



CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF NEEDHAM

United Church of Christ

May 29, 2016



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, May 29, 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-12 are invited to worship in the sanctuary this morning. Activity clipboards can be found in the narthex to help students engage in worship.*

PRELUDE

Selected Minuets
Leopold Mozart (1719 - 1787)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rich Weitzel

Leader: We have come to worship God, the living God,

People: Who calls prophets and teachers to bear witness.

Leader: We have come to praise God, the almighty God,

People: Who answers the forces of hatred and hurt with the power of grace.

Leader: We have come to worship God, all-gracious God,

People: Who chooses even you and me, to receive and carry the Word of life and hope.

***OPENING HYMN #594 (NCH) How Beautiful, Our Spacious Skies**

OPENING PRAYER

Call to Prayer

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us pray.

Unison Prayer

**We want you to know, Holy God,
that we do try.**

**Too many voices of the world are full of advice, telling us how
to live. It is easy to get confused, O God.**

**While we spend so much time trying to win
the approval of certain people,
we forget our call to serve those around us.**

**We are so busy telling others ‘go there’ or ‘do this,’ that
we cannot hear your whispers of love.**

**We do not presume to come to you expecting easy grace,
for we are aware of what it cost you to forgive us, Tender God.
But speak the word and we will know your mercy;
speak the word, and we will be made whole;
speak the Word, Jesus Christ, and we will find that faith to
trust you in every moment.**

**It is not an order, it is a plea, O God:
Speak the word, we are listening...**

Silent Prayer

Lord's Prayer

Prayer Response

Amen

Maggie Furtak

ANTHEM

Take My Life

Philip Lawson(b. 1957)

SCRIPTURE LESSON:

Luke 7:1-10

NT p.62

SERMON

“Community Office Hours”
Madelyn Downer, MDiv
Director of Christian Education & Youth Ministries

* **HYMN #179 (NCH)**

We Yearn, O Christ, for Wholeness

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 #521(NCH)

In Solitude

**In solitude, in solitude, I come o God in prayer.
In silence and simplicity, my spirit blossoms there.**

**Whene'er the world is troubling me, and stress is all around.
I seek the presence of my God, and healing light is found.**

OFFERTORY

Anthem

Call to Remembrance
Richard Farrant(1530 - 1580)

**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 #314 (NCH)**

Community of Christ

BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION

Old Irish Blessing
Denes Agay(1911 - 2007)

POSTLUDE

Voluntary in F major
William Hine (1687 - 1730)

****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: Rich Weitzel

Deacons: Claudia Darmofal, Jean Veigas

Ushers: Todd Barth, Dave Johnson, Jan Rubenstein

Altar Guild: Carol Miller

Flowers: Gail Browne

Flower Delivery: Jean Veigas

*The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of my two wives, Laura P. Broad and Nancy S. Broad
by Russell S. Broad, Jr.*

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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
Sangyoung Kim, Organist/ Accompanist

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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. We will be studying Paul's epistle to the Romans, for what should be a wonderful discussion about faith. Contact Sunu Yeh at dormouse99@gmail.com for more information. Please drop by and try us out!

Sunday June 5th at 11:30am – Village Fair Meeting

It's not too early to start planning! Everyone is invited to join in an organizational meeting for our Village Fair. Come with ideas to help make the Fair a hit and any questions you might have about this year's Fair. If you would like to put your hat in the ring to volunteer some time to the Fair and can not attend the meeting, please email the office at office@needhamucc.org .

Partner-Family Letters Due June 1st!

Our volunteer translators need time to work their magic on your partner-family letters for the August delegation to Santa Maria Tzeja, so please submit them by June 1st to: davebjohnson77@gmail.com or drop them off in the Guatemala Box or at the Church Office. Thank you.

Request for Altar Flower Donations

Altar flower donations are needed for Sunday, June 12th. The cost of the arrangement is \$50 with a check payable to The Congregational Church of Needham. You may call the church office or contact Beverly Bolivar at bwbolivar@verizon.net or at 781-449-2202.

Circle of Hope "Baby Shower"

Welcome Baskets for babies born to the clients of Circle of Hope. They are looking for new baby bottles, wipes, Vaseline/A&D ointment, new bath towels with hoods, face clothes and blankets to assist mothers with their new babies. Other needed items include new onesies (newborn, 3-6 month and 6-9 month). A box will be in the entry to the sanctuary. Items will be delivered to Circle of Hope the following week. If you have questions, please contact Amy Massey at amyemassey@gmail.com.

Seeking Travelers for February 2017 Delegation

Recruitment has begun for the February 2017 delegation to Guatemala! Travel dates are February 15-26, 2017. We hope to have a healthy mix of adults and high school youth to represent the church. Since airline tickets must be purchased in late September, please contact delegation leader Brenda Metzler as soon as possible with your interest or questions: (781) 449-5696 or bmetzler7@verizon.net.

Summer Music

If you are interested in contributing to our musical offering during the summer time please see Valerie Becker. These services are low key and it is a lovely way to share your gifts with everyone!

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.

The Environmental Ministry Team has information available about garden, lawn and tree care on their bulletin board in the hallway going towards Fellowship Hall. Please feel free to take any of the information you may need to help you create flower and vegetable gardens, provide green lawn care and plant and care for native trees.

On June 1, 2016 at 7:30 pm at the Center at the Heights (300 Hillside Ave.), a community forum: "The Global Refugee Crisis: Voices from Massachusetts." Merissa Khurma will speak about the Syrian refugee crisis, including the socio-economic impact on frontline states, the international community response, and future challenges and community opportunities. She will be joined by former refugees who have settled in Massachusetts. Free and open to the public, it is co-sponsored by the Needham Area Immigration Justice Task Force (www.immigrationneedham.org) and the Needham Human Rights Committee (needham.hrc@gmail.com).

June Book Discussion Group

City Mission's Executive Director, Rev. June Cooper, who preached at our church in March, will lead a three-session discussion group on Robert D. Lupton's provocative book, *Toxic Charity: How Churches and Charities Hurt Those They Help*. The author shares his insights and experience that some well-intentioned charity and volunteer service can actually undermine the aspirations of people they intend to help.

Enrollment is first-come/first-served and limited to 20 participants. The group will meet for three sessions on June 6, June 13, and June 20 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Newton Highlands Congregational Church, 54 Lincoln St., Newton Highlands. To enroll in the group, please contact Peniey McClary, pmccclary@citymissionboston.org.

VOICES RISING June 4 - "Be Our Guest - A Smorgasbord of Song"

Come enjoy Voices Rising for a Pride Month concert at our church on Saturday, June 4, 2016, at 7:30pm. The concert is "a choral tribute to food and drink, hunger and thirst." Founded upon feminist principles of community, inclusivity, activism and education, the chorus sings to give voice to their lives, identities and

CALENDAR May 29th—June 12th

Sunday, May 29th	10:00am 11:30am	Worship Service, <i>Sanctuary</i> Bible Study, <i>Conference Room</i>
Monday, May 30th		Memorial Day– Office Closed
Tuesday, May 31st	6:30 pm 7:00 pm	Youth Band practice, <i>Sanctuary</i> CE Meeting, <i>1180 GPA</i>
Thursday, June 2nd	12:00pm 7:30 pm	Lunch with Heike, <i>1180 GPA</i> Choir Practice, <i>Linden AB</i>
Saturday, June 4th	7:30 pm	Voices Rising—"Be Our Guest— A Smorgasbord of Song", <i>Sanctuary</i>
Sunday, June 5th	10:00am 11:30am	Worship Service/Youth Sunday, <i>Sanctuary</i> Bible Study, <i>Conference Room</i> Village Fair Meeting, <i>Chapel</i>
Monday, June 6th	9:00 am 7:15 pm	Cancer Support Group, <i>1154 Reception</i> EMT Meeting, <i>Conference Room</i>
Tuesday, June 7th	6:00 pm 7:00 pm	Community Dinner, <i>Linden Hall</i> Youth Committee
Wed., June 8th	7:00 pm	Deacon's Meeting, <i>1180 GPA</i>
Thursday, June 9th	7:30 pm	Choir Practice, <i>Linden AB</i>
Sunday, June 12th	10:00am 11:30am	Worship Service, <i>Sanctuary</i> Bible Study, <i>Conference Room</i> End of Year Church BBQ

beliefs, and to celebrate the diverse lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and women's communities. This is the chorus' eleventh year performing a concert at our church. Hosting Voices Rising each year is part of our church's celebration of our welcoming ministry. Tickets are available online at www.voicesrising.org - Priority Seating \$30; General Admission \$25 (at the door), \$20 (advance); Students/Seniors \$10; Children 5 and under \$5.

Invitation from the Board

Please join Board members and our Treasurer, Jen Connors at 11:30 on Sunday, June 26 for a forum on the Capital Campaign, the future use of 1180 Great Plain Avenue and plans for capital improvements at 1154 Great Plain Avenue.

(Spoiler alert: These are all related!)

We plan to review where we are, how we got here, and options for the future- short and long term. We are interested in hearing from you as we move forward together. I hope you can join us.

Jackie Allen, Moderator

AUGUST VBS

Animal Academy

August 22 - 26

8:30 AM - Noon

Kids ages 3-10 are invited to come and learn about the furry, feathery, and creepy-crawly members of God's family! Come sing songs, play games, learn about animals in our science workshops, do arts and craft projects, and participate in animal activities! A traveling petting zoo will come to visit. An animal shelter will show us the ways we can help homeless animals. And we'll have lots of fun learning to love all of Creation the way that God loves us!

Please note, children will be in supervised contact with farm animals and puppies.

\$30 per day per student for first child, \$20 per day for each child after. Due by June 30. Please note, students must be potty-trained. Sign-up at church or at <http://needhamucc.org/VBS>

Lunch Bunch: Noon - 1 PM, \$5 per student Our snacks and lunches are entirely peanut and tree-nut free. Typical lunches: chicken nuggets, sandwiches, pizza.

Scholarships are available!
Please reach out to us at youth@needhamucc.org if you are interested in a scholarship application.



save THE DATE!

**END OF THE YEAR
BBQ**

**Sun.
June
12th**



Immediately
following Worship.