

Sunday, May 18, 2014

10:00am

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

Infants/toddlers/Preschoolers meet downstairs at 10am in PreK Room. Grades 6-12 stay in worship. Grades K-5 start in sanctuary at 10am then leave for Bible Village after Confirmation.

Workshops: K-1 Theater, 2-3: Games, 4-5: Art

PRELUDE

Nun bitten wir den Heiligen Geist
Dietrich Buxtehude (1637-1707)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Courtney Brennan

Leader: God created us and breathed life into us.

People: For our very lives, we stand indebted to God.

Leader: God gave us dominion over life on this teeming planet.

People: For this privilege, we stand indebted to God.

Leader: God offers us the Bible so we might grow in faith

People: We are grateful for the wisdom of the ages

Leader: God calls us into community to learn how to share.

People: With full hearts, we enter worship this day.

*OPENING HYMN # 8 (NCH)

Praise to the Living God

OPENING PRAYER

Courtney Brennan

Call to Prayer

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us pray.

Unison Prayer

Oh Lord, We know that every gift we have been given comes from your generous hand.

Forgive us for feeling smug about our success.

Forgive us for forgetting how much we owe to luck or grace.

Forgive us for telling ourselves we have earned this bounty.

Inspired by your example, let us strive to be true stewards of your abundance.

With grateful hearts, we come to you in prayer...

Silent Prayer

Lord's Prayer

Prayer Response

RITE OF CONFIRMATION

(Children leave for Bible Village after the rite of Confirmation.)

Invitation

Questions of the Candidates

The Covenant of The Congregational Church of Needham and the Statement of Welcome

Blessing of the Confirmands

Congregational Welcome

We welcome you into full membership in this congregation. We promise you our continuing friendship and prayers. We promise to share with you the joys and labor of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit, may we continue to grow together in God's knowledge and love. By the grace of God, may we be open to your gifts, as together we strive to live as a community that celebrates Christ's new life. Amen.

CHILDREN'S HYMN (#526) (NCH) We Are Marching In

The Light Of God

ANTHEM

Fill-A-Me Up
Pepper Choplin (b. 1969)
Isabelle Wells, Soprano Solo

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 17: 5-6 **NT, p. 76**

SERMON

“Is there ever enough: How much Faith?”
Heike Werder

HYMN (seated) # 351 (NCH)

**I Was There to Hear Your
Borning Cry**

MORNING PRAYER

Susan Cartmell

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

The Gift of Love

Hal Hopson (b. 1933)

***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 # 401 (NCH)**

**O God in Whom All
Life Begins**

BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION

Go in Peace
tune: Ocean Park

POSTLUDE

Chaconne in C minor
Dietrich Buxtehude

****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: Courtney Brennan

Deacons: Sally Fitzgerald, Mary Lou Hughes

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

Altar Guild: Val Kistler

Flowers: Gail Browne

Flower delivery: Amy Kennedy

The flowers on the altar are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Laura P. Broad by her husband and family.



BACK FOR THE SUMMER!
AUGUST 25-28th

Kids ages 3 to 11 are invited to a week of active, adventurous fun at The Congregational Church of Needham's VBS program.

THEME: "StudioGo!"

Fee: \$25 per day for morning activities (8:30-12)
Lunch Bunch offered from 12-1pm for \$5 per day

Additional children in each family will receive 50% discount
AND save \$20 if you register by August 1st!

Download a registration form at

www.needhamucc.org/learn/vbs

Or register ONLINE at www.needhamucc.org/vbs

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The Rev. Susan Cartmell, Senior Minister
The Rev. Heike Werder, Associate Minister
The Rev. Jamie Klopotoski, Youth Minister

Bobby DeRegis, Director of Music Ministries
Valerie Becker, Director of Youth Music
The Rev. Dr. Paul Clayton, Pastor Emeritus

The Congregational Church of Needham

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 missions, 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.

Welcoming Statement

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.



CONFIRMED TODAY
May 18, 2014

**Abigail Anne Darmofal
Crea O. Baker-Durante
Katharine R. Haynes
Elisabeth L. Lively
Halley A. Luby
Will Meehan
Andre Charles Mitrano**

**Austin T. Shaver
Duncan A. Shaver
Emily A. Stedman
Ryan D. Suarez
Jane C. Tegeler
*Sarah E. Turner
Nicole C. Weitzel**

**To be confirmed on a later date.*

*Warm thanks to the Confirmation
Mentors*

**John Baldwin
Suzanne Barth
Mike Boyd
Doris Cook
Robert Dunlavey
Caryl Johnson
Dave Johnson**

**Martha Lamb
Lee McNally
Jamie Turner
Jean Veigas**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Outreach Hunger Relief Food-Pantry Drive: Over the course of May, this year's Confirmation Class, with the support of the Outreach Committee, will be leading a Food Pantry Drive ending on Youth Sunday, June 1st. Our efforts can help to ease Food Insecurity faced by many neighbors in Needham and surrounding communities. Ask a friendly Confirmand for suggested food and pantry donation ideas. If possible, consider fresh vegetables, cooking oils, canned goods, even items like toothpaste etc. Even small contributions go a long way! Collection boxes will be placed in the main hallway and by the sanctuary entrance. Thank you!

Bible Study - Sunday Group- Join us in the Reception Room at 11:30am. Newcomers are welcome! Contact Sunu Yeh for more information- dormouse99@gmail.com.

Thursday 10:30am Group- Contact Christine Weitzel for information cweitzel@verizon.net

Partner-Family Letters: Partner family letters have been mailed out, so most families should have received their letter by now. Contact Dave Johnson if you have any questions: Davejohnson@verizon.net. And it's not too soon to be thinking about your reply letter that will be due in early July!

A Message from the Church Evaluation Team: Thank you for your participation in the recent whole church review. We received an impressive 87 survey responses with many comments. We are in the process of tallying and reviewing the results.

You are invited to attend a meeting on June 22 at 11:30 a.m. to receive our initial report on the results of the survey as to the questions regarding the church's effectiveness. We hope this report will launch a prayerful conversation on how we can, as a community, improve in our ministries together. (As noted on the survey, the responses regarding the effectiveness of the individual ministers are considered personnel matters; they will not be reported on at this meeting.)

We hope to see you there,

Carol Oberle, Frank Luppino and Fabienne Madsen, Deacons
Mike Yeh and Jackie Allen, Board members

Vases needed: If you have any medium-sized florist vases that you would like to donate, we would appreciate having them. As you know,

the altar flowers are divided into bouquets that are delivered to those we want to remember. Please drop your washed vases in the small kitchen when you come to church. Thanks very much.

CALENDAR for May 18 – May 25

Sunday, May 18th Confirmation	8:15 am	Men's Breakfast, <i>Library</i>
	8:30 am	Confirmation Breakfast, <i>Fellowship Hall</i>
	9:00 am	Chancel Choir Rehearsal, <i>Sanctuary</i>
	10:00 am	Worship Service, <i>Sanctuary</i>
	11:30 am	Bible Study, <i>Conference Room</i>
		Friendly Chime Ringers Rehearsal, <i>Sanct.</i>
	12:00 pm	Shepherd's Staff Choir Rehearsal, <i>Chr Rm</i>
	5:00 pm	JH Youth Group
6:30 pm	All Parent's Mission Trip Meeting, <i>Chapel</i>	
7:00 pm	SH Youth Group	
Monday, May 19th	9:00 am	Cancer Support Group, <i>Reception Room</i>
Wednesday May 21st	7:30 pm	Music Team Meeting, <i>Conference Room</i>
Thursday, May 22nd	7:30 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal, <i>Choir Room</i>
Sunday, May 25th	9:00 am	Chancel Choir Rehearsal, <i>Sanctuary</i>
	9:15 am	Joyful Noise Rehearsal, <i>Choir Room</i>
	10:00 am	Worship Service, <i>Sanctuary</i>
	11:30 am	Bible Study, <i>Conference Room</i>
	12:00 pm	Friendly Chime Ringers Rehearsal, <i>Sanct.</i> Shepherd's Staff Rehearsal, <i>Choir Room</i>