



# CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF NEEDHAM

United Church of Christ

January 31, 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 31, 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-8 will be dismissed to the Chapel. Students in grades 9-12 may stay in the Sanctuary with their parents.*

**PRELUDE**

Come Thou Almighty King  
*Timothy Wright*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Nancy Lane

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 # 168 (NCH) O Radiant Christ, Incarnate Word**

**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**

*Why We Sing  
Kirk Franklin*

**SCRIPTURE LESSON**

Luke 4: 21-30

NT, p. 58

**SERMON**

“God’s Blessing Is For All”  
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*

Every Praise  
*Hezekiah Walker*

*\*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 # 395 (NCH) In Christ There Is No East or West**

**BENEDICTION**

**CHORAL BENEDICTION**

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

**ANNUAL MEETING**

*\*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](http://www.needhamucc.org), our church website.

*Worship Assistant:* Nancy Lane

*Deacons:* Claudia Darmofal, Lee McNally

*Ushers:* Todd Barth, Dave Johnson, Jan Rubenstein

*Altar Guild:* Jean Veigas

*Flowers:* Mary Lou Hughes

*Flower Delivery:* Carol Brown

*The flowers on the altar are given to glory of God and in loving memory of Robert R. Andrews III by Jean Andrews and his loving family.*

## **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.

Annual Reports are available in the Narthex. 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.

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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.

### **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](mailto:office@needhamucc.org)

Childcare is provided! If you cannot stay and need to pick up your child, please go to the chapel. All are invited for a luncheon after the Annual meeting.

**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](mailto: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](mailto: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/](http://www.tinyurl.com/)

[ChildrenYouthSignUp](#) or contact Maddie at [youth@needhamucc.org](mailto:youth@needhamucc.org) .

**Send-Off for February Delegation, February 9, 7:00 pm:** All are invited to attend a brief gathering at Dave and Caryl Johnson's home (505 Great Plain Ave.) to send off the travelers on our church's delegation to Guatemala and our partner village of Santa María Tzejá. We'll bring back lots of experiences and impressions to share at the March 6th, 11:30 am 'Reportback' presentation in Linden Hall. Please save the date and plan to join us!

**Request for Altar Guild Volunteers:** The Altar Guild is looking for volunteers. High school students are welcome to join. Please contact Carol Miller at [mil-lerc291@verizon.net](mailto:mil-lerc291@verizon.net) for more information.



# CALENDAR January 31st—February 11th

Sunday, January 31st	10:00 am 11:00 am  5:30 pm	Worship Service, <i>Sanctuary</i> Annual Meeting, <i>Sanctuary</i> Annual Meeting Luncheon, <i>Fellowship Hall</i> Junior High Youth Group /Dave and Busters
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	Community Dinner, <i>Linden Hall</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	8:30 am 9:00 am 10:00 am 11:00 am 11:30 am	Confirmation Parents' Meeting, <i>Chapel</i> Sub Making Worship Service, <i>Sanctuary</i> Super Bowl Sub Pick—Up Bible Study, <i>Conference Room</i> Guatemala Partnership Meeting, <i>Library</i> Confirmation Mentor Meeting, <i>Chapel</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> Guatemala Send Off, <i>Johnson's Home</i> ( <i>505 Great Plain Ave.</i> )
Wed., Feb. 10th	7:00 pm 7:30 pm	Ash Wednesday Service, <i>Sanctuary</i> <i>Deacons, 1180 GPA</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>

**ASH**

**WEDNESDAY**



**FEBRUARY 10TH**

**SERVICE**

**7:00 PM**

*Imani is a group of students from Noble and Greenough school in Dedham, who sing songs from the African American tradition, learn about the history and tradition of the music, and familiarize ourselves with the people who created it. More importantly, we discuss our place in the legacy of the African American tradition and how we can honor it when we create music together.*

James Mayo III, Director and Pianist

Participating Students

Angie Gabeau

Annie Ellison

Arunima Prasad

Caroline Fai

\*Christian Yeh

\*Christopher Desanges

\*Esther Choi

Gevaniah Gabeau

Grace Scott-Hiser

Jelinda Metelus

Magdalena Blaise

Marijke Perry

Maxwell Halperin

\*Reilly Macdonald

\*Spoorthi Balu

Victoria Casado

*\*denotes Imani core leaders*