



CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF NEEDHAM

October 18, 2015

Theme: Gifts of Community



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.

Call to Prayer

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us pray.

Unison Prayer

To You, O God, we lift up our souls.

To You we offer our praise and prayer,

Our worship and thanksgiving,

even our very lives.

Make Your ways known to us.

Show us the path on which we should walk.

Lead us in Your truth and teach us.

For You alone are the God who saves,

the God in whom we trust;

and the One on whom we wait.

Hear our prayer...

Silent Prayer

Lord's Prayer (debt, debtors)

Prayer Response

Here in the Quiet of This House

David H. Williams (b. 1919)

TIME FOR CHILDREN

Children leave for Bible Village after Time for Children.

CHILDREN'S HYMN #526 (*Black Hymnal*)

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

ANTHEM

Music Expresses
Robert Train Adams

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Hebrews 11: 1-3, 8-16

NT, p. 209

SERMON

"Gift of Faith"
Heike Werder

HYMN (*seated*) # **384** (*Black Hymnal*)
Who

For the Faithful

Have Answered

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.

Leader: Let us pray.

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

Amazing Grace

American Melody arr Jay Althouse (b 1951)

**Doxology*

Praise God from whom all blessing flow,

Praise God, all creatures here below,

Praise God above, ye heavenly host,

Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication

***CLOSING HYMN # 427** (*Black Hymnal*)

**God, Made from
One Blood**

BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION

The Lord Bless and Keep You
Peter C. Lutkin (1858 - 1931)

POSTLUDE

Scherzo
John Reeman

Special thanks to Bruce Goody, for sharing his time and talents with us this morning.

****You are invited to stand.***

- 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 Leader: Joanne Seiden

Deacons: Kirby Salerno, Susan Lively

Altar Guild: Anne Roman

Ushers: Mike Normile, Janet Jankowiak, Bob Everts, Jim Conroy

Flowers: Nancy Fischer

Flower Delivery: Joanne Seiden

STEWARDS OF A FAITH THAT LOVES AND SERVES



What does your Pledge Support?

Pledge dollars are THE basis of our budget each year. We have set a goal this year to raise \$450,000 in pledges in order to:

- Sustain & grow our Christian Education and Youth Fellowship programs for children, youth and adult.
- Fund our outreach efforts locally, nationally and globally.
- Provide the dedicated staff and vibrant programs you rely on in ministry and music.
- Maintain and preserve our buildings.

Pledge TODAY!
(forms available in the office)

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

The Rev. Dr. Susan Cartmell, Senior Minister
Valerie Becker, Director of Youth Music
The Rev. Dr. Paul Clayton, Pastor Emeritus

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Village Fair and Silent Auction: It is once again time to start thinking about the Village Fair, and Silent Auction. We are accepting donations for the Auction as of now. This can be items of value, donations of services, donations of area restaurant or store Gift Certificates, or a donation of lessons in your area of expertise. (Voice and music lessons, tutoring, and cooked or baked goods on schedule are always popular!) Please contact Diana Conroy (781-449-3350 or conroyjd@rcn.com) to arrange for your donation.

Ornaments and old Christmas cards wanted for Village Fair!: Garden Fence (Fall and Christmas decorations) and the Environmental Ministries Team are interested in receiving your no-longer-needed gently used silk flowers and greens (appropriate for fall & Christmas), holiday picks, and ornaments (especially sets) to repurpose into new holiday creations. We are also collecting old Christmas cards for the Elf Shop, so the kids can make gift tags out of them. Please leave your items during the week in the box in Danielle's office, and on Sundays in the box in the narthex. Questions? EMT@needhamucc.org or speak with a member of one of the groups. Thank you!

ITEMS NEEDED FOR 2015 HAUNTED HOUSE: Glass/Plastic jars (i.e. pickle jars, big pretzel/cheese ball containers, etc); Wrapping paper tubes/long cardboard tubes; School Sports Uniform/Jacket; Cheerleader uniform/accessories; Lab coats; Science equipment: beakers, test tubes, goggles, etc.; Silver/gold metallic vinyl/materials; STAR WARS or STAR TREK items/costumes; Alien/space-themed items; Fog machine; Black lights, strobe lights, etc.

If you have items, please bring them to Maddie's office in the Church Office Building at 1180 Great Plain Ave or leave them in the box marked "Haunted House Props" in the church building by FRIDAY, OCT. 16. If you would like your items returned to you, please mark your name on the bottom of the item or on a bag with the item inside.

In addition to props and decoration, we also need volunteers! Please sign up at: www.SignUpGenius.com/go/10C0844A8AA23A2FD0-haunted

All members of the church community are invited to help us set up the haunted house on Friday, October 23.

Guatemala Partnership SAVE THE DATE: On **Sunday, October 25th, from 6:30-8:30 pm in Fellowship Hall**, the Guatemala Partnership will host Llan Carlos Dávila, a rural Guatemalan mayor and representative of the Diocesan Committee on the Defense of Nature (CODIDENA). He will share his efforts to defend rural communities against environmental and human rights threats from international mining activities, including those posed by the Canadian-owned, Tahoe Resources Escobal silver mine. Llan Carlos' stop in the Boston area is part of a national tour sponsored by NISGUA, the Network in Solidarity with the People of Guatemala. This is a must-see event for anyone interested in our

church's partnership with Santa María Tzejá, social and economic development in developing countries, global sustainability, or environmental justice. The event includes a dessert buffet. Please join us!

Adult Bible Study, Sunday's @ 11:30 Conference Room: Small group discussion based on reading a few chapters of the Bible at a time. We meet immediately after church, from 11:30 to 12:30 in the reception room. This fall we will continue our study of the minor prophets. Take a look at how God is still speaking to us, even in stories from thousands of years ago! This is a great opportunity to discuss your spiritual questions with other people of faith. Everyone is welcome to drop in and join us. For more information, contact Sunu Yeh at dormouse99@gmail.com.

The Faith Circles Book Group is Back! We will meet Thursday mornings from October 1st from 10:30-12:00 until November 19th (except for Oct., **22nd**). We will be reading **Mere Christianity** by C.S. Lewis . Please contact Christine Weitzel for more information at cweitzel@verizon.net .

Request for Altar Guild Volunteers: The Altar Guild is looking for volunteers. High school students are welcome to join. Please contact Carol Miller at millerc291@verizon.net for more information.

Monthly Luncheons: Please join us on the first Thursday of every month for soup, delicious bread, dessert, fellowship and conversation. Our next luncheon will be served on November 5, 2015 at **12 noon at the 1180 Great Plain Ave.** dining room. All are welcome to attend!

Bible Village: The Sunday School program is looking for intergenerational volunteer teachers! Parents, high school and college students, sage church members, curious and fun people who can show our kids how much God loves them by leading a Bible Village workshop—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

Family Promise Metrowest, From Judy Mongiardo, Network Coordinator- Thank you, Needham Congregational Church! This summer you opened your hearts to the guests of Family Promise Metrowest while they were housed at Fisk United Methodist and First Congregational Churches in Natick., For all who prepared a meal, hosted a dinner, stayed overnight, read to a child, set up rooms, did laundry and more we are ever grateful.

Our next support week is **Nov. 22-28 with First Congregational Church Natick**. Contact Heidi Wiesel heidi.wiesel@gmail.com or Susan Kirk susanckirk@comcast.net

KEEP THE PROMISE: AN EVENING OF FOOD TASTING TO BENEFIT

FAMILIES WHO ARE HOMELESS: NOVEMBER 7, 2015

Hosted by: Temple Shir Tikva, 141 Boston Post Road, Wayland

7:00PM - 11:00PM: Tickets go on sale September 8. Last year's event was sold out. Visit our website to purchase tickets and to learn more about this event , www.familypromisemetrowest.org or call the office at 508-318-4820. Come join the fun and help raise funds and awareness for Family Promise Metrowest and our Day Center Shelter and Transitional Housing Program.

Friendly Chimers: Friendly Chimers invites anyone interested in a fun, hands-on musical experience to join them in their rehearsals, in the sanctuary. Prerequisites: be able to keep time, enjoy being in a group. For information, contact Joanne Seiden 781-449-6535; jseiden@basiclink.com.

Boiler Replacement Campaign: Make a tax deductible contribution towards the efforts for energy efficiency in our church at 1154 Great Plain Ave. With the addition of our 3 new boilers, we change our heat efficiency from 60% to 96%. With our other energy saving efforts, we hope to reduce our carbon footprint 25% by 2020! We have the potential to save \$10,000- \$15,000 each year! Any contributions may be earmarked for the "Boiler Replacement Campaign". If your employer has a matching program, please consider requesting a contribution match from them. Send your contribution to Danielle in the church office.

The Furniture Team needs your help. The church has lots of wonderful new space to furnish and put to work for church programs. Monetary and in-kind donations are welcome: **MOST WANTED FURNITURE LIST:** Two large conference tables and chairs, Nichols & Stone college arm chairs, Pair of modern upholstered chairs, Pair of traditional upholstered chairs, Loveseat, FIVE 60" round folding tables. Items must be in very good condition. Upholstered pieces can be in need of slipcovers. Please contact Judi Stewart at jmgstewart@verizon.net with photos and dimensions or call 781-449-3999. The furniture team would like to look at all furniture prior to donation.

LED Bulb Donations to Continue: If you are out shopping for energy efficient LED bulbs for your home, please consider purchasing one or two for the church. Please leave bulbs in the donation box located near the mailboxes in the church office. Check out the EMT bulletin board for more information about LED bulbs.

Chairs! Chairs! Chairs!: Now that the chapel renovation is completed, we need to give everyone a lovely place to sit. Twelve chairs have already been purchased through the generosity of the Chapel Committee and twelve more are on order. Now we need your help to reach the goal of sixty more chairs. You may purchase one for \$175 which can include a plaque denoting a memorial or tribute. This is a fine way to honor a family member, celebrate a birthday, anniversary, or other special occasion. Other monetary donations are welcome and will be applied to additional chairs. Checks and inscriptions can be sent to the church office. Thank you, The Chapel Committee

CALENDAR October 18th—October 28th

Sunday, Oct. 18th	8:15 am 10:00 am 11:30 am 11:40 am	Men's Breakfast, <i>Library</i> Worship Service, <i>Sanctuary</i> Bible Study, <i>Conference Room</i> Friendly Chime Ringers, <i>Sanctuary</i>
Monday, Oct. 19th	8:30 am 7:00 pm	Cancer Support Group, <i>1154 Reception</i> Outreach, <i>1180 GPA</i>
Wed., October 21st	7:30 pm	Music Team Meeting, <i>Conference Room</i>
Thursday, Oct. 22nd	6:00 pm 7:00 pm	Family Promise, <i>Library</i> Choir Practice, <i>Linden AB</i>
Friday, October 23rd	6:00 pm	Youth Group Haunted House Set-Up & Dinner
Saturday, Oct. 24th	10:00 am	Haunted House
Sunday, Oct. 25th	10:00 am 11:40 am 6:30 pm	Worship Service, <i>Sanctuary</i> Friendly Chime Ringers, <i>Sanctuary</i> Guatemala Event, <i>Fellowship Hall</i>
Monday, Oct. 26th	8:30 am	Cancer Support Group, <i>1154 Reception</i>
Tuesday, Oct. 27th	7:00 pm	CE Meeting, <i>1180 GPA</i>
Thursday, Oct. 28th	7:00 pm	Choir Practice, <i>Linden AB</i>

Nominations

The Nominating Committee will be meeting to fill the upcoming open positions for the Board, the Clerk, the Board of Deacons, the Christian Education Committee, Outreach and the Youth Boards. If you are interested in any of these committees or would like to nominate someone, please fill out a the form below. Any questions, please contact Christine Weitzel at cweitzel@verizon.net or Martha Lamb at Martha_Lamb@aol.com.

Name of Nominee: _____

Committee Name: _____

Name of Nominee: _____

Committee Name: _____

Name of Nominee: _____

Committee Name: _____

Name of Nominee: _____

Committee Name: _____



Family Promise Metrowest

a community response to families who are homeless

FAMILY PROMISE WEEK – OCTOBER 18-25 DID YOU KNOW?

Family Promise Metrowest opened its doors in October, 2008 with 13 host and 8 support congregations and 750 volunteers.

Since then we've sheltered 85 families, including 189 children.

Our network now includes 18 host congregations, 32 support congregations, 55 business partners, and 2,500 volunteers from across the Metrowest community

In 2014 alone Family Promise volunteers provided:

- 10,335 meals at a value of \$31,005;
- In-kind donations valued at \$77,083
- 30,507 volunteer hours, valued at \$533,791

FPM is one of over 190 affiliates across the country uniting communities to help children and families who are without a home. Together 6,000 congregations and 160,000 volunteers have served 600,000 people since 1988.

Family Promise Metrowest has grown beyond our shelter program to also include:

Transitional Housing: This program provides a chance to move into independent housing with ongoing case management and subsidies to ensure there long term sustainability. It doubles the number we serve.

Steps to Success: Families often come to Family Promise having lost their ability to strategize about their future—to create goals, to dream. This comprehensive vocational planning initiative will allow families to reach their highest earning potential.

Affordable Housing: Family Promise Metrowest is collaborating with local developers, realtors, government, and nonprofits in Natick to expand the stock of affordable housing.

Did you know that one out of every four people who is homeless is a child? Or, that families with children make up 40% of the people in this country who are homeless? Family homelessness is a national problem.

*The week of October 18-25 is Family Promise Week. Our local Affiliate, Family Promise Metrowest, is one of 192 programs across the country uniting the faith community to help children and their families who are homeless. Family Promise Week will raise awareness about the issue as well as celebrate the service of our congregation and others to serve our brothers and sisters in need. You can participate in Family Promise Week by signing up to volunteer, telling others about Family Promise Metrowest, or attending our celebratory concert, Sweet Sounds for Kids on Sunday afternoon, October 25 3:30-5 PM at Energy Fitness in Natick. For more information please go our website:
www.familypromisemetrowest.org*