



# CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF NEEDHAM

March 15, 2015

Theme: Prayer



## 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, March 15, 2015

10:00am

*Children are always welcome in Worship with their parents/guardians. Childcare is available in the crib/toddler room on the lower level for infants and toddlers. Preschoolers go directly to classes downstairs at 10 am. Grades 6-8 are in Stevenson Hall at 10 am. Grades K-5 will start in the Sanctuary at 10 am, then leave for Bible Village.*

**PRELUDE**

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross  
*arr. Charles Callahan (b. 1950)*  
based on hymn 224, New Century Hymnal

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Joanne Wyckoff

L: Let us come into God's house

**P: Let us listen for God's voice.**

L; Like the Hebrews, let us listen in the wilderness.

**P: Like the disciples let us listen by the sea.**

L: Like Mary, let us listen at the manger and the cross.

**P: Like Jesus let us listen to the voice of Abba, our Father in Heaven.**

**\*OPENING HYMN # 434** (*Black Hymnal*) **All Beautiful the March of Days**

**OPENING PRAYER**

*Call to Prayer*

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them up to the Lord.**

Leader: Let us pray.

*Unison Prayer*

**Loving God, you come to us and urge us to lay our burdens  
down.**

**Let us kneel before you now, knowing you can hear what is  
real for each of us.**

**No wish too small,**

**No concern too insignificant,**

**No sadness too profound,**

**No fear too deep for you to hear.**

**Amidst a cosmos beyond our imaging, remind us that all that  
is, has been and will be**

**You hold in your loving arms.**

**You are our God. We are your people.**

**In the silence teach us to pray.**

Choral Introit

Raise Your Voices

*Rolf Lovland (b. 1955) and Brendan Graham (b. 1945)*

The Once in a While Choir

Cici Hunt, director

*Silent Prayer*

**Lord's Prayer**

*Choral Response*

With Prayer and Supplication

*Amy Beach (1867-1944)*

**ANTHEM**

By n' By, spiritual

*arr. Robert De Cormier (b. 1922)*

Joyful Noise Choir

Joshua Fit the Battle of Jericho, spiritual

*arr. Ruth Artman (1919-2010)*

Hallelujah Choir

**TIME FOR CHILDREN**

Susan Cartmell

*(Children dismissed to Bible Village during hymn)*

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

**We Are Marching in  
the Light of God**

**SCRIPTURE LESSON**

Luke 6: 12-13

NT, p. 60

**SERMON**

“The Benefits of Praying”  
Heike Werder

**HYMN # 517** (*Black Hymnal*)

**I Need You Every Hour**

**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*

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross  
*arr. Gilbert 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 #410 (*Black Hymnal*)    **If You But Trust in God to  
Guide You****

**BENEDICTION**

**CHORAL BENEDICTION**

Old Irish Blessing  
*Denes Agay (1911- 2007)*

**POSTLUDE**

Sonata, OP.14, No. 1  
Rondo (Allegro Comodo)  
*Beethoven*  
Soomi Lee Lowry, piano

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

*Worship Leader:* Joanne Wyckoff

*Deacons:* Frank Luppino, Susan Lively

*Altar Guild:* Sherrill Salisbury

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

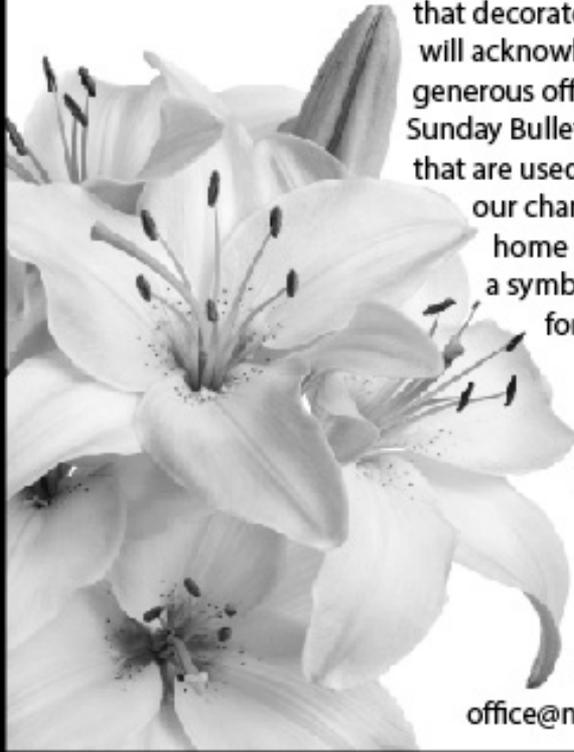
*Flowers:* Stacy Caswell

*Flower Delivery:* Chris Arren

*The flowers on the altar are given today to the glory of God and in loving  
memory of Sid Dimond by his family.*

# Easter Flower Donations

Offering envelopes are available in the pews and in the main office for a donation this Easter season to the Flower Fund in honor of loved ones. We are grateful for the flowers/plants



that decorate our church and will acknowledge your generous offering in the Easter Sunday Bulletin. Flowers/plants that are used will be offered to our chancel choir to take home after the service as a symbol of appreciation for their gift of music.

Please return the Flower Offering envelope from the pews or the office to the Collector's mailbox in the office or contact the office at

[office@needhamucc.org](mailto:office@needhamucc.org).

*The Congregational Church of Needham  
1154 Great Plain Avenue  
Needham, Massachusetts 02492  
Telephone 781-444-2510; Fax 781-444-3580  
E-mail: [office@needhamucc.org](mailto:office@needhamucc.org)  
[www.needhamucc.org](http://www.needhamucc.org)*

The Rev. Dr. Susan Cartmell, Senior Minister  
The Rev. Heike Werder, Associate Minister  
The Rev. Dr. Paul Clayton, Pastor Emeritus

Bobby DeRegis, Director of Music Ministries  
Valerie Becker, Director of Youth Music

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**TODAY:Adult Ed: Diversity in Needham: Sunday March 15, 11:30am:** The guest presenters will be members of the Human Rights Committee of the town of Needham: Ramin Abrishamian, Gretchen Cook-Anderson, Rebecca Drill, and David Summergrad. The Town of Needham's Human Rights Committee strives to reaffirm the worth and dignity of every human being. The diversity of our community is embraced and celebrated through the following activities: Education, Community Outreach, and Community Response. Come and join a discussion to hear what the NDC of our town is working on and how we can support them in their efforts.

**Wednesday Connect Announcement:** The Wednesday Supper Program will not be held at 6 p.m. this week but we will hold the Youth Group for Grades 3-5 as usual at 6:30 p.m.

Next week we will have a labyrinth in Fellowship Hall for the week Monday March 23- Thursday March 26. On Sunday March 22 in Coffee Hour we will have a table to explain the labyrinth and introduce you to walking meditation. We have a project started to make a labyrinth and we hope you will stop at the table to learn more about it and how you can be involved. For more information talk to Carol Miller and Barbara Livingston.

**30 Day Prayer Challenge:** Starting in March I invite you to take the 30 Day Prayer Challenge. You are invited to pray for one thing every day for the whole month.

What should I pray for?

- ◆ Think of someone who needs a prayer.
- ◆ Think of a situation that might be troubling you or someone you love.
- ◆ Think of an issue or cause you believe could benefit from prayer.

I think you will be surprised!

### **Spiritual Practices on Wednesdays**

March 18      Meditation Group – Try some guided meditation.

March 25      Table Spirituality –Enjoy a wholesome meal together and talk food and faith

### **Not Your Average Talent Concert on Saturday, March 21st, 4:00 pm:**

**Get Your Tickets at Coffee Hour Today!** On Saturday, March 21, from 4:00 - 6:00 pm, the Guatemala Partnership will celebrate spring's arrival with a concert and silent auction to benefit education in our church's partner village of Santa María Tzejá. This family event will feature the diverse talents of many in our church community, including the Salerno family, Soomi Lee Lowry, and Carolyn MacGregor, under the direction of Cici Hunt. The silent auction will offer select Guatemalan handicrafts, as well as weekend getaways and other donated items. Suggested donation: Individual \$15; Family \$30. Tickets available at Coffee

Hour today or order on-line: [www.guatemalapartners.org](http://www.guatemalapartners.org). For questions: Alan Clayton-Matthews [a.clayton-matthews@neu.edu](mailto:a.clayton-matthews@neu.edu).

**FED UP movie and discussion, March 22 and 29, 2015:** “FED UP” is the film the food industry doesn’t want you to see and it will change the way you eat forever. The film focuses on the real causes of obesity in the US, presenting evidence showing that large quantities of sugar in processed foods are an overlooked root cause of the problem. **On March 22<sup>nd</sup> at 11:30am** we will watch the movie “FED UP” part one. **On March 29<sup>th</sup> at 11:30am** we will view we will watch part two of the movie “FED UP” with discussion to follow. We have invited members of the Needham Community Farm and the Farmer’s Market to join us in our discussion. All are welcome! For more information please contact the Congregational Church of Needham at 781-444-2510.

**Religious Experience Surveys March 22 and March 29 at 8:30am:** Exploring MyReligion.org is run by a group of professors, graduate students and researchers at Boston University. Their goal is to understand how our spiritual minds work. Our members will have an opportunity to take the survey and then participate in a follow up discussion. On March 22 at 8:30am, join members for breakfast and bring your computer or tablet to take the survey with other members. Then on March 29 at 8:30am, come for breakfast and participate in a discussion. By taking the survey you will receive enlightening feedback and graphs and be able to compare your experience with others from Needham UCC. In return for participating in the survey the organization will make a \$20 donation on your behalf. This is brought to you by Dr. Wesley Wildman and Boston University.

**Faith Circle Book Club:** The Faith Circle Book group meets Thursdays. The group will run from 10:30-12:00 for 9 weeks. We will be reading, The Book of Forgiving: The Fourfold Path for Healing Ourselves and Our World by Reverend Desmond Tutu. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch with Christine Weitzel at [cweitzel@verizon.net](mailto:cweitzel@verizon.net)

**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](mailto:jseiden@basiclink.com).

**Youth Choir: Do you know a child that likes to sing?** We would love to have more students join our youth choirs.

**FACT:** One of the only activities that activates, stimulates, and uses the entire brain is Music.

**FACT:** Research shows that music is to the brain as physical exercise is to the human body. Music tones the brain for auditory fitness and allows to decipher between tone and pitch.

*Please consider this opportunity for your children!*

Rehearsals are on Sundays throughout the year.

Joyful Noise—9:15-9:45 am  
Hallelujah Choir—11:30-12:00 pm  
Shepherd's Staff—12:00-1:00pm

Each choir will sing for the congregation 4-5 times throughout the year, culminating with Youth Sunday on June 7.

**Adult Bible Study: Sunday 11:30 Conference Room:** Everyone is welcome to join the Bible Study group that meets after church. This is a great opportunity to discuss your spiritual questions with other people of faith. Last year, we read through Luke and Isaiah by discussing just a few chapters a week. Currently we are reading about the early church in the book of Acts. If you have been wondering what Bible Study is like, check us out! For more information, contact Sunu Yeh at [dormouse99@gmail.com](mailto:dormouse99@gmail.com).

**Sunday School Volunteers Needed!** Be an assistant teacher or lead a workshop (like science, art, theater, games). Please visit our online sign up sheet (just go to [www.needhamucc.org/sundayschool](http://www.needhamucc.org/sundayschool) and click on Volunteer Sign Up under Important Links) or contact the office for more information. Just a friendly reminder that all Sunday School families are encouraged to sign up for ANY 7 spots for the whole year. If you don't have kids in the program, we would still LOVE your help!

**Lenten Challenge for Kids:** During Lent, kids of all ages are encouraged to memorize Psalm 23. This Sunday, kids can visit Rev. Susan to recite a verse and receive a colorful, inspirational rubber bracelet. Kids will receive handouts in Sunday School today with more information or you can visit [www.needhamucc.org/lent](http://www.needhamucc.org/lent)

**Calling all Soup Makers for Maundy Thursday Dinner, April 2, 2015!** We will be gathering for a simple soup dinner on the evening of Maundy Thursday, April 2nd, 6 pm in Fellowship Hall. If you would like to contribute a home-made soup for our supper together, please e-mail Rev. Heike at [revheike@needhamucc.org](mailto:revheike@needhamucc.org) or call 781-444-2510.

**Easter Egg Candy Needed:** The Youth Groups are in the midst of planning their annual Easter Egg Hunt on Sunday, April 5th at 10am. We are in need of bags of individually wrapped candy with NO NUTS (No: Reese's, Butterfinger, Payday, Almond Joy, Snickers, etc.) Please drop off candy in the box outside the Narthex by March 29, 2015. Thank you!

**The Family Promise will host their 6th Annual Walkathon Saturday April 11<sup>th</sup>:** Please join us by registering to walk with our Team or sponsoring one of our walkers. Visit the Family Promise website [www.familypromisemetrowest.org](http://www.familypromisemetrowest.org) for more information or stop by our coffee hour table to learn how you can support Family Promise Metrowest's largest fundraiser of the year. Susan Kirk [su-sanckirk@comcast.net](mailto:susanckirk@comcast.net).

# CALENDAR March 15th—March 26th

Sunday, March 15th	8:15 am 9:00 am 9:15 am  10:00 am 11:30 am    12:00 pm	Men's Breakfast, <i>Library</i> Chancel Choir Rehearsal, <i>Sanctuary</i> Once in a While Choir, <i>Fellowship Hall</i> Joyful Noise Rehearsal, <i>Choir Room</i> Worship Service, <i>Sanctuary</i> Adult Education: Diversity in Needham, <i>Linden Hall</i> Friendly Chime Ringers, <i>Sanctuary</i> Hallelujah Choir Rehearsal, <i>Choir Room</i> Bible Study, <i>Conference Room</i> Shepherd's Staff Rehearsal, <i>Choir Room</i>
Monday, March 16th	9:00 am 6:00 pm	Cancer Support Group, <i>Reception Room</i> Confirmation Class, <i>Linden Hall</i>
Wed., March 18th	6:30 pm 7:30 pm	Wednesday Connect, <i>Linden Hall</i> Music Team Meeting, <i>Conference Room</i>
Thurs., March 19th	10:30 am 12:00 pm 7:30 pm	Faith Circle Book Club, <i>Reception Room</i> Lenten Lunch, <i>Library</i> Chancel Choir Rehearsal, <i>Choir Room</i>
Saturday, March 21st	4:00 pm	Not Your Average Talent Concert, <i>Sanctuary</i>
Sunday, March 22nd	9:00 am 10:00 am 11:30 am  5:00 pm 6:30 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal, <i>Sanctuary</i> Worship Service, <i>Sanctuary</i> Adult Ed: FED UP, <i>Linden Hall</i> Bible Study, <i>Conference Room</i> Junior High Youth Group Trivia Night Senior High Youth Group Trampoline Park
Monday, March 23rd	9:00 am 6:00 pm	Cancer Support Group, <i>Reception Room</i> Confirmation Class, <i>Linden Hall</i>
Tuesday, March 24th	7:00 pm	Christian Education Committee,
Wed., March 25th	6:00 pm	Wednesday Connect, <i>Linden Hall</i>
Thurs., March 26th	10:30 am 12:00 pm 7:30 pm	Faith Circle Book Club, <i>Reception Room</i> Lenten Lunch, <i>Library</i> Chancel Choir Rehearsal, <i>Choir Room</i>