	NCH 84
Scripture	Luke 22:1-2; 7-20	Pew Bible p. 857
Scripture	John 6:34-35	Pew Bible p. 868
Meditation	"Jesus Should Taste Good!"	Dawn Sorensen
Hymn of Communion	"Jesus Took the Bread"	NCH 343
Hymn of Dedication	"God Be with You"	NCH 81

COMMUNION NOTES

*You are invited to come to the communion table to partake of the Lord's Feast. Come forward row by row from the back to be served. Dip the bread in the **grape juice** in the chalice on your **left** or in the **wine** in the chalice on your **right**. Proceed back to your seats by the side aisles. If you prefer to be served at your seat, we will come to you.*

***The Communion Offering** is used for confidential emergency needs. If you or someone you know has a need, bring this to the attention of the minister or a member of the Diaconate. The offering envelopes are in the pew racks. Put your name on the envelope for tax credit purposes. Please consider this offering thoughtfully.*

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thai Lunch Bunch

Wednesday, August 21 at noon in Sue Dickerman Hall

Over the last few years, Lunch Bunch has gathered periodically to try foods from around the world, as prepared by local restaurants. This summer we will embark on a repeat trip to Thailand. Join us for flavorful (but not hot and spicy) treats. Sign up on the way to coffee hour or contact the office to reserve your spot.

Celebrating the Spirit of Our Campus

Sunday, August 25 at 5:00pm in Edwards Hall

The current art exhibit in Edwards Hall features photos and paintings of our campus and the things that happen here. There are photos of our gardens, our sanctuary, and our stained glass windows. And there are photos of people and programs (and a fluffy dog!). Together they tell a story of a lively, joyous, open-hearted campus and the communities that gather here. Please join us for an evening of good conversation and music.

Gardening Drop-In Hours

Wednesdays from 1:00-5:00pm and Thursday from 9:00-11:00am

Please join us for our regular gardening hours! On Wednesday afternoons we work all around campus weeding, mulching, and pruning. On Thursday mornings we tend the Framingham Community Farm vegetable beds. If you plan to attend or have any questions, please email nicola@edwardschurch.org.



Summer Office Hours

Monday 9:00am-3:00pm

Wednesday 9:00am-3:00pm

Thursday 9:00am-3:00pm

This Week at Edwards Church

August 4-10, 2019

SUNDAY	9:00am	Rental	Edwards Hall
	10:00am	Worship	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	11:00am	Coffee Hour	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	1:00pm	Rental	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
MONDAY	9:30am	Chairobics	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	6:15pm	Rental	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	7:30pm	Rental	Edwards Hall Classroom
	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
	5:30pm	Hatha Yoga	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	7:30pm	Yoga of 12-Step Recovery	Edwards Hall
WEDNESDAY	9:30am	Chairobics	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	1:00pm	Gardening Drop-In Hours	Throughout Campus
	1:15pm	Prayer Shawl Knitters	Edwards Hall
	6:00pm	Veterans Yoga	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
	7:30pm	AA Meeting	Edwards Hall
FRIDAY	9:30am	Chairobics	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	7:00pm	Rental	Edwards Hall Classrooms

Rev. Clark is away through August 7. If you have a pastoral emergency during that time, please contact Deacon Shelly Cichowlas at 508-904-6123.