



CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF NEEDHAM

United Church of Christ

January 24, 2016

Theme: Epiphany



Our Covenant

We strive to be a joyful, welcoming
Christian Community.

We seek to be faithful in a world torn by suffering, injustice,
oppression, and war.

We are inspired by God, Christ's ministry, and the examples
of other faithful people.

We join together in worship and song, fellowship, study, and
mission, to embrace the risks and challenges of continuing
Christ's ministry.

We struggle to live out our faith in the world by furthering
justice and peace, witnessing to the truth, and proclaiming
God's love and mercy for all people.

As a covenant community we are committed to the belief that all people are created equal before God. In affirmation of the inclusive love of Christ Jesus, we welcome persons of any race, gender, age, sexual orientation, ability and economic circumstance to full participation in our community life and ministry. We strive to reflect these beliefs in the language and content of our worship and in our lives together.



Sunday, January 24, 2016

10:00am

*Children are always welcome in Worship with their parents/guardians.
Pre-K children are invited to the nursery throughout the service.
Students in grades K-5 will be dismissed to their classrooms. Students in grades 6-12 may stay in the Sanctuary with their parents.*

PRELUDE

Selections from Lyric Pieces
Edvard Grieg(1843 - 1907)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

David Libby

Leader: A new day has dawned, a new year begun -

People: O Lord, call us so we may hear Your voice!

Leader: The world turns to hopes and dreams of the future -

People: O Lord, keep us in Your ways and on Your path!

Leader: We enter this new year with hope and excitement -

People: O Lord, remind us that You lead us. Guide us as we look to you, and worship you.

***OPENING HYMN # 164 (NCH)**

Arise, Your Light Is Come

OPENING PRAYER

Call to Prayer

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us pray.

Unison Prayer

**Come, Holy Spirit,
Spirit of God, Spirit of the Living Christ,
be with us today and always.
Be our Light, our Guide, and our Comforter.
Be our Strength, our Courage,
and our Sanctifier.
May this new year be a time
of deep spiritual growth for us,
a time for welcoming Your graces and gifts,
a time for forgiving freely and unconditionally,
a time for growing in virtue and goodness.
Come, Holy Spirit, be with us today and always.
Hear us pray.....**

Silent Prayer

Lord's Prayer

Prayer Response

4 Fold Amen

Roland M Carter (b. 1942)

TIME FOR CHILDREN

Children leave for Bible Village after Time for Children.

CHILDREN'S HYMN #526 (NCH)

**We Are Marching In The
Light Of God**

ANTHEM

O Come Thou God of Grace
Theron Kirk (1919 - 1999)

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 4: 14-21

NT, p. 58

SERMON

“Today”
Heike Werder

HYMN (seated) # 181 (NCH)

You are Salt for the Earth, O People

MORNING PRAYER

Concerns and Celebrations

Call to Prayer

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And with your spirit.

Leader: O Lord, show your mercy upon us.

People: And grant us your salvation.

Leader: O God, make clean our hearts within us.

People: And take not your Holy Spirit from us.

Pastoral Prayer

Congregational Response

Spirit of the Living God

Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me

Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me.

OFFERTORY

Anthem

Jacob's Ladder
arr. Gilbert M Martin (b. 1941)

**Doxology*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,

Praise God, all creatures here below,

Praise God above, ye heavenly host,

Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication

***CLOSING HYMN # 273 (NCH) Praise with Joy the World's Creator**

BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION

Peace, I Leave With You
William Wirges (1894 - 1971)

POSTLUDE

Spring in the Garden
Bohuslav Martinu (1890 - 1959)

**You are invited to stand.*

NCH stands for New Century Hymnal (Black Hymnal) and PH stands for Pilgrim Hymnal (Red Hymnal).

- Welcome to all who are here for the first time. Please fill out the blue “Welcome” card in the pews to receive weekly emails or newsletters.
- Please turn off your cell phone before attending the service.
- Please ask an usher if you would like a copy of the sermon, or need a hearing device. Copies of the sermons are also available on the sermon link at www.needhamucc.org, our church website.

Worship Assistant: David Libby

Deacons: Carol Oberle, Sally Fitzgerald

Ushers: Rob Blauvelt, Craig Morrison, Chris Nyland, Kevin Ward

Altar Guild: Jane Clayton Matthews

Flowers: Mary Lou Hughes

The flowers on the altar are given to glory of God and in loving memory of Theresa Cerame by her daughter and Don DeVeuve and granddaughter Maddie DeVeuve.

Warrant for Annual Meeting Sunday, January 31, 2016

The Annual Meeting of The Congregational Church of Needham will be held in the Sanctuary immediately following the 10am worship service on Sunday, January 31, at 11:30am. Childcare will be provided while the meeting is held.

As is customary in preparation for the Annual Meeting, an informational hearing will be held following the worship service on Sunday, January 24, in Linden Hall. Please attend the hearing to learn more about the Annual Report and to ask questions about articles to be addressed at the Annual Meeting.

Copies of the Annual Report will be available in the Narthex on January 24 at the 10am worship service. Please help yourself to a copy of these documents in preparation for the meeting. The warrant of articles for the meeting is as follows:

Warrant

- Article I To receive and act on reports of the Standing Committees, Special Committees and Officers of the Church.
- Article II To elect Officers and Committees for the Church Year 2016.
- Article III To adopt a budget for Fiscal Year 2016.

*The Congregational Church of Needham
1154 Great Plain Avenue
Needham, Massachusetts 02492
Telephone 781-444-2510
E-mail: office@needhamucc.org
www.needhamucc.org*

The Rev. Heike Werder, Associate Minister
Madelyn Downer, Director of Children &
Youth Ministries

Valerie Becker, Music Director
The Rev. Dr. Paul Clayton, Pastor Emeritus

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Notice: Reverend Heike's email address is revheike@needhamucc.org if you are using revheike@needhamcongregational.org that email address is no longer in service.

Notice: For information on if the church is open during times of inclement weather please check the website (www.needhamucc.org) or call the church office (781-444-2510) and select option 7.

TODAY: Annual Meeting Hearing—Sunday, January 24

11:30am in Linden Hall

Annual Meeting — Sunday, January 31

Immediately following Worship in the Sanctuary

All church members are invited to join together in Linden Hall on January 24th and in the Sanctuary January 31st for our Annual Meeting Hearing and our Annual Meeting. Annual Reports will be available the day of the Annual Meeting Hearing. If you have any questions please contact the office at

office@needhamucc.org

Adult Bible Study, Sunday's @ 11:30 Conference Room: Are you interested in deepening your understanding of the Bible? Everyone is welcome to try out Adult Bible Study. We meet on Sundays immediately after church from 11:30 to 12:30 in the reception room. This winter, we will be studying Paul's epistle to the Romans, for what should be wonderful discussion about faith. Contact Sunu Yeh at dormouse99@gmail.com for more information. Please drop by and try us out!

Faith Circle Book Club: The Faith Circle Book group will begin on Thursday, January 21st and meet for a total of 8 sessions from 10:30-12:00. We will meet on **Jan. 28, Feb. 4, 11, 25, March 3, 17, & 24th**. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch with Christine Weitzel at cweitzel@verizon.net

Ash Wednesday Service, Feb. 10, 2015: You are cordially invited to attend an Ash Wednesday service at 7 pm in the chapel. Rev. Heike and Maddie Downer (M.Div.) will lead us in a worship experience that ushers in the season of Lent. All are welcome.

Bible Village: We are always in need of individuals to teach and shepherd our children in Bible Village, BV6:8, and the Noah's Ark nursery room. If Sunday mornings are not an option for you, you can volunteer a Thursday evening with Club 3-4-5 or a Sunday night with the JR or SR high youth group!

You don't have to be parent—all are invited to teach! We provide all of the materials and the lessons beforehand. Lessons are straightforward and easy to

teach—and our kids are so much fun! Sign-up at: www.tinyurl.com/ChildrenYouthSignUp or contact Maddie at youth@needhamucc.org .

Confirmation Mentors: Rev. Heike is looking for adult members of our church who are willing to share of their faith and time with this year's confirmation class. Monday evening sessions begin Feb. 8, 2016 and end May 15, 2016 with confirmation Sunday, respecting vacation weeks along the way. The student/adult mentor relationship is the cornerstone of our program. Your participation is very likely to make a big impact on a young person's life and faith. Please contact Rev. Heike if you'd like to consider being a mentor.

Guatemala Writers!! While we are past deadline for those who compose your letters in English, there is still time to submit your letter for delivery by the February delegation. But please don't put this off, or we may be unable to get your letter translated in time. To submit your letter, send e-mail: davejohnson77@gmail.com; or leave a hard copy at the Church office; Guatemala box in the 'copy room'; or 505 Great Plain Ave. To get caught up with our partnership, and happenings in the village, take a peek at www.guatemalapartners.org

February Delegation To Guatemala: The church's February delegation is excitedly anticipating leaving for Guatemala on February 10th. Co-leaders are Brenda Metzler and Fred Moder, along with travelers Jackie Allen, Jerry Durbin, Susan McNeice, optometrist Scott Pike and wife Joene, plus 3 people from Oregon and Colorado. We're looking forward to taking down letters from partner-families and scholarship donors, school and medical supplies, and funding for middle school teacher salaries (including a marimba teacher!), the computer center, and project funds for the village. Please plan to join family, friends, and supporters for a brief Delegation Send-Off gathering on Tuesday, February 9th, from 7-8 pm at Dave and Caryl Johnson's, 505 Great Plain Avenue.

Request for Altar Guild Volunteers: The Altar Guild is looking for volunteers. High school students are welcome to join. Please contact Carol Miller at milerc291@verizon.net for more information.

CALENDAR January 24th—February 11th

| | | |
|----------------------|---------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sunday, January 24th | 10:00 am 11:15 am 11:30 am | Worship Service, <i>Sanctuary</i> Annual Meeting Hearing, <i>Linden Hall</i> Bible Study, <i>Conference Room</i> |
| Mon., January 25th | 8:30 am | Cancer Support Group, <i>1154 Reception</i> |
| Tues., January 26th | 7:00 pm | Outreach, <i>1180 GPA</i> |
| Thurs., January 28th | 10:30 am 7:30 pm | Faith Circle Book , <i>1154 Reception Room</i> Choir Practice, <i>Linden AB</i> |
| Sunday, January 31st | 10:00 am 11:00 am | Worship Service, <i>Sanctuary</i> Annual Meeting, <i>Sanctuary</i> Annual Meeting Luncheon, <i>Fellowship Hall</i> |
| Monday, Feb. 1st | 8:30 am 7:15 pm | Cancer Support Group, <i>1154 Reception</i> EMT Meeting, <i>Conference Room</i> |
| Tuesday, Feb. 2nd | 6:00 pm 7:00 pm | Community Dinner, <i>Linden Hall</i> Deacon's Meeting, <i>1180 GPA</i> |
| Wednesday, Feb. 3rd | 7:00 pm | Youth Committee Meeting |
| Thursday, Feb. 4th | 10:30 am 12:00 pm 7:00 pm | Faith Circle Book Club, <i>1154 Reception</i> Lunch with Heike, <i>1180 GPA</i> Chancel Choir Practice, <i>Linden AB</i> |
| Sunday, Feb. 7th | 9:00 am 10:00 am 11:00 am 11:30 am | Sub Making Worship Service, <i>Sanctuary</i> Super Bowl Sub Pick—Up Bible Study, <i>Conference Room</i> Guatemala Partnership Meeting, <i>Library</i> |
| Monday, Feb. 8th | 8:30 am 6:00 pm | Cancer Support Group, <i>1154 Reception</i> Confirmation Class, <i>Linden Hall</i> |
| Tuesday, Feb. 9th | 7:00 pm | Board Meeting, <i>1180 GPA</i> |
| Wed., Feb. 10th | 7:00 pm | Ash Wednesday Service, <i>Sanctuary</i> |
| Thursday, Feb. 11th | 10:30 am 12:00 pm 6:30 pm 7:30 pm | Faith Circle Book Club, <i>1154 Reception</i> Lenten Lunch, <i>1180 GPA</i> Club 3-4-5 Meeting, <i>Stevenson Hall</i> Chancel Choir Practice, <i>Linden AB</i> |

**SAVE THE
DATE**



**ANNUAL
MEETING**

IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING WORSHIP